Cal Poly Space Systems launches a ‘Wild Thing’

Carly Hazeke
SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

The “Wild Thing” rocket team put three motors on the rocket, Saturday, Oct. 16.

The “Wild Thing” rocket team put three motors on the rocket, Saturday, Oct. 16.

Cal Poly Space Systems launched, for the first time, “Wild Thing,” a rocket with three motors, on Saturday, Oct. 16.

Amanda Sedo
AMANDASEDO.SMUGMAIL.COM

Three pieces of legislation proposed by San Luis Obispo Senator Sam Blakeslee were signed into law on Oct. 1. The three bills will promote solar energy use, help the families of deceased San Luis Obispo police officers and strengthen seismic safety in San Luis Obispo respectively.

Assembly Bill 2742 (AB 2742) and Assembly Bill 2746 (AB 2746) are the three most recent bills authored by Blakeslee that the governor has signed.

When asked about the governor's opinion on the bills, the deputy press secretary at the office of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Matt Connelly, said Schwarzenegger only signs bills he supports.

“Usually he signs it (because) he supports it and we don't really go much further than that,” Connelly said.

Assembly Bill 44 (AB 44) install renewable energy systems for homeowners. San Luis Obispo residents who wish to set up solar panels on their homes will pay up to 25 percent, as stated in a press release by Blakeslee.

Business administration junior Lindsay Carr said she was happy to see San Luis Obispo taking the initiative to start encouraging renewable energy throughout the city.

“I think it sounds like a good idea especially because we should start figuring out new ways to have clean, renewable energy,” she said.

SLO Rideshare gives $300 to commuters

Hannah Croft
HANNAHCRWFT.MS@GMAIL.COM

The Commute for Cash Challenge is a major component of October's Regional Rideshare month.

“Participating in the commute to work or school is a great success,” Marshall said.

Marshall, a Cal Poly graduate has been working with Regional Rideshare for three years, said the Commute for Cash Challenge is very applicable toward college students and there's no reason not to sign up. "It's incentive to get people to think about the way they commute," she said.

SLO Regional Rideshare will also be giving out gift cards daily. Theater arts freshman Torin Luebbrink said he'd gladly change his commuting habits for $100, both on campus and at home.

"I live in Davie, it's a flat, bike-friendly town," he said. "And here, I already walk everywhere."

“San Luis Obispo residents who wish to set up solar panels on their homes will pay up to 25 percent, as stated in a press release by Blakeslee,” said the deputy press secretary for the office of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Matt Connelly.

“Usually he signs it (because) he supports it and we don't really go much further than that,” Connelly said.

Assembly Bill 44 (AB 44) install renewable energy systems for homeowners. San Luis Obispo residents who wish to set up solar panels on their homes will pay up to 25 percent, as stated in a press release by Blakeslee.

Business administration junior Lindsay Carr said she was happy to see San Luis Obispo taking the initiative to start encouraging renewable energy throughout the city.

“I think it sounds like a good idea especially because we should start figuring out new ways to have clean, renewable energy,” she said.

SLO Regional Rideshare will also be giving out gift cards daily. Theater arts freshman Torin Luebbrink said he'd gladly change his commuting habits for $100, both on campus and at home.

“I live in Davie, it's a flat, bike-friendly town," he said. "And here, I already walk everywhere."
Despite some potential costs for the city, I think in the long run the cost will make itself up; over time the benefits for the environment will outweigh any costs to the City.

One of the other bills signed by Schwarzenegger is AB 2742 — also called State Public Safety Officers: Donation of Leave Credits on Blakeslee’s website. The bill was suggested after colleagues of police officer Lt. Clarence VanHoose encountered difficulties when they tried to donate leave credits to his family following his death. The bill is designed to allow police officers to donate leave credits to the survivors of a colleague who died within one year of retirement.

As stated on the website, this bill eliminates the barriers that prevent state employees from helping the families of those who have passed away. “This is another really good idea because police officers should be able to help anyone else out,” Carr said. “I think it is more of an obvious thing that should have already been able to happen, but that’s what happens with the government sometimes.”

AB 2746, which is titled Seismic Safety: Chief Mitigation Officer on Blakeslee’s website, created a new position for the California Earthquake Authority (CEA). The position, the Chief Mitigation Officer, will educate residents of California about seismic safety and work with researchers to develop and moderate seismic risk.

Having someone in charge of earthquake mitigation is nothing but helpful for the state of California and the city of San Luis Obispo, since natural disasters happen all over the world, Carr said. “After what happened with Hurricane Katrina, it is probably a good idea to have someone in charge like that,” Carr said. “The more we can prepare with like a backup plan the more smoothly things will happen if and when an earthquake does occur. It’s one more person to help figure out what we need to do to manage the risks.”

For Blakeslee all three bills are a win for District 33 and San Luis Obispo County. “I am honored that the governor agreed that these important bills were necessary for California,” Blakeslee said in a press release. “I’m proud we were able to tackle a number of issues that impact my district. I will continue to push for policies that better our communities and neighborhoods.”
shall said, are the city's greenhouse gas levels.

"We've saved 82,178 pounds of greenhouse gases," she said. "That's equivalent to 103 barrels of wine. Imagine all of those in the sky." If winning cash and saving the environment aren't enough incentives, SLO Regional Rideshare will also promote carpool work.

shall said, at a different gas station every day," Marshall said. "And we're going to give $100 in free gas to the carpool that is traveling the most.

Next week is bike week, and Marshall and friends will host bike breakfasts. On Oct. 27, from 7 to 9 a.m., the team will be on the corner of California and Foothill boulevards with pastries, coffee and fruit for cyclists and pedestrians on their way to work and school.

