Faculty member volunteers in Haiti post-earthquake

Nicole Powers
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When Cal Poly architectural engineering associate professor James Mwangi was chosen by the Mennonite Central Committee for a sponsored relief trip to Haiti after the 7.0 earthquake, he expected to assess buildings for two weeks, but ended up educating Haitian builders.

Mwangi is a licensed structural engineer and a volunteer certified disaster safety worker through the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA), the agency that deploys structural engineers in California during natural disasters to inspect damage.

The Structural Engineers Association of California manages the deployments for CalEMA; after the earthquake hit in January, the association advised members not to self-deploy for security reasons. Mwangi, still interested, contacted Engineers Without Borders and was then contacted by the Mennonite Central Committee.

Mwangi is registered as a structural engineer and certification by the CalEMA made him the perfect fit to decide whether the buildings should stay. Mwangi had been inspecting buildings in Haiti for three days when he attended a meeting conducted by United Nations Operations and the Haiti Government’s Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications (MTPTC), which changed his itinerary altogether.

When asked what to do to prevent the severe damage to the buildings from occurring, he said the architects, engineers and contractors of Haiti should be taught how to build differently to withstand natural disasters.

“More than 230,000 people lost their lives, clearly indicating that earthquakes do not kill people, but buildings kill people during earthquakes,” he said.

Mwangi said the materials used in construction of the buildings had weak structure and very poor construction methods.

“Virtually all of the buildings are not designed by a structural engineer or architect, there is no construction code or practice to follow and hence no quality assurance in form of inspections on materials or during construction,” he said.

Mwangi was asked if he could teach the Haitian architects, engineers and contractors starting the following day. He immediately agreed and started organizing his lesson plans and set up sessions for the Haitians for the remainder of his trip.

“I gave six, three-hour workshops in different cities: two in Desarmes, two in Kenscoff, one in Port-au-Prince and one in Dheudon,” he said. "By the time it was time for me to come back, the workshops had been attended by close to 150 professionals.”

see Haiti, page 5

Student editors unveil Byzantium

Ivan Van Wingerden, one of the two English seniors’ choices for poetry, reads his poem “Blind Date” to an audience at Sally Loos Sunday during the unveiling of Byzantium, a compilation of creative writing by Cal Poly students.

John McCullough
jmccullough.gj@gmail.com

Editor’s Note: Beth Shirley, who is one of the students in charge of Byzantium, is also a copy editor for the Mustang Daily.

Cal Poly students unveiled their student project, Byzantium, a publication of the winners of the 40th Landwerl Creative Writing Contest winners, at Sally Loos Sunday night. Byzantium is the senior project of English seniors Marjia Lane and Beth Shirley, and Art and Design senior Melissa Tinus. Senior editors Lane and Shirley worked with Tinus, the project’s art director, to compile the list of works by Cal Poly stu-

see Byzantium, page 2
The project includes works submitted to the Lambda contest.

Kevin Clark, faculty advisor for Byzantium, worked with the three students to help organize the project. The students applied to do the project after the final round of applicants—five students—were chosen, said Clark. "This project reflects on the students applied to for. They had a lot of original questions that the department takes lightly, he said. "The most important thing we look for is a good sense of responsibility," said Clark. "This project reflects on the university and the department."

"Being published in Byzantium opens up many doors for Cal Poly students looking to become professional writers after school," said Clark. "This project reflects on the university and the department."

Three recent winners, published in Byzantium all graduated from the graduate creative writing program at University of California, Davis. Others have received scholarships to attend graduate writing programs across the country.

"Someone once told me that you have something that's worth publishing you should send it all over. By the time you get rejected from the first place you should have already sent it to the next," Lane said. "We went with 'boldly forward' as our theme. Melissa's design of a bold, red B on the cover fit perfectly."

Some of the previous designs were too extravagant for this year's theme, she added.

"But they would have an uphill battle with financing the project," Lane said. "The English department was a huge help with funding Byzantium, senior editor Lane said. "Everyone knows that if a financial slump starts, the first thing to go," Lane said. "The English department was able to get us half of the money we needed for the printing."

"It was the looming struggle of finding the funding for the project that helped the editors come up with this year's theme, they said. "We knew we had to be really bold with our approach to the project," Lane said. "So we went with 'boldly forward' as our theme. Melissa's design of a bold, red B on the cover fit perfectly."

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State

SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT) — A man who said he had been released from Wasco State Prison on Sunday was arrested Monday afternoon after he allegedly stole an iPod out of a person's car near a junk yard and then punched the victim in the face when confronted, according to county sheriff's officials.

