It was Katie Berger's New Year's resolution to try out and become a contestant on the Wheel of Fortune. When she received an e-mail telling her there were going to be auditions on the Central Coast, she asked her roommate Kevlyn Walsh to drive to Paso Robles with her while she tried out.

"It was something I had been waiting to do for years," she said. "I used to watch with my dad all the time." The audition process was long and rigorous, the biological sciences senior said. At the first audition, there were about 400 people, and she was randomly picked out of the group with about 30 others. She went on to perform a song, answer questions and play a practice version of the game show.

"They were just picking numbers, like out of a bingo machine," Berger said. "Once I got called up on stage, I performed a Tina Turner song that I had done for a Greek Goddess competition." Being one of the only Cal Poly students at the Paso Robles audition gave Berger a slight advantage, she said. Near the end of first round of auditions, the contestants had to solve a puzzle like the weight of the model plane and paper describing the design process, a stumbling block around whether the formal was an official club-sponsored or a private party, with no connection to Cal Poly, according to the Cal Poly Club Handbook. "Cal Poly Student Club shall not discriminate either in the content of bylaws or in practice against any person by reason of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation." If the controversial event is determined to be affiliated with the Dairy Club, the club could lose its charter.

Cal Poly's Los Lechones Dairy Club is under investigation for a recent Facebook posting that banned same-sex couples from attending the group's year-end formal. The event invitation, posted by one of the club's officers, invited students to the formal, but noted that "if you bring a date, it must be someone of the opposite sex." The event has since been cancelled.

The investigation is centering around whether the formal was an official club-sponsored or a private party, with no connection to Cal Poly. According to the Cal Poly Club Handbook, "Cal Poly Student Clubs shall not discriminate either in the content of bylaws or in practice against any person by reason of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation." If the controversial event is determined to be affiliated with the Dairy Club, the club could lose its charter.

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Canoe
continued from page 1

concrete that are placed in the mold for the canoe. The boat from last year weighed 85 pounds and was 20 feet long.

Marshall said this year he hopes the new canoe will weigh 80-85 pounds less by race time to increase the speed.

Mix-design captain and civil engineering senior Stefanie Gille said they picked an Amazonian theme for the vibrant colors and for the name. "Amazonia is the Spanish word for 'destroyer of boats,'" she said.

She was called back to the final round of the canoe-building competition held at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa. This year is the first time Cal Poly will host the competition.

Marshall said they want to use that as an advantage. "We're excited to defend the house on home turf," he said.

The Cal Poly team has made the top five at nationals for the past four years, the only school to do so. The biggest competitors the team is looking at this year are University of California, Berkeley and University of Florida. Stone said Berkeley beat Cal Poly in Alabama last year, taking first place. Schools qualify for the competition by winning regional events, and the Cal Poly team has to be picked for a science.

The student chapter has placed first in 14 of the past 16 years at regional competitions, including at the ASCE Pacific Southwest Regional Conference on April 10 and 11 at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The Pacific Southwest Regional Conference fits Cal Poly against schools like the University of California, Los Angeles, Cal Poly Pomona, the University of Arizona, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of Hawaii.

The national races will include a presentation of each team's design and building process. The races held include a 500-meter straightaway, men's and women's endurance slalom and several sprints, Wellung said.

"The most exciting is the top five race where you can't tell who is where because it's that close," Wellung said.

A slideshow of the canoe being built is posted online at mustangdaily.net.

Wheel
continued from page 1

they do on the show: the answer to the puzzle was "Go Mustangs." "There were mostly older people there," Berger said. "There was another audition in SLO the day before which I couldn't make, so I was one of the only Cal Poly students there."

She was called back to the final audition. The final part of the audition was a mock Wheel of Fortune game. Berger spun the wheel, chose letters and had to solve the puzzle. They didn't tell her at the final audition if she would be picked for the show or not. Instead, the show's producers said if she would be picked for the show, they would send her an e-mail, which was in April of 2009.

Finally, Berger got the e-mail to tape her show. It took more than a year from the time Berger auditioned to the airing of her show, but it will appear on TV tonight.

"My tape date was March 4, which was during the week nine of last quarter," Berger said. "I had a bunch of stuff due; it was not good timing. It took more than a year from the taping to the show. Berger was surprised at how little weight she gained while she was taping, "It was really harder than playing at home; you really feel rushed," Berger said.

"It was a lot harder than playing at home," Berger said. "It's really nervous and I could see all of her quirks come out. She did great, though, I don't know how she solved some of those puzzles so fast."

Berger had to sign a confidentiality agreement not to share any information with the media concerning how she did on the show or about any winnings. During the auditions, Berger charted with Pat Sajak. They talked about pizza.

"It was funny to see her up there," Wellung said. "She seemed really nervous and I could see all of her quirks come out. She did great, though, I don't know how she solved some of those puzzles so fast."

Berger said she was nervous and didn't know if she was going to make the show or not. Berger wasn't able to see or talk to her brother, roommate, boyfriend or parents, who had all come to watch the taping, until after the show, she said.

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Airplane
continued from page 1

mission, and Brian actually called me while I was on the plane (to kneel) to tell me we got 'tilts.'"

The missions this year were to head up the plane with softballs and 'boats' which were actually PVC pipes weighted to simulate the weight of a car. Cal Poly's team name played off the softball theme; "Swings Both Ways." Brian also followed the tradition of inappropriate team names. Beors said.

"Every year we come up with the most craziest and inappropriate team name that fits the theme," he said.

"The biggest competitors the team is looking at this year are University of California, Berkeley and University of Florida. Stone said Berkeley beat Cal Poly in Alabama last year, taking first place. Schools qualify for the competition by winning regional events, and the Cal Poly team has to be picked for a science.

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A slideshow of the canoe being built is posted online at mustangdaily.net.

"We have characters," Beors said. "A lot of schools take this competition as a class. We do this on our own. The sense of camaraderie and teamwork that you gain from the club is what keeps me going working for hours on end."

The design and building process begins in the fall after the rules for the competition are announced in August. Beors said. The team discusses their plan for around five hours every week from fall to April, not including the build weekends, which Beors said happened every other week.