Fernando Manuel Salas, 30, was arrested on suspicion of strong-arm robbery at the state parole office in Santa Maria and was being held in San Luis Obispo County Jail on Tuesday.

Salas is being held in San Luis Obispo County Jail in lieu of $60,000 bail for the alleged strong-arm robbery.

**FREMONT (MCT)** — Netflix Inc. has decided to chop 160 jobs in Fremont, but the company said Tuesday the reductions are due to its quest to deliver movies in a more cutting-edge way.

Los Gatos-based Netflix will eliminate part-time, temporary workers through the reductions, company spokesman Steve Swayze said.

The first round of cuts will eliminate 131 jobs by late June. The next round will trim another 29 position by mid-August. The reductions were detailed in an official company filing with a state labor agency.

**WASHINGTON (MCT)** — The chief White House economic adviser said Tuesday the federal government could get "most, if not all" of the money it invested in General Motors back once the automaker offers shares to the public later this year.

The comment by National Economic Council director Larry Summers goes beyond previous estimates by the Obama auto task force that the government would likely lose some of the roughly $50 billion spent rescuing GM, of which about $42 billion remains outstanding.

National

**FLORIDA (MCT)** — For four rein, Florida has been named the worst state in the nation for violence against the homeless. But now it's one of the first states to enact a law making it a hate crime to attack a homeless person.

Experts are divided on whether the newly passed legislation will serve as a deterrent, but there's no question it will make for stiffer penalties. The law, signed last week by Florida Gov. Charlie Crist, will go into effect Oct. 1. It adds homeless people to an existing hate-crimes law that increases sentencing for attacks motivated by a victim's race, color, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, mental or physical disability or advanced age.

**BRIDGEWATER (MCT)** — A man who said he had been released from a New Jersey prison earlier this month was arrested Monday on a parole violation.

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**OMAHA (MCT)** — An Omaha man shot and killed his ex-girlfriend's boyfriend, then shot and killed himself after being confronted by the couple's son.

Police were called to the couple's home in the south Omaha area shortly after 3 a.m. Monday after hearing gunshots. They entered the home and found 28-year-old Adam Schmeltzer dead inside.

Police said Schmeltzer was shot to death by 34-year-old John Blumberg Jr., who they described as a "good friend" of the couple's son.

**TOWNHILL (MCT)** — A man drowned after falling into a raging stream near the village of Nitrianske Sucany in the country's north-west.

Flooding appeared to be easing slightly in some parts of the eastern Czech Republic, but new areas were under threat on Tuesday and some 3,500 households remained cut off from power.

**LONDON (MCT)** — European finance officials vowed Tuesday to tackle the region's worriesome budget deficits as embattled Greece began tapping into billions of dollars in loans from its neighbors to stay afloat.

Meeting in Brussels, finance ministers from the 27 European Union countries said curbing public spending must be their No. 1 task amid increasing alarm over the stability of the euro, which has dropped precipitously in value over the past few weeks.
Calderon to press U.S. on immigration

Peter Nicholas

WASHINGTON — President Obama will be meeting daunting international frustration with the U.S. immigration system Wednesday when his Mexican counterpart arrives for a private summit where he will air strong objections to the punitive tilt of America's immigration policy.

The visit to Washington by Mexican President Felipe Calderon as the Obama administration considers a legal challenge to the anti-illegal immigration law signed by Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer last month.

A team of lawyers from the Justice Department's civil rights unit and other divisions has been reviewing the Arizona law and is expected to issue a recommendation in coming weeks.

In his two-day visit, Calderon will have a vast stage to make known his country's displeasure with the direction of U.S. immigration policy. He is expected to urge a far-reaching overhaul of the U.S. immigration system so that the 11 million people living here illegally have a chance to gain legal status.

Obama has delayed action on an immigration bill, even as his administration steps up deportations and enforcement actions.

Following an Oval Office meeting and news conference with Obama, the Mexican leader will address a joint session of Congress on Thursday morning and meet separately with the Congressional Hispanic Caucuses.

An Obama administration official who briefed reporters Tuesday on Calderon's visit said: "We certainly anticipate and welcome a conversation on the immigration issue with large.

He added, "We certainly understand that this is an issue that has resounded in Mexico, is of deep concern to the Mexican government."

Elections are coming up in Mexico and voters back home expect Calderon to denounce anything that smacks of ill treatment of Mexicans.

The Mexican-U.S. summit also will give the two leaders a chance to spotlight joint efforts against drug trafficking, which has dominated bilateral relations since Calderon launched a crackdown on cartels in 2006.

On Capitol Hill on Tuesday, Lanny A. Breuer, assistant attorney general, told a Senate judiciary subcommittee that joint law enforcement efforts between the United States and Mexico are essential to bringing down the cartel violence in Mexico and the demand for drugs in this country.

"Crime and terrorism increasingly know no borders, and without strong, stable and trustworthy foreign law enforcement partners, we cannot hope to defeat transnational crime," he said.

Breuer said U.S. law enforcement officials have trained some 3,462 individuals now working in Mexico's executive and judicial branches, along with another 4,400 students in basic police investigative skills.

"Nevertheless, he said, Mexican cartels now operate in at least 230 U.S. cities, up from 50 just four years ago. "The stakes could not be higher, he said, saying that joint cooperation will help "defeat the drug trafficking organizations that threaten the safety of all our citizens."

Alex Pham

LOS ANGELES — On a blustery spring day five years ago, Yakov Laptev pointed a video camera at his friend Jawed Karim standing in front of two elephants at the San Diego Zoo and hit the record button.

The resulting 19-second clip, titled "Me at the Zoo," was not a cinematic masterpiece, with Karim re-marking on the pachyderm's "really, really long trunk."

But as the first video uploaded to YouTube, it played a pivotal role in fundamentally altering how people consume media and help usher in a golden era of the 60-second video.

"Prior to YouTube, there was no way people would want watching something that was 30 or 60 seconds," said Paul Levinson, a professor of media and communication studies at Fordham University and author of the book "New New Media."

"On TV, the shortest show was 30 minutes."

Five years after Karim's 19-second clip of digital immortality hit the Web and rocked the world of television, YouTube is coming full circle. The king of Internet video is embarking on a mission to become nothing less than the world's TV.

Average YouTube viewer sticks around for about 15 minutes a day, while TV consumes people for five hours daily. So the San Bruno, Calif., company is experimenting with ways to keep people on its sites longer.

To close the gap with television, YouTube is adding full-length movies, music videos, two-hour concerts and live sporting events — some in high-definition and even stereoscopic 3-D — into its mix of snack-sized videos. It's putting an emphasis on more polished videos from independent movie producers, major record labels and even Hollywood studios with whom YouTube has had a prickly relationship.

"The day is coming when people won't think of online videos as being separate from TV," said Shirin Mehnota, who runs YouTube's advertising programs as director of product management. "The lines are blurring in both directions. From the viewers' perspective, there are many ways to watch content on their TV, and YouTube is trying to reach out to them."

That was not the idea in 2005 when YouTube founders Chad Hurley, Steve Chen and Karim stitched the company together in an office above a pizzeria in San Mateo, Calif. The goal was to create a site that would make it easy for average people to share their homemade videos.

By July 2006, the company announced that 65,000 videos a day were being uploaded, and it wasn't long before YouTube got noticed by a few big corporate fish. One was Google, which agreed in October 2006 to acquire YouTube for $1.65 billion in stock, even though there was nary a profit in sight.

YouTube also caught the eye of Viacom Inc. The media behemoth used YouTube and in now corporate parent in March 2007 for $1 billion, alleging that YouTube had violated its copyrights when its users uploaded pirated videos of Viacom TV shows, including episodes of "South Park." Google cleared some of its videos by developing a system that removes uploaded copies of millions of YouTube users.

The case, which continues to wind its way through federal courts, in many ways encapsulates Hollywood's ambivalent relationship with Silicon Valley — even as both increasingly rely on the other to capture a generation of viewers who are as likely to reach for their computer mouse as they would their TV remote in search of something to watch.

"The relationship is completely redefined as long as the Viacom lawsuit is unresolved, but they've come a long way," said Will Richmond, an online video analyst with VideoNutz in Boston. "Hollywood recognizes that YouTube is part of their Internet."

Part of YouTube's power is that it has become the first place many Web users turn to watch your way through federal courts, in many ways encapsulates Hollywood's ambivalent relationship with Silicon Valley — even as both increasingly rely on the other to capture a generation of viewers who are as likely to reach for their computer mouse as they would their TV remote in search of something to watch.

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Tar balls raise fears that oil from BP spill has reached Florida

Toluse Olorunniwa and Carol Rosenberg

KEY WEST, Fla. — Park rangers found tar balls from the Deepwater Horizon spill near Key West and a new computer model forecast an ominous ring of black oil encircling the Florida peninsula in 10 days.

"While I always hope for the best, this is looking like really out-of-control bad," said Sarah Knott, president of the Key West Attractions Association and general manager of the Pirate Soul Museum in Key West.