With almost all the team coming back next year, Schab said he is excited to see how well they can do.

"There was definitely a learning curve for a lot of people," he said. "The hardest thing was teaching other people how to do things without coming off too hard. We will have a lot more experience next year."
Professor raises questions about science fiction becoming a reality

"It's a personal debate that strikes at the heart of what it means to be human," Dr. Patrick Lin said in the middle of his presentation last night. The controversy is around emerging technologies, "pushing us beyond nature's limits — turning science fiction into reality."

Lin, a philosophy professor at Cal Poly, presented on "Accelerating Evolution: The Ethics of Human Enhancement" at Kennedy Library from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Brought to the second floor by the Science Cafe, Lin spoke to a packed cafe with an audience of 155 individuals. He is part of the Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group at Cal Poly, a non-partisan group that Lin said "lays out a debate to move it forward," trying to avoid taking a side.

"This is the single most important debate this century in science and technology," Lin said to start off the evening.

He began with relevant and tangible topics which spur much of the controversy in this area, such as pharmaceuticals like steroids in sports. He strayed from more out-there concepts such as the creation of a space elevator.

One of the first examples he brought up was the use of Ritalin by students. He questioned whether this obvious advantage enhancing a student's ability to focus is necessary wrong.

"It's basically like taking a large shot of caffeine," Lin said.

He then went on to discuss what human enhancement really is. He explained that in the broad sense, it's anything that improves our lives from physical to cognitive performance.

In this sense "this chair is human enhancement ... Those cookies in the back could be considered a form of human enhancement," Lin said.

He explains the distinction made between "therapy" and "human enhancement" for the sake of the debate. "Therapy" is about treating conditions that keep one's level of functioning at a species-typical or "normal" level whereas "human enhancement" is a change in the structure and function of the body.

"Some people argue there's no distinction between enhancement and therapy, Lin said. "The main reason for this, he said, was a lack of an arbitrary line. A vaccine might be an enhancement for the immune system, but the environment in which it's given could make it considered a therapy."

Lin tied this concept to enhancement versus tool. A laptop could be considered a tool, but if shrink down into a chip embedded in the head or clothing via nanotechnology, it could be considered an enhancement.

"One is outside the body and the other is in," Lin said.

The point he was trying to make is not to abandon the enhancement-therapy distinction, even though there may not necessarily be a specific line between the two.

The same idea goes for alcohol, he said. It's a mood enhancer and relaxer, but the next day could mean a horrible hangover.

"Is it enhancement or poison?" he asked.

Lin then went on to possible scenarios in mental performance, physical performance and other unusual nonhuman enhancements. Mental improvements included things such as happiness from Prozac and information processing from Ritalin. Physical improvements included enhancements such as attractiveness and survival, creating soldiers who don't need sleep. The latter, Lin explained, is received around studies on whales and dolphins, two species that never fully sleep.

"They would drown if they did," Lin said. "They would drown if they did,"

Lin said, the idea would be to find this biological mechanism in humans and turn it on. An example Lin gave for unusual nonhuman enhancements was a deaf couple who wanted to use In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) to select a deaf embryo.

Lin said it's these scenarios that end up being issues and moral questions that range from freedom and autonomy to human dignity and social disruption.

"It's your body; why shouldn't it be up to you?" Lin said. "It's easy to hold up a torch of liberty, but we're surrounded by laws."

Lin went into more detail, discussing liberty and responsibility going hand in hand, the possibility of setting a bad example for children and the proposal that we are "playing God."

"Doctors are saving lives everyday ... Are they playing God?" Lin asked. "Is that bad?"

Lin concluded the presentation with the question, "Why worry?" He listed many of the ways we over-hype technology: robot maids, flying cars, meat-in-a-pill, but proposed the idea that backlash is a possibility like that toward genetically-engineered foods.

"Let's at least proactively address and anticipate some of these issues," Lin said.

Lin was swarmed with questions after the presentation on topics such as counteracting natural selection and the definition of normality. He answered a question about evolution and the suggestion that these enhancements are all part of that process.

"Two hundred years ago, the life expectancy was 40 or 50," Lin said. "We would be super-humans compared to them ... What's normal? It depends on where you find yourself in time."

Thomas Dvornik, computer science graduate student, came to Lin's presentation as part of his ethics and software class. He said the most interesting part was hearing about the difference between therapy and enhancement. Even with the moral questions proposed, Dvornik said he's still a big proponent of future advancements in technology.

"I'm all for technology... I don't really see the difference," Dvornik said. "If we are going to utilize technology, we might as well utilize it all we can."

An anonymous retired 76-year-old woman and San Luis Obispo local attended. She said she was old-school and not a proponent of these emerging technologies.

"How far can we go against nature?" she asked.

She said she does her own research in holistic medicine and health, and after teaching English as a second language in foreign countries she finds solace in the holistic approach.

"I call pharmaceuticals 'harmaceuticals,'" she said. "We think of them as a second language in foreign countries where we are, not mother nature and the earth as whole."

Gregory Robida, architecture senior and one-year exchange student from France, attended out of interest and said he was impressed with how well explained and organized the information was.

"We should carefully look at everything we do," Robida said afterward.
Obama backs peace talks with Taliban to end nine-year conflict

Peter Nicholas and Paul Richter

WASHINGTON — President Obama signaled Wednesday that, despite his earlier hesitation, he may embrace a plan by his Afghan counterpart to reconcile with certain Taliban leaders in hopes of uniting the country and ending a conflict that has stretched nearly nine years.

Obama signaled Wednesday that, in a joint White House news conference, he was open to the plan — a significant step for an administration that has been divided internally over the issue. Obama said the jirga would provide a basis for future talks.

"What we've said is that so long as there's a respect for the Afghan constitution, rule of law, human rights; so long as they are willing to renounce violence and ties to al-Qaida and other extremist networks; that President Karzai should be able to work to reintegrate those individuals into Afghan society," Obama said.

"One of the things I emphasized to President Karzai, however, is, that the incentives for the Taliban to lay down arms, and at least portions of the Taliban to lay down arms, and make peace with the Afghan government in part depends on our effectiveness in breaking their momentum militarily," Obama said.