"I woke up this morning and thought: 'Oh, my God,'" she said. "I believe that the first way is cultivating more professional nature professionals." The research center predicted traces of Deepwater Horizon's oil reaching the Keys by the weekend and issued a tracking map that graphically predicted a black oil slick encircling the Florida peninsula in 10 days.

"I always hope for the best, this is looking like really out-of-control bad," said Sarah Knott, president of the Key West Attractions Association and general manager of the Pirate Soul Museum in Key West.

Knott said there was no imminent threat to Florida. The bulk of the slick remains "douces of miles" north of the loop current that could drag it south then east, she said, with a long tail of "light oil" trailing it by an eddy swirling from the main current.

So the drag would dilute the mass once off Louisiana and turn up on the Florida Keys as tar balls or strings. Or it could emulsify the oil to the concentric of mayonnaise that, she said, might never make landfall.

Word of the tar-ball discovery stunned both the environmental and tourist communities in The Keys.

"I didn't want to wait for the networks to warm up to the idea of whether the show would be a hit or not with audiences," said Alphon Higgins, president of GLEE and land conservation program manager for the Nature Conservancy in Key West.

"We're mobilized," said Alison" YouTube has recognized that a large portion of user-generated content is not monetizable," Richmond said, "so they've made a huge effort to make more premium content available."

YouTube hasn't landed any Hollywood blacklists, but the company, which announced its video-rental program at January's Sundance Festival, acknowledged that its platform is more appropriate for independent filmmakers struggling to get distribution from traditional media channels. That was exactly what Academy Award winner Marlee Matlin wanted when she turned to YouTube to launch a reality show series about a deaf family. "I didn't want to wait for the networks to warm up to the idea of whether the show would be a hit or not with audiences," said Marlin.

"I believe that the first way forward in the reeducation of Haiti is to give the education and re-education of the Haitian construction professionals."
Hiaasen skinny dips with sex and blackmail in newest novel

Jamaican pot, attempted murder, lies, sex and blackmail. Carl Hiaasen’s “Skinny Dip” covers all of this and more, offering a perfect combination of high comedy and subtle social commentary.

From the get-go, Hiaasen grabs the reader’s attention with the eventful second wedding anniversary of lowlife Chaz Perrone and his simply lovely wife, Joey. When she presents him with a thoughtful gift of leather golf club covers while aboard their cruise, he returns the favor with a stealthy maneuver to throw her overboard.

The reason for this attempted homicide is unclear until midway through the novel, but each new detail that emerges is more off-the-wall and delightfully intriguing than the one before, especially when Joey starts scheming her revenge.

Joey survives the attempt thanks to her history as a champion swimmer and a bizarre bit of good luck. She happens upon a bale of fine Jamaican weed, which she clings to, until she conveniently washes up (naked) on ex-cop Mick Stranahan’s shore.

Mick is more than willing to help Joey in her plot after she turns down his offer to turn Chaz in to the authorities. It swiftly becomes clear that Joey will exact her revenge, and the reader is alleviated of any fear for the “good guys,” by watching how the bad guys are brought down. It is ridiculous and engrossing in its expert absurdity.

Chaz, a marine biologist with an advanced degree from a diploma factory, works for the corrupt Red Hammer, a ‘businessman’ who doesn’t

see Hiaasen, page 7
Special beers for special occasions

If you're like me and have a lot of friends from outside of the San Luis Obispo area, you probably know what it's like to have them come into town looking for the best beers of the area.

We go out of our way to find something special to fit the occasion, which is exactly what my roommate and I did last weekend with a friend coming in from Texas.

Virtually all of the West Coast's breweries were a mystery to him. So it was easy to introduce him to beers from Firestone Walker and Sierra Nevada.

But you always want to go that little bit extra and find something special. So my roommate picked up a bottle of Sierra Nevada's 30th anniversary beer.

The bottle and label are dark, but the beer itself was beyond that; it was similar to staring into space on a starless night. I held my tulip glass up to the light, looking through the bottom and couldn't even see through it.

That's how dark it was.

This of course reminded our buddy from Texas of home — the land of oil. He appreciated the sentiment.

At one point later in the night, they actually referred to the Sierra Nevada we had earlier as double SPuds.

The 30th anniversary isn't a typical dark beer, it's actually an imperial stout, meaning that it's more than your average stout or porter; doubles are usually pretty hardcore.

With a 9.2 percent ABV, you know that this beer is going to hit you.

I'm usually not a fan of beers that smell or taste like smoking wood or coffee, but I know that a lot of people really love it. Personally, I can't even stand the smell of a campfire on my clothes the next day. It drives me nuts.

But this beer's taste wasn't extremely smoky. It was tolerable even for someone who doesn't like it, so this beer is worth a try.

When Rolvaag encounters Tool, the hilarity only increases, as Tool's odd habit of steering highway crashes commemorating crashes is revealed. Rolvaag embarks on a farcical interrogation, wherein Tool claims, in all sincerity, that the cross is for his 45-year-old dog, recently deceased in a plane crash. Rolvaag's wry humor is apparent here as Hiaasen writes, "He was enjoying himself. Interludes with such entertaining freaks would be rare once he got back to Minnesota."

Mick and Joe's scheming (and budding romance) make up the major meat of the plot, and this is no less enjoyable than the other minor examples mentioned thus far, but you simply have to read the book to understand Hiaasen's comic genius in this rare screwball-genre novel.

Hiaasen writes with a smart, unsparring wit about contrasting extremes of unintelligent and bright characters, and each one will draw you further into the often insane but unfailingly diverting world he has created. "Skinny Dip" is a zany, slapstick, simply outstanding romp through Southern Florida and the "entertain¬ing freaks" who inhabit it.

Virginia Fag is an English sphyphonist and her book column "Sweat Story South¬ern" appears every other week.

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The Kilt Pub and Grill to bring Irish flavor to San Luis Obispo

Anthony Pannone

Irish-style tavern The Kilt Pub and Grill is set to open Friday. The original Kilt opened in 2006 and the restaurant has claimed the "Best Bar" crown the past four years.

For The Kilt Pub and Grill co-owner Donovan Schmit and his partners, the move south was a no-brainer. "The price was right and we got good vibes, so we went for it," Schmit said. "People aged 5 to 80 are going to be blown away."

Set between a handful of different hotels and neighboring Cal Poly's campus, The Kilt fills the vacancy left by 1865 Restaurant, where Grand Avenue meets Monterey Street. Schmit said the restaurant's location is different from the same-old downtown scene. "We didn't want to be just another place down there," Schmit said. "Plus, there are 65 parking spaces out back and you won't have to deal with police.

And being as far from local police as possible could be a good thing—or not.

Cal Poly agricultural science junior Alex Elgas lives 20 steps from the restaurant. "I am not 21, but I will definitely check it out as long as it has deals for consumption of alcohol," he said there is zero tolerance for illicit liquor.

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Sprinkled in with the Kilt's triumphs is its move to San Luis Obispo. Located at 1865 Monterey St., The Kilt Pub and Grill will open its first San Luis Obispo location Friday. The pub offers an Irish atmosphere with a twist.

One of the many goals, Schmit said, is to start a buzz through the Cal Poly students and create a trickle-down effect for future generations. "I want students to tell other students that The Kilt is the place to be, and I hope each new class takes the advice," he said.

The new location will be filled with authentic Irish decorations and unique pieces of bric-a-brac, most of which Schmit said are off the Internet. "Imagine a bunch of granddad's old crap—just a bunch of funky stuff," Schmit said.

But don't expect the food to be "funky," Schmit said. He said the recipes his chefs use are "super good" and the menu will "make mouths water."

"Our chefs put their own twist on things," he said. "We want people to take a bite of something and say 'Oh my god!'

Food prices range from $9 to $12, and appetizers include calamari and oysters, chicken wings, nachos and potato skins. Some of the main courses include boneless buffalo chicken salad, the restaurant's award-winning chili and gourmet burgers.

Happy hour runs Monday through Friday, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday through Wednesday, 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. It will offer 20-ounce drafts of Guinness, Newcastle and Sierra Nevada and $3 well drinks and margaritas.

But Vallarta's Mexican Food Can­­ina manager April Simpson isn't wor­ned about competition.

"(The Kilt) isn't taking anything away from here because it's a totally different atmosphere," she said. "I hope they'll bring more business up this way."

The original Kilt isn't bringing an Irish pub to the Central Coast stemmed from weekly trips to San Francisco where he and his restaurant partner Troy Lukens hoped to find inspiration for their Italian restaurant.

Schmit said they wanted to create an atmosphere where customers can relax and feel comfortable.

"A lot of places I've been to are up-tight when it comes to atmosphere, so we wanted a place where you don't have to be quiet on your birthday," Schmit said.

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Beer continued from page 7

It's a rough process because you also don't want to be drunk when you drink your good beer. This can cloud your judgment on what actually qualifies as a good beer.

One time I was drunk enough to think Keystone Light was actually 'not that bad.'

You don't want that on your conscience. It's something I have to live with for the rest of my life.

Scott Silvey is the former Mustang Daily sports editor and a journalism senior. He spends most of his paychecks on beer and a lot of his time watching the Cubs lose on WGN.