A senior Obama administration official later elaborated. "The meetings the last couple days have enabled us to reach a good understanding of how the reconciliation process will proceed and we are fully supportive of Kanzai's efforts going forward," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

When he returns home, Karzai can tell Afghans he scored diplomatic victories.

The White House acceded to a key Afghan demand by pledging to hand over control of U.S. military prisons to Afghanistan on an accelerated timetable.

The military has pledged to turn over the U.S.-run prison at Bagram Air Force base by early next year. But Administration officials had privately expressed doubts about the plan, in large measure because some officials hope to use the Bagram prison to hold terrorism detainees, out of the reach of U.S. law.

Several military officials opposed such a plan, arguing it is critical to the training of the Afghan government to take control of its prisons.

In a joint statement released Wednesday, Obama said it was his "strong desire" to have Afghan security forces conduct all searches, arrests and detention operations.

In the news conference, Karzai said the agreement to form a team of advisors that will come up with a new timeline for handing over the prison was a "major point of progress."
State
SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT) — County public health officials have confirmed four cases of whooping cough and are advising anyone with symptoms to seek medical attention immediately.

State health officials have seen a rise of whooping cough cases in California and recently put out an alert urging people to be vaccinated to prevent more vulnerable people, including infants, from getting the highly contagious disease.

There were 219 cases of whooping cough reported in the first three months of this year in California compared with 118 during the same period last year, she said.

LOS ANGELES (MCT) — The Los Angeles City Council, protesting Arizona's crackdown on illegal immigration, voted to ban most city travel to Arizona and future contracts with companies in that state.

During a morning-long debate on the resolution, council members compared Arizona's action to Nazi Germany and the beginning of the Holocaust, as well as the incitement and deportation of Japanese Americans during World War II. A new Arizona law, which will take effect July 23, requires police to check the immigration papers of people they suspect lack legal status, which critics say will lead to racial profiling.

National
NEW YORK (MCT) — A British man arrested at a compound near Sanaa, Yemen, last month after he was seen on film sexually abusing large-breed dogs pleaded guilty to first-degree animal abuse Tuesday.

Whitcom County Superior Court Judge Charles Snyder sentenced Stephen Clarke, 51, to 30 days in jail, which he is almost done serving.

Snyder also ordered him to pay $51,000 to the Whitcom Humane Society, which has taken custody of the dogs, and to have no contact with any dog.

FLORIDA (MCT) — Broward County homeowners who saw healthy citrus trees cut down and ground up during the state's purge to halt citrus canker won a collective $8 million Wednesday after an appeals court upheld a lower judge's ruling that Florida must pay compensation.

But they shouldn't expect major windfalls. The money must be spread among some 70,000 homeowners, with the amount awarded depending on the size of the fallen trees, and the state plans to appeal the decision, meaning months of legal wrangling before any money changes hands.

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International
CHINA (MCT) — In the deadliest of the rampages that have tormented China's schools, a middle-age man Wednesday hacked to death seven children and two adults with a meat cleaver at a pre-school in Shuaimi province before going home and killing himself.

The attacker was identified as 48-year-old Wu Huangmin, who owned the building that housed the Linshang Village Kindergarten, 100 miles southwest of Xian, according to the state-run Xinhua news service.

The killings deepened the despair in China over the seemingly unstoppable string of attacks on schools.

LONDON (MCT) — Technology giant Samsung Electronics has dropped its civil lawsuit against a freelance newspaper columnist here, saying both parties had reached a 'common consensus' over a Christmas Day 2009 column that poked fun at the company and its chief executives.

The British-born columnist, Michael Breen, still faces criminal defamation charges for the satirical column he wrote for the Korea Times that included comments about Samsung and its chairman, Lee Kun-Hee.

Breen insisted that the column was obvious satire and that the company overreacted.
Crews ready containment dome in Gulf of Mexico oil leak

Erika Bolstad, Mark Washburn and Les Blumenthal

WASHINGTON — As crews lowered a second dome into the Gulf of Mexico in BP's latest bid to stop the underwater oil leak on Wednesday, lawmakers on Capitol Hill and a federal investigative panel in Louisiana continued a second day of hearings that shed more light on the events — and potential oversights — leading to the explosion and sinking of the Deepwater Horizon oil-drilling rig.

U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., said his committee's investigation into the Gulf oil spill revealed that a key safety device, the blowout preventer, had a leak in a crucial hydraulic system.

Waxman said in a hearing Wednesday that the investigation also discovered the well had failed a negative pressure test just hours before the April 20 explosion.

Waxman cited BP documents received by the Energy and Commerce Committee that showed there was a breach in the well integrity that allowed methane gas and possibly other hydrocarbons to enter the well.

The revelation follows Tuesday's testimony in which investigators homed in on an uncommon sequence of events involving a decision to remove heavy drilling lubricants early from a pipeline. It was unclear if those events triggered the sudden upswell of gas that led to the April 20 explosion.

The explosion and fire left 11 dead and mangled the deepwater containment dome on the seafloor near the rig when it exploded, told a White House official who asked Congress to take a $118 million oil spill response package, which includes a proposal to lift the current $75 million cap on liabilities for responsible parties.

Senior Obama administration officials said they would negotiate with Congress over the new liability limits, said Jeff Liebman, acting deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget.

The White House emphasized it intends to hold BP to a pledge made during Tuesday's Senate hearing by Lamm McKay, the president of the company's U.S. operations.

Sen. Mark Pryor, a Democrat from Arkansas, said McKay: "Let me be really clear: liability, blame, fault, put it over here. We are dealing with — we are the — we are a responsible party."

Meanwhile, two Obama Cabinet secretaries charged with overseeing the oil spill in the Gulf met with officials in BP America's headquarters in Houston Wednesday as the government and industry experts continued to brief BP for remedies to stop the massive escape of oil from 5,000 feet below the surface.