Cal Poly choir to perform songs from French Renaissance

Rhiannon Montgomery

Cal Poly's Early Music Ensemble will sing light-hearted and "naughty" French songs that tell stories of love and war Friday in the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center for its final performance of the year.

The 16-member group is made up of a choir class offered in the music department. The singers will perform French songs, called chansons. Music major Natalie de Brujin has been singing with the choir since her freshman year. She said some of the songs are romantic and others a little risqué.

"The lyrics can be very sexual. A lot of frolicking in the hay stuff," de Brujin said.

The ensemble is known for singing in foreign languages. Last year they did performances in Italian and Spanish. The group invited California missions and sang songs that hadn't been heard in nearly 300 years, de Brujin said.

But students learn more than how to sing old songs in Early Music Ensemble.

The class focuses on music between the 13th and 18th centuries, and historical context for the music from the history of music when groups tended to perform son songs for this concert tells stories of 16th-century France. Music professor and choir director Thomas Davies said it was the music of the people and for the most part, the light-hearted.

Students have been working together on songs for this performance since the start of fall quarter.

The performance is bittersweet for Cape because it will be his last. He graduates at the end of the quarter, opening one of those coveted spots among singers on campus.

Cape said he thinks students will enjoy the show because all modern music can be historically traced to the songs they will be singing. Cape said his favorite of the set is the big piece of the night, Renaissance composer Clément Janequin's "La Gaure." "La Gaure" is a song about the French-Swiss battle in 1515 during the Italian Wars, when they came out victorious after the Swiss betrayed a treaty. De Brujin said the song is unique because it uses their voices to create the sound effects of war.

The choir will share what they've learned through the year with their performance, which will include historical context for the music from the history of music. The concert is May 23 at 8 p.m. in the PAC. Tickets are $12 for general admission and $8 for students and seniors.

"It's fun to do something different. You don't always get to see00. This is the first time the choir has sung in French since she's been a part of the choir, she said. The students have to dedicate a lot of outside hours to learning the lyrics and perfecting pronunciation.

The class is also different from most because students don't sign up for it and it is very limited in size. Students are invited by Davies to join the class through an auditioning process. Davies said the size is based on the era of music when groups tended to be smaller.

Figel and de Brujin said they were excited to be asked to join the group as freshmen, since it's a special opportunity few are presented with. Being a part of a small group allows the students to get to know one another better and focus on the details of the music they are learning, electrical engineering senior John Cape said. The students have been working together on songs for this performance since the start of fall quarter.

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Mustang Daily apologizes for columnists' plagiarism

What else is there to say about plagiarism? Everyone in a university environment hears a lot about it, from mentions on syllabi, to the unfortunate editorials that follow incidents of plagiarism in the school newspaper. Well, we are back once more, with nothing new to say. So let's start with the facts.

On May 10, it came to the Mustang Daily's attention that movie columnist Alex Petrosian had been passing off other movie reviewers', namely Roger Ebert's, work as his own. While it is unclear how Petrosian took, a glance at his work for the past year-and-a-half will reveal uncanny similarities with Ebert's in dozens of columns.

The biggest underlying issue here is that your reviewer is reading other people's work before sitting down to write his own.

—Independent source

After several members of the staff read them, the Mustang Daily gave the columns in question, along with copies of Ebert's columns, to the movies to three independent sources, in order to determine if plagiarism had transpired. Each reviewer reported it had. The independent input of three different parties leaves no doubt in our minds that plagiarism occurred. While there are some sections of articles that are undeniably lifted from other reviewer's work, some mirror the same spirit and tone of Ebert's review.

"I think, probably, the biggest underlying issue here is that your reviewer is reading other people's work before sitting down to write his/her own," one independent source said. "That's a problem. If I read your work on a particular subject and then sit down to write my own — how can I possibly be independent? Your work is 'in my head' and it's going to affect the written copy I create."

In discussions with the staff and in his editorial, Petrosian claims any similarities between his and Ebert's columns were unintentional. Frankly, it doesn't matter. The burden of triple checking work and avoiding plagiarism reflects a shortcoming on the part of the writer and the editor.

It has been said that certain ideas I have conveyed in my articles are too similar statements Ebert has made, and I completely agree and apologize...

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The New York Times Crossword
Edited by Will Shortz No. 0414

Across
1 Painter's primer
6 Max miss
10 Big Apple (start of a Thomas Moore poem)
29 ...the last lap of summer (title of a 3 l.
30 ...the day
31 Head out on the farm?
32 Water quality
33 Hen's voice
34 What Justin Timberlake's "bringer back" is a song about
35 Home of the low League
39 Director
40 Russian
42 Palindrome
43 Many sandcastle molds
47 Not con
48 To take court
49 Carmaker whose "winging back"
50 "Lady and the Tramp"
52 "That's a relief in Athens"
53 "It's a relief in Athens"
55 Start of an exchange "Tea Party"
56 Princess in Athens
57 "That's big news, Butler"
58 Sentence segment; Abbr.
59 Likely to change everything
61 Greek money (start of a George Washington Carver quote)
62 Baseball's Molos
63 Like lemonade source
64 "Double" address
65 Cold war news source
66 Canine command
67 Comedian Wanda
68 Director
69 Eiffel lights up its logo
70 "...th a t's___r
72 Green, green grass of home"
73 Addition
74 Kentucky derby (11 letters; Abbr.)
75 Basketball toss
76 "Easy to ____, effortless"
77 Internal combustion engine
78 "Room with a view"
79 "...h a v e a t le a s t
81 "...the score"
82 Darkness, near the sun
84 "That's tricky"
85 "And after that?"
86 "At the opera"
87 "On time for the football game"
88 "...the quarter?"
89 "How's the score?"
90 "The game"
91 "The game"
92 "The game"
93 "The game"
94 "The game"
95 "The game"
96 "The game"
97 "The game"
98 "The game"
99 "The game"
100 "The game"

Down
1 Book that spans 2,369 years
2 Gold or silver, not bronze
3 "I wish I had a book"
4 "...bey out of the East"
5 "...the last lap of summer (title of a Thomas Moore poem)
6 "...the day"
7 "Head out on the farm?"
8 "Water quality"
9 "What Justin Timberlake's "bringer back" is a song about"
10 "Home of the low League"
11 "Director"
12 "Russian"
13 "Many sandcastle molds"
14 "Not con"
15 "To take court"
16 Carmaker whose "winging back"
17 "Lady and the Tramp"
18 "Clear kitchen wrap"
19 "Sunrise director in Berlin"
20 "Host and roller"
21 "1894 De h. in form"
22 In direct competition
23 Google moneymakers
24 Lisa Simpson, Patty or Selma
25 "How one night go bugling"
26 "Redeemable for a crossword's sail in Harry Potter"
27 "Prefix with -"
28 "Bunni"
29 "Derivative laughter"
30 "Prep with "
31 "Meter"
32 "Feet of "30 Rock"
33 "...to left, e.g. Abbr.
34 "...that's ___"
35 "Where to catch a bullet? Abbr.
36 "Players' prayer"
37 "And after that?"
38 "Exchange sub, and"
39 "Referee"
40 "Light sign"
41 "Stars in a ring"
42 "Place to see a living coral"
43 "Drop down one's small"
44 "Big building tools"
45 "Paginator"
46 "Prefix with "
47 "Manual"
48 "Full of difficulties"
49 "Couch drums"

Edited by Will Shortz

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Hacketman said, "Not just in his punches, in his kicks, too."

Gahan focuses on standing up throughout the fight, he said. He said he plans on avoiding his opponent's take-downs and making the fight a match of strength. He doesn't know who he's fighting yet, but said it doesn't matter. "My game plan isn't really a secret or anything," Gahan said. "I like to stand up. My main thing is to work on my feet. I feel really confident trading punches with people. If I do get taken down, I'll get right back up. It takes a lot of energy to take someone down, so when you get right back up it's demoralizing for them."

Gahan has had plenty of practice on his feet, trading punches with some of the world's best. Currently, Davis is training with The Pit's pro team. He works on their punches and footwork. One of Gahan's teammates is Chuck Liddell.

"My style of fighting is probably most like Chuck's. He tends to fight on his feet mostly," Gahan said.

Also fighting on the card will be former Cal Poly wrestler Sam Temple and Brandon Drucker. Cruz Gomez, Preston Scharf and Terry Cook, fighting out of Chuck Liddell's SLO Kickboxing. Casey Trujillo of San Jose, Calif., an experienced female MMA, will take on Jenny Trujillo of San Jose, Calif.

Tickets for "Fight for Wrestling" are $35 for general admission; $55 for reserved bleachers, floor and chair-back seating. $75 for VIP chair-back seating. $25 for Cal Poly students with a valid student ID.
Cal Poly student to make professional fighting debut

John McCullough

Wine and viticulture junior Mike Ciahan is set to make his professional fighting debut in Mott Gym this weekend.