"We are confident and resolute that we will stop this problem and we are confident and resolute that we will continue to push BP to be the responsible party here and make sure at the end of the day this problem is effectively fixed with," said Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, who flew — to 4 feet in diameter and 5 feet tall — will be lowered over the main leaking pipe, and the oil capture device inside will be pumped to a barge on the surface.

"The top hat" strategy is similar to BP's failed effort to place a 78-ton steel and concrete containment dome comprised of a four-story house over the pipe and into the sea floor.

That dome, which was lowered into the Gulf last week, failed to contain the leak after it filled with methane and hydrogen that clogged a 12-inch opening at the top and made the dome too buoyant to form a watertight seal.

The new dome already has "um-

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The two secretaries also recruited a team of high-level experts to inspect what Chu described as outside "in­sufficient firepower" into the mis­sion. Chu said the scientists, some of whom come from prestigious univer­

sities, will assist BP and government officials in looking for solutions and trying to correct future failures.

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saries said they believe the problem will ultimately be solved, they offered no guarantees that an immediate solution is in sight.

"We are the — we are a responsible party.

Another option to stop the leak

An insertion tube may be used to stomach the Gulf's oil spill in addition or instead of the 'top hat' containment dome.

1. Insertion tube

2. Riser Pipe

3. Riser leak is thought to be the largest source of the oil undersea and latest leak oil.

4. Oil flow

5. BOP[1]

6. Riser leak

7. Flow of crude

8. Blowout preventer

9. containment dome.

Houston along with Energy Secre­

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10. The containment dome

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Dairy Club
continued from page 1

"Cal Poly is focused on any inci­ dent or any behavior that is counter to the university's goals for creating a tolerant and inclusive community so we don't have incidents where people feel uncomfortable," he said.

Morton said this can be used as a reminder that creating a tolerant environment is a long-term commit­ ment and a means to create educa­tional opportunities and spur discus­sion.

"If any good comes out of this, it is that people are reminded we have more work to do and we must par­ ticipate in conversations that lead to understanding," Morton said.

Cal Poly statistics freshman Mel­ cody Samuels said this incident makes her uncomfortable since society has generally become more tolerant of people's differences.

"I'm unhappy that things like this are still happening," she said.

"It hurts that people will still be vocal about things that are discriminatory against other people..." Cal Poly student Sara Vie­ ra said, "It's pathetic that occurrences like this are still happening."

"It's the second time people from the Cal Poly agriculture de­ partment have openly expressed dis­ crimination towards minorities," she said. "Regardless of whether this is a club-sponsored event, their open display of discrimination is ridicu­ lous and unacceptable... Obviously someone needs to teach Cal Poly ag­ riculture students a serious lesson in tolerance."

Kate McIntyre, Alex Kasik and Dave Meyers contributed to this report.

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**Supreme court nominee starts meetings with key senators**

David Lightman
MCCLATCHY NEWSERVERS

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan encountered skeptical Senate Republicans and en­ thusiastic Democrats Wednesday as she spent the day making private visits to key senators who will vote on her confirmation.

Kagan's meetings came as senators began to sharpen their perceptions of the 50-year-old solicitor general, whom President Barack Obama nom­ inated Monday to succeed retiring Jus­tice John Paul Stevens.

While her path to confirmation by midterm still appears smooth, Sen­ ate Republican leader Mitch McCoo­ nell of Kentucky set the GOP tone early, going to the Senate floor before his meeting and questioning her inde­ pendence.

"She's never had to develop the ju­ dicial habit of saying no to an admin­ istration, and we can't simply assume that she would," McConnell said.

Kagan has never been a judge. She's been the dean of Harvard Law School and an adviser to former President Bill Clinton, and she helped Vice Presi­dent Joe Biden, who was then the Sen­ ate Judiciary Committee chairman, in 1993方形on negotiations for a hearing for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She's also been a private corporate attorney and a law professor.

Kagan got warm support Wednes­day from Democrat Joe Biden. "I feel comfortable that she's the right choice," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

This is the first Senate ritual that freshly minted nominees must follow. No one expects senators or the nominee to emerge from such cour­ tery calls and say anything controver­sial — at least not right away — and there were few indications that much of substance came up.

"It's political theater," said Steven Gomem, an associate professor of po­ litical science at North Carolina State University.

Kagan was asked to discuss her de­ cision, as Harvard Law School dean, to bar military recruiters from campus in protest of the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy toward gays.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair­ man Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., thought that stance wouldn't be a problem, though Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, the committee's top Republican, left his meeting wanting to know more about her views on the issue.

The visits are significant because they provide the first clues as to how Kagan will be accepted by the senators who will decide her fate, and the talks — usually in senators' private offices — can ease tensions on both sides.

"You can't shout at somebody quite as loud if you've had a cup of coffee with them," said Russell Wheeler, a visiting fellow in governance studies at the Brookings Institution, a center-left policy research center.

Sometimes appointments don't pass the private-visit test. Harriet Miers, President George W. Bush's 2005 nominee, withdrew 24 days after be­ ing named and visiting senators, when conservatives questioned her creden­ tials and her philosophy.

Kagan's visits, which started Wednesday with Senate leaders and Judiciary Committee members, will continue all week as she aims to meet with all 100 senators.

Republicans suggested that Kagan will have to pass the "stature test," since she would join the court as its first woman associate justice.

Democrats countered that Kagan's confirmation process will enter its next phase when she testifies before the Senate Judiciary Committee, as well as scrutiny by the news media. It's not uncom­ mon for new questions to arise during this period, which is expected to last a month or two.

Judiciary Committee confirmation hearings are expected to begin in sum­ mer, and Kagan probably will spend about a week testifying. The Senate hopes for a final vote by Aug. 6, when it's scheduled to begin a five-week re­cess.

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**U.S. Supreme Court nominee, Solicitor General Elena Kagan, meets with Senate Jeff Sessions on Capitol Hill.**

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Dear beer drinkers, brewers and appreciators,

Similar to many beer drinkers before me, the first time I had a sip of beer I spit it out and said, "This tastes like crap!" But I "struggled" through and am now very glad I did. From that first sip of Silver Bullet, I’ve enjoyed a vast array of interesting and shocking beers.