Ciahan weighs in at 165 pounds and stands 5-feet-9 inches tall. He may not feel that his size would bring him success in other posts, but it certainly has in the cage. His official amateur record is 3-0 and his unofficial fight record is 8-1. The unofficial fights aren't sanctioned by the California Amateur MMA Organization (CAMO), so they don't appear on his official record. In his only loss, Ciahan wasn't prepared, he said.

"This time, he won't make that mistake," Davis said. "Mike's more than ready.

Davis has been living in Florida, but for the past few weeks has been working with Ciahan's professional team over at The Pit. Ciahan said Ciahan has been on The Pit's pro team for about two years, but has been interested in mixed martial arts longer. He's been fighting since he was in high school; back then it was just a hobby, he said.

Ciahan said he moved to San Luis Obispo to go to Cal Poly in hopes to play football. But, he felt that his size would keep him from making Cal Poly's football team and decided to continue his hobby of mixed martial arts.

"I just didn't have the size to play," Ciahan said. "I know about the Pit and started off in the kickboxing class. I tried out for their professional team and have been on it for about two years now.

Unofficial fights, or "smokers" as MMA fighters call them, aren't regulated by the CAMO and therefore are looked down upon by MMA officials, Ciahan said. CAMO, founded in 2009, is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to help foster the growth of the sport of amateur Mixed Martial Arts and to oversee the health, safety and welfare of the athletes that choose to participate in it," according to its website. They are also responsible for regulating MMA fighting and have a 38-page rule book, which fighters and fight officials must abide by.

"I think the reason the CAMO looks down on smokers is because they're a lot less regulated," Ciahan said. "You get some really bad matches in those kinds of fights, sometimes even pros going up against amateurs. You can really tell the difference in fighting a pro versus amateur fighters. I've definitely had some fights where I thought the guy could have been a pro.

Debuting at the place where he goes to school seemed almost too perfect, Ciahan said. Classmates, coworkers, friends and family members will all have a chance to witness his first professional fight.

"When I heard about this fight, I jumped at the opportunity," Ciahan said. "What a place to have your first professional fight.

While going to Cal Poly, Ciahan has been commuting by train to The Pit. His trainer, John Hackleman, known as The Pit Master, has been training Ciahan since he began his workouts there.

"Mike's got a lot of strength," said Ciahan, page 11

Baseball inches past Pepperdine

Ryan Santorso Mustang Daily

A weekend after posting two wins against UC Davis, the Mustangs (18-30-8, 8-13 Big West) notch another victory, 9-8 against Pepperdine Tuesday night. Leading the Waves 9-4 heading into the seventh inning, the Mustangs withheld a four-run rally from Pepperdine for the win — putting Cal Poly another win closer to the 20-win mark for the 2009-10 campaign. Starter Kyle Anderson pitched six innings, allowed three earned runs on nine hits. At the plate, the Mustangs were led by designated hitter Mitch Haniger who went 2-for-3 with three RBIs.

Six softball players honored with Big West awards

Mustang Daily Staff Report

Five different Cal Poly softball players, who finished their season with a series win against Pacific last weekend, were awarded Big West accolades Tuesday afternoon. Award winners: Anna Cahn, Kristyn Cary, Dana Perez, Stephanie Correa and Rebecca Patton combined for seven total awards after helping their team to a (23-24, 12-9 Big West) season in 2010.

Cahn was the only Mustang to earn multiple awards. She was named to the first and second all-conference teams while also being named as Big West field player of the year. The pitcher and designated player became the first player in Big West history to win Pitcher of the Year in one season and follow with Field Player of the Year the following year. She led the Big West with a .393 batting average, .626 slug percentage and a .586 on-base percentage. During conference play, those numbers rose. She hit .463, with three home runs, 12 RBIs and 27 walks in 21 games. Overall, Cahn hit five home runs, 24 RBIs to her Big West-leading average.

While Cahn was the only Mustang to make the first team roster, Cary, Patton and Perez were also named to the second-team all conference lineup. Patson threw for a 3.48 ERA, eighth in the Big West, and (8-7) record in her first season as a Mustang. At the plate, Cary hit .326, with 20 RBIs and six home runs, while Perez hit .298 with 12 RBIs and 11 doubles.

Cahn was also second team honoree as a pitcher. She threw for a near conference best 2.28 ERA with a 13-13 record and 100 strikeouts.

To close out the group, Corriea was named to the Big West honorable mention roster at catcher. The junior hit .210 with 14 RBIs, seven doubles and a home run.

With their series win against Pacific, the Mustangs closed their first season with a losing record under head coach Jenny Condon after capturing the team's second Big West title and a berth in the NCAA Tournament in 2009. The Mustangs lost seven of their last 11 games to end this season.