One of my favorite types of beer is the India Pale Ale, or IPA. The name stems from the British occupation of India in the 18th century. On the long voyage from Britain to India, many of the normal beers British people drank would spoil because of wild yeast and bacteria that crept through the pores of the wooden barrels. To make a beer that would survive the long journey across the unforgiving ocean, brewers found the preservative and antibacterial qualities of adding a significant amount of hops to their ales.

From that beginning, Americans have taken the reins and have reinvented the style to encompass many glorious subcategories such as the floral and citrusy West Coast IPA, the aggressive Imperial IPA, and the new American experiment that is the Cascadian Dark Ale (Black IPA).

Oh glorious hops! If you have ever rubbed a few fresh flowers in your hand or grabbed a pint of freshly hopped IPA only to thrust your nose into the wonderful floral, herbal, sometimes spicy and citrusy aromas, you will excuse my excitement.

Hops are green, cone-shaped flowers that grow from the climbing humulus lupulus plant (the only sibling of marijuana in the cannabinaceae family). Hops contain two substances that are important to the brewer and beer drinker. The first are wonderfully bitter resin compounds that dissolve into the beer at higher temperatures when boiled. Second is a variety of aromatic oils that contribute their magic to the nose of the ale. The level of resins and oils is what separate the light spicy bitterness of the German noble hops from the resinous candy-light character of the English hops from the intense floral citrus qualities of our American hops.

Hops are mainly added to the boiling stage of the brewing process. The breakdown of the hop resins (isomerization) and oils occurs in a very distinct progression. When hops are added to the beginning of the boil (60+ minutes left) they will impart mostly bitterness. When hops are added to the middle of the boil (10 to 20 minutes left) they add mostly flavor. When hops are added late or at the end of the boil (0 to 5 minutes left) they will impart mostly aroma. Also, adding hops to the finished beer (dry hopping) can give an extremely fresh
Cheech and Chong to light up Avila Beach Resort Friday

Patrick Leiva

Comedy duo of Cheech and Chong will bring their comedy act to the Central Coast for their "Get it Legal Tour," on Friday, May 14 at the Avila Beach Resort.

Their comedy, focused heavily on marijuana, has led to nine comedy albums and eight movies, including their first movie in 1978 entitled "Up in Smoke," which earned more than $100 million at the box office.

Yvette Shearer, who serves as the personal publicist for Cheech Marin and Tommy Chong, said it is great to introduce Cheech and Chong to new and younger audiences who have not experienced their comedy.

"Funny is timeless and when something is really done right it doesn't matter whether you pick it up 30 years later, it's still going to be funny," Shearer said. "Marijuana is still funny to a lot of people, so it just makes sense and it's a common subject matter that still resonates with a lot of age frames years later."

The show will focus on the legalization of marijuana, which coincides with the timing of the tour. Shearer said the performance will include new and old material from their stand-up comedy routines over the years, some of their musical talents, a stand-up by Chong's wife Shelby performing some of her own stand-up comedy and Cheech's son Joey will serve as the disc jockey for the night.

Shearer said the tour has around 40 dates planned throughout the year and continues to add more stops. The tour has taken the duo throughout the United States and included stops in Canada as well. Shearer said they wanted to come to San Luis Obispo because they heard it was a great spot and a beautiful place for a concert.

"I think they've had a couple of outdoor shows that seemed pretty much up the Cheech and Chong alley so we thought it would be a cool and fun place to go kick-off a nice day out," Shearer said.

Joe Graziano, who has served as Cheech and Chong's tour manager for almost a year now, said they have enjoyed great support from people along the tour. Graziano said it is a privilege to work with Cheech and Chong because they care about their fans and their comedy still impacts people today.

"We've had sold-out shows everywhere and whenever you are touring with a couple of comedy legends like Cheech and Chong, it's an honor and a crack up every night," Graziano said.

He said Cheech and Chong still have die-hard fans throughout the country that have been around for years, the comedy team enjoys meeting all those people and the opportunity to put smiles on their faces.

"That's really what we get out of the whole thing is just the enjoyment of the crowd," Graziano said. "The passion that the crowd has comes through every night and the guys feed off of it in their performances."

Shearer said their audiences tend to span many different generations from younger, college-aged kids to the baby boomers who grew up with Cheech and Chong. She said both men continue to enjoy touring and will provide a quality two-hour performance for attendants.

"I think it's just the thrill of performing for different audiences that keeps them going and they're never stopped being creative," Shearer said. "When you're fueled by constantly putting out product and you want to do it, people enjoy it even better."

With summer approaching, the concert season is beginning to pick-up in Avila. Bruce Howard, founder of Otter Productions Inc., helps plan and set-up concerts all over the Central Coast. He said his company jumped on the opportunity to bring Cheech and Chong to San Luis Obispo County for the first time. Howard has been doing shows in Avila for more than 20 years and said the Cheech and Chong performance popped up in the past two months. He said Cheech and Chong are iconic comedians.

"They are arguably one of the... see Cheech, page 10
larger comedy acts that came out of the '60s and they survived until today," Howard said. "To be able to bring them to Avila at the beach on a Friday night seemed perfect to me."

Howard said he is a big believer in the ability for people to recreate and have a good time and believes that entertainment is part of life. He said there is no big social implication for this show, but it is going to provide entertainment for the people who choose to attend the show.

"I believe that there's something to be said for pure just having fun," Howard said. "Do I have any great commentary about it? No. I mean it's Cheech and Chong. They're going to be talking about smoking dope and getting high."

"Radical Paths to Success" Symposium
Saturday May 22 1-4 pm

featured speaker
Dr. Khosro Khaloghi

"Frozen in Time"

Brew
continued from page 8

Simtra IPA

Brewing Instructions:

Heat water and mash grains at 154°F. Bring wort to rolling boil and add first hops. Boil for 60 minutes, adding hops according to above times. Recipe is designed for a 6 gallon batch at 70 percent brewing efficiency. Original gravity should be 1.074 and final should be 1.012.

Other:
• Whirlfloc Clarifier (20 min)
• SaAle California Ale (DCL Yeast )

Brewing Instructions:

• 10 lbs American 2 Row
• 0.5 oz Simcoe (60 min)
• 0.5 oz SaAle (20 min)
• 0.5 oz SaAle (10 min)
• 0.5 oz SaAle (5 min)
• 0.5 oz SaAle (0 min)
• 1.0 oz SaAle (dry hop in secondary fermenter)

Recipe is designed for a 6-gallon batch at 70 percent brewing efficiency. Original gravity should be 1.074 and final should be 1.012.

Simtra IPA

(All Grains):

- 10 lbs American 2 Row (For extract brewers this equates to 7 lbs of liquid malt extract or 6 lbs of dry malt extract)
- 1.0 lb Caramalt Malta
- 1.0 lb Victory Malt

Hops:
- 0.5 oz Simcoe (60 min)
- 0.5 oz Caramalt Malta
- 1.0 oz Caramalt Malta
- 1.0 oz Simcoe (60 min)
- 1.0 oz Caramalt Malta (dry hop in secondary fermenter)

Other:
- Whirlfloc Clarifier (20 min)
- SaAle California Ale (DCL Yeast )

"Frozen in Time"

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ASI will be every student's connection to the ultimate college experience.
Letterman's experience and "self-deprecation" make him No. 1

Chris Riemenschnieder
SRX EXECUTIVE MINORITIES

NEW YORK — Taking the stage for the pre-show warm-up, he ran out like a champion fighter with surprising speed and grace. And then he leaned over in anguish, feigning lower back pain.

He cooly grabbed the microphone like a rapper about to spout off the dopest lyrics. And then he lifted his dorky penny loafers up on one of the TV monitors.

He revved up the crowd with a fun riff on allergies but hit a pot-hole, pontificating their scientific origins. And that's when it became funny.

"You're probably thinking you came to the wrong program," he said. "I paid a guy a much better gig. I paid a guy a much better gig."

I witnessed the mother of all Letterman shows, too, his Battle of Midway. It was the one with Hugh Grant after his bust with a hooker in 1995, which famously turned Grant's 10-minute no-show into a 30-minute war in Jay's favor.

I was an intern at the New Angeles Times that year, and like all good interns I turned a patsy assignment into a much better gig. I paid a guy a wad of cash to get into the taping myself (which turned into another 입, which later led to me creating actively wording expense reports).

Like everyone else, the thing I remember most was Leno's opening question to Grante: "What the hell were you thinking?" I bet Jay spent the entire day thinking that up. The rest of the interview was forgettable, though, as is just about everything Leno does that's not carefully scripted.

The Letterman taping I saw Monday was far more ordinary, yet way more memorable. It was actually the Friday show that would air four nights later. That's how good Dave is. He can tape a show four days in advance and keep it fresh. But then, you don't have to be a genius to know that Arizona's new immigration law will still merit spawning a week later.

As viewed from the crowd, the best parts weren't the edgy moments, but the ones when Dave turned into a total softie, which came compliments of Mother's Day. Let's face it, Dave's stature among women took a big hit this past year. Whether or not it was the intent, this show went a long way in turning things around.

Amanda Peet was officially the lead guest, making up for her cancellation just two weeks earlier upon the birth of her second daughter. The show's biggest guest star, though, was Dave's mom.

If Dorothy Letterman, 89, of Indianapolis, isn't the most likable woman in America, I don't know who is. Via satellite, she delivered the night's Top 10 List: her advice on parenting (i.e., "If your child won't stop crying, tell him, 'Stop it,

David, you're 63 years old'"). I've always admired Dave's mastery of self-deprecation, which I attribute to his Midwestern roots. What really impressed me in person was watching him at work before the hassle of getting into the Ed Sullivan Theater near Times Square.

He spent the commercial breaks talking offstage with staffers and going over cue cards. He and the great pre-show warm-up comic, Eddie Brill, went off in the corner several times, probably going over material. Being funny is hard work, and I believe it's Letterman's work ethic that makes him the best. And I'm not just saying that because we were both paperboys.

Even Dave's pre-show bit on allergies was probably something he's working on for a future monologue. One gets the feeling that Leno tests his material only in front of NBC affiliate staffers and going over cue cards. He and the great pre-show warm-up comic, Eddie Brill, went off in the corner several times, probably going over material. Being funny is hard work, and I believe it's Letterman's work ethic that makes him the best. And I'm not just saying that because we were both paperboys.

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I love the lead-up to elections. Despite the campaign smears, scrambling for votes and the lies and all of the dirty realities that come along with American politics, it’s a time during which we create visions of the future — often based on ideology, but visions of the future nonetheless. After these visions are presented to us, the country makes a single choice concerning the way in which we wish to proceed; it’s a choice that ultimately can’t please everyone, but it’s a clear, irrevocable path we face together, nevertheless.

And as a California community, we are now in this precarious, yet exhilarating time of visions and visions. The primary election, largely dominated by Meg Whitman (R), Steve Poizner (R), and Jerry Brown (D), will be June 8 — in only three weeks.

I can’t vote for a Republican in the Primary June 8, but the Republican race seems to me to be the most politically intriguing. When I first looked at the candidates for governor of California, Meg Whitman seemed to be the most interesting candidate. She held an executive position at eBay and several other executive positions at popular companies — Walt Disney, for example. She also seems reasonable when she speaks, and many of her ideas are, in fact, just that: reasonable.

One of the more important issues for me in choosing a candidate, however, is their position on taxes and spending — especially considering the真实的下台 the next governor will face due to our dysfunctional legislature, which suffers from painful ideological enmity. One drawback from Whitman’s platform, on this point, is the fact that she does not support a repeal of the 2/3 vote needed to pass a budget. For the past two years, this has been the major obstacle in passing budgets.

Whitman’s campaign website states, “We simply cannot afford a big, across-the-board tax cut that would irresponsibly grow the state’s oversize debt level and drain our bond rating to junk status.” She’s correct in that simply cutting taxes will increase the debt level. It’s simple logic. Cutting taxes decreases state revenue, and as long as spending remains the same, the debt level will rise.

But my problem with Whitman’s proposed spending cuts is not so much that I disagree with what she believes the state legislature should cut; rather, it is the ambiguity in her plan that leaves so much to question. She doesn’t clarify what she believes can be cut from the budget on her campaign website to my satisfaction.

In her “Cut Spending” section, she states that she wants to reduce the state workforce by introducing a hiring freeze. This idea will not help our unemployment problem, and I don’t think it would do much to cut spending. California’s unemployment has been consistently above 10 percent and reached 13 percent in March. She wants to fund education and retain the income tax level, and she doesn’t specifically mention that the way she wants to raise the tax.

How, then, will she reduce California’s debt? There’s just so much undefined about Meg Whitman that it’s hard to really draw conclusions about her as a candidate — especially when information emerges that she served on the board for Goldman Sachs and engaged in now-illegal activities.

The Sacramento Bee reports that Whitman “was a personal banking client of Goldman and engaged in ‘spinning,’ a now-banned practice in which the investment bank gave huge amounts of money to companies going public. When the shares became widely available — and their prices soared — the stock was sold for a quick profit.”

The newspaper reports that she made $1.78 million from spinning. In her defense, the practice was legal when she made her money. But the simple association with Goldman Sachs is enough to raise questions about her as a candidate, because the company is under such heavy investigation for wrongdoing.

The sad part of this story is that Steve Poizner joined with the Democratic labor organizations to serve his own interests and released his own campaign commercial against Whitman. Not the type of stand-up guy I would want in office. Jerry Brown, the Democratic candidate, has run a clean campaign so far, and to the extent of my research has not released a campaign ad with this information.

The reason the Democratic labor organizations targeted Whitman is simply that she is the biggest threat to their November hopes of taking back the governor’s mansion. Perhaps one could argue that she showed bad judgment in “spinning,” but it’s not an interesting claim to make as a foundation for why she should not be governor.

Frankly, a race between Whitman and Brown is the kind I want to see in November. Jerry Brown has extensive experience and knowledge concerning the position of governor. Having successfully served as governor of California from 1975 to 1983, Meg Whitman is a relatively reasonable conservative, and I imagine he will more fully develop her plan for California in the coming months.

The race would be challenging for both sides and, I think, would really cultivate an interesting political discussion in California. If after the dust settles June 8, Meg Whitman is still standing, I say, “May the best man win.”

Stephanie England is an English major and Mustang Daily political columnist.
that it does promote racial profiling. Who do you think the police would have a "suspicion of being here illegally," the guy with white skin and blond hair or the guy that is black like a Mexican, Central American and so on? And also I am glad your grandfather was able to come here legally, but now it costs thousands of dollars and takes up to 10 years to legally come here. That is money and time that most people who come here do not have: they have a choice between watching their family die in poverty or go to a country illegally knowing that you will not be liked.

"Bisexu al men: The illusion of choice"

You say kudos to the illegal who picked your vegetables, which I relate to and appreciate. However, what happens when that same illegal rear-ends you on the highway and tells you that he is not insured, scared of deportation(which is extremely frightening, don't get me wrong), and then you are stuck with a damaged car and expected to float the bill? What happens if someone in your vehicle was seriously injured in the accident? What if the illegal driver was also injured in the accident, even if he died first? When he goes to the E.R. and cannot be refused treatment, whose tax dollar and insurance premiums do you think cover him? Yours do. The taxpaying American citizen. So you might save $4.95 a pound on lettuce, but is the cost lost elsewhere? There is more to illegals than just cheap labor..."

"Beauxsex men: The illusion of choice"

I would like to personally insult you on your whole. If you were to walk through Arizona would you feel threatened of being deported? I'm sure it wouldn't even cross your mind, or the minds of others. But I, an American-born, raised in the Central Coast just like you, as I see you went to AG High, Righetti here, would, not because I am illegal but because "America" has classified people who look like me as illegal, although my grandfather, father, and myself are all happy living in the Central Coast legally.

I am sure states like Pennsylvania have their own immigration issues but the point in this one is can you really tell the difference between yourself and a Canadian? Or should we all be able to tell the difference between yourself and a Mexican, or Salvadoran, or Saudi Arabian? I think that is the issue that you don't get. That is this is such a sensitive issue for so many Americans. Because we don't all look the same and it is racial profiling.

—Victor "Finally Some Immigration Control"

Brendan the issue people have with this piece of legislation is that it would only go gay for a celebrity or being what one person called a "celebrity bisexual," or a person who relate to and appreciate. However, too scared to come out of the closet too, so they just promote this idea of a legal exception between yourself and a Mexican, Central American and so on? And also I am glad your grandfather was able to come here legally, but now it costs thousands of dollars and takes up to 10 years to legally come here. That is money and time that most people who come here do not have; they have a choice between watching their family die in poverty or go to a country illegally knowing that you will not be liked.

"Finally Some Immigration Control"

...the bill would only target those that were acting blatantly "suspicious." I am sorry, Brendan, but this is so ambiguous. This bill straight up legalizes racial profiling.

This country was founded by illegal immigrants and here we are setting up unfair international commerce laws on neighboring isle... this is so ambiguous. This is more to illegals than just cheap labor...

"Finally Some Immigration Control"

...as part of a cynical bid for political advancement, we can't support him and ourselves into many of the problems we face today, but it's hard to believe that we deserve these dismal choices for the state's top elected offices," the scathing and surprisingly neutral editorial. The piece did have a light at the end of the tunnel for state Insurance Commissioner and gubernatorial candidate Steve Poizner (who, the editorial notes, was endorsed by the LA Times in 2006). The editorial also notes "his brand of pragmatic conservatism... (reflecting) a Silicon Valley spirit of efficiency, self-reliance, public service, economic responsibility and social liberalism" are promising tools for a 2010 gubernatorial victory.

However, the paper tempered this positive support with concern that in his desire to win over a conservative base, his focus on illegal immigration, "state employees, human service recipients, and all the rest of the right's imagined villains" could cost him in politically flexible votes: "If he has latched onto them (the aforementioned "negative focus") as part of a cynical bid for political advancement, we can't support him now." Whitman need not worry excessively about whether or not the LA Times backs her campaign: she is busy enough racking up plenty of unequivocal endorsements of her own. In campaign updates to her supporters from Tuesday, May 4 through Friday, May 7, Whitman wrote proudly of her additional endorsements from The New Majority California, the Republican National Hispanic Assembly of California, the Associated Builders and Contractors of California and the Long Beach Press-Telegram.

The chairman of the Associated Builders and Contractors of America, Chris Lang, stated that Whitman "is committed to helping small businesses and she has a plan to keep our state at the forefront of economic development..." Whitman also made history on May 4 when she raked up a first-of-its-kind endorsement. The Chairman of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly of California, Richard Lua, informed the public that the organization was giving the first endorsement Republican National Hispanic Assembly of California "has ever made in a Californian governor's race." Lua added his belief that Whitman "can address two of the principle concerns of the Latino community — jobs and education — and she has a plan to make California's government more efficient and fiscally responsible."

Regardless of clear endorsements and non-endorsements such as those of the LA Times, both Poizner and Whitman continue to batter one another on the airwaves, each attempting to one-up the other when it comes to proving who is the true 'liberal in conservative's clothing.' In a state not known for its widespread conservative viewpoints, Poizner and Whitman would do best to focus on their positive achievements, their plans for turning around the ailing state economy, and how they have shown themselves to be effective bipartisan and pragmatic leaders.

Swati Kapoor is an English graduate student and Mustand Daily guest columnist.

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Baseball

continued from page 16

win was just a brief moment of celebration in a losing season thus far. "Lately it has been a little rough; we haven’t done as well as we wanted to," Aggies catcher Scott Kalush said. "Overall, we have a lot of work to do. We definitely need to keep improving, but we’re taking a few steps in the right direction..."

The Aggies hope those steps will help them defeat the Mustangs. "Cal Poly is always a good team, and it’s always been a tough series," said Kalush, who is hitting .295 with 21 RBIs. "We definitely are going to have to bring our game."

As for Cal Poly, the key to the series is about putting together all the pieces of the puzzle at the right time. "Anything can happen on any given day," Yoder said. "It all depends on how your pitchers are doing and how well your position players are hitting. It all comes back to the team facets. If we can put all three facets of the game together, I like our chances a lot."

First pitch is set for Friday at 2:30 p.m.

Tennis

continued from page 16

"I will miss my team; we were so close this year. They are my second family," she said. "I will also miss Coach Beem, because he has inspired me to be the best player and person that I can be. He will have a lasting impact on my life." Senior Diane Filip, who hails from Danbury, Conn., said she misses her teammates and thanks her family for support during her four years.

"Tennis is a part of my life, it always has been and will always have a special place in my heart, though I am certain I won’t find a special group of people like my teammates," she said.

Beem said all four seniors didn’t cut any corners.

"They went into their senior year with no distractions, which is hard," he said. "To carry a 3.5 or higher GPA, and at some time be the best senior class in Cal Poly history, they just put everything they had into place."

Filip said balancing tennis and school was a challenge, and she learned how to manage both efficiently.

"Although it has been tough to juggle school and sport, being a part of the team and playing under Beem has shaped her into the person she is today," Filip added.

"Coach Beem is awesome as a person and as a coach. His positive and motivational way of coaching this sport has made me a happier player on the court, which showed in my game. I thank Hugh for giving me this opportunity," she said.
Baseball travels to Davis for final road series of season

Brian De Los Santos

Head coach Larry Lee challenged his team after being swept by Cal State Fullerton three weeks ago. The Mustangs hadn't seen a weekend series win through nearly three quarters of his team's schedule, there were no playoffs in sight and they would need a miracle-like run to push their record past .500. But then Lee stepped in. He challenged his team to win 10 of their remaining 19 games — just enough to put the club half past the 20-win mark come May.

The task may have been daunting for the (10-26) team at that point, but it didn't show in its performance on the field. His team responded to the challenge.

Since then, the Mustangs have won five of their last seven games, while scoring seven or more runs in their last eight. Now a goal that would have looked close to impossible in the middle of the year seems a little more within reach. This weekend, the Mustangs (15-29, 6-12 Big West) hope their three-game series against conference rival UC Davis will help them inch closer to that milestone.

"Right now, we're on track to do it. We're just trying to work hard and get to that," catcher Ross Brayton said. "You obviously don't want to just throw away the season. We are so far in, we still want to get the respect that we had at the beginning (of the season)."

The Mustangs now have the momentum and look to keep it rolling. After keeping every game against UC Irvine close this weekend, Cal Poly grabbed an 18-11 win against Loyola Marymount Tuesday afternoon.

"Now we are finding ways to win, getting those breaks we weren't getting at the beginning of the year. Just to get to 20 wins, we would prove to ourselves that 'Hey, we battled through this year. Even though it wasn't the greatest year, we still reached a goal,'" Brayton said.

The Mustangs can credit their bats for the resurgence. With a team .697 ERA, Cal Poly could win games with a consistent four-run, 7-game effort. Instead, high run totals are necessary to keep games close. With the return of key contributors like Brayton and designated hitter Mitch Haniger, the Mustangs have been able to achieve such totals.

"That just shows how good we actually are," Brayton said. "We are starting to play to our capabilities, and we are proving to ourselves we are as good as we thought we were.

But even with the offense rolling, the Mustangs' approach may have to change when they head into James M. and Ann Dobbins Baseball Stadium this weekend. Even for hitters like outfielder Luke Yoder, who hit three home runs in his last two games, the 410-foot center field wall may seem a bit farther than usual.

"We've got to make sure we really focus on hitting low line drives," Yoder said. "That field compared to ours is a dead zone. The ball doesn't fly very well at that field at all ... If you hit the ball in the air, it's almost going to be an out every time."

UC Davis currently stands at 20-24, .411 and responded to being swept by Pacific over the weekend with an 8-5 win against Saint Mary's Tuesday afternoon. But the Mustangs come into this weekend with a recent sweep against UC Santa Barbara. In every game. The Mustangs come into this weekend losers of six of their last eight games. First pitch is set for Friday at 1 p.m.