"I like to think we're filling the gaps of support," Marshall said. "It's just another incentive."

SLO Regional Rideshare month will close with the opening of a new 12-space bike rack on Garden Street, across from Linnara's Café.

"That bike rack is always full," Marshall said. "It's exciting to add another one."

The Commute for Cash Challenge, for Cal Poly students, Marshall said.

"All of this is free," she said. "I know when I was in college, I loved the idea of saving money."

Marshall realized the program really affected people's bottom lines when she began the Commute for Cash Challenge, she said.

"Cash is more tangible than the environment," she said. "You can't see poor air quality and we don't have a lot of traffic congestion. But people see the difference when they're saving money."

The Commute for Cash Challenge was designed with the hope of making lasting changes in the community. In its first year, the challenge targeted those who were using to driving alone, Marshall said. Many of them tried something new, be it carpooling, biking or public transportation, and stuck with it.

"We keep in contact with our users," she said. "And we have a lot of support."

Marshall said San Luis Obispo is a green community; the program could not exist without the support from the community, she said.

"We have an incredible community," she said. "It shows how important it is to be green, and how important living outside the box is."

Marshall would like to keep San Luis Obispo a green community, she said.

"Let's keep SLO, slow," she said. "We're such a car-centric culture. Just take a few more minutes and re-think your commute."

SLO Regional Rideshare puts on many "go-green" events throughout the year with the help of the community. Last year there were more than 60 bike-related events in the city of San Luis Obispo; none of which could happen without a strong community, Marshall said.

Marshall's work is not limited to the Commute for Cash Challenge. SLO Regional Rideshare's largest campaign is Bike Month, in May. It also works with employers and various social services to promote sustainable commuting ideas. Another program, Safe Routes to School, works to provide students with safe paths on which to ride their bikes to school.

Living in a predominantly car-centric culture can be hard, Marshall said, especially when students' hometowns aren't pedestrian friendly. But San Luis Obispo was recently voted the most pedestrian friendly town in the country, she said.

"It's just a matter of whether or not you're willing to change your commute," Marshall said. "You just have to re-think the way you do things."

Marshall strongly encourages Cal Poly students to take part in the Commute for Cash Challenge, and to take advantage of the green resources we have around us.

"It's totally free, and you have nothing to lose," she said. "The best part of my job is giving away $100."

Even if you're not interested in the Commute for Cash Challenge, Marshall said, "there's no reason not to take advantage of them."

---

Rocket

continued from page 1

footproof, DeTurris said. Sometimes there are failures but the club improves from them.

Aerospace engineering junior Alikki Loper-Leddy is a member of the club. Once, the engine of a rocket shot up the body tube and then through the nose of the rocket, but the rocket stayed in place, Loper-Leddy said.

Herrmann said he has been at the launch site and has seen other rockets land on top of the sound attenuators that were sitting. He has also seen them explode on the launch pad and fall straight down on the hood of a truck after its motor burned out.

Luckily, Wild Thing's three motors all fired at the exact same time and the rocket went straight up. DeTurris said. It worked even better the club could have imagined.

"When I didn't expect it was going to happen was them all going off at exactly the same instant because that is very hard to do," DeTurris said. It worked even better the club could have imagined.

The members shouldn't get experience with constructing and launching rockets, DeTurris said. "The idea is to get the new people to see what it's like," he said. When the club launched the rockets, most of them tumbled in the air instead of going straight up. Herrmann said. A different team won a night-light as a prize for the best "Dollar Store Rocket."

The launch was in a field near Fresno, where the club spent Saturday night camping.

After the flight, Wild Thing was found in fairly good shape, DeTurris said.

"Nothing was broken: the club could fly it again if it wanted to," Herrmann said. The club saves all the rockets it launches so it can launch them again in the future.

"We have such a good time launching each one and we want to experience that again," Herrmann said.

Sometimes it is difficult to track the rockets, Loper-Leddy said. Club members drive after them, following them sometimes through the night and some rockets have never been found, she said.

The members shouldn't get attached to their rocket, DeTurris said. "If they do, they won't be able to let it go for fear of it being damaged or lost."

"Rule number one: don't ever get married to your rocket," DeTurris said. "If you do, you will never launch it."

---

mustang daily

CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

The image on the frontpage yesterday mistakenly associated a SLO tran­

1. **Correction**: The correct image for SLO Regional Rideshare should be provided.

2. **Correction**: The text should be updated to reflect the latest information.

---

WE'VE GOT GAME!

Watch NFL, NCAA, MLR & More in HD
or WE DELIVER!

Voted Cal Poly's Favorite Pizza 6X!
Mustang Daily Pick 10090 Higuera St. • 805.544.7000 • www.woodsbakes.com


\[**Swirl, Smell, Sip, Spill** - Please taste responsibly!\]

**CAVE Wine.** CRAB Fish. CRAB Mushi. CRAB Psoe.

**MUSTANG DAILY**

**NFL PICKPICKS SPECIALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only one entry per person. Submit to Mustang Daily by 5 PM Friday.
STOCKTON (MCT) — A Stokton-based electric delivery truck is traveling the streets of San Francisco this month, as an experimental partnership between the parcel delivery company and Electric Vehicles International, which opened a manufacturing facility in Stockton last November.

The truck has already visited Sacramento, and after its San Francisco stint it'll travel to Reno.

This is not the first foray into alternative-fuel vehicles for UPS. The company first used a fleet of electric "package cars" in New York City in the 1930s.

CONNECTICT (MCT) — A Canadian man who spent four years toiling in eastern Connecticut was named a saint Sunday by Pope Benedict XVI. The man's influence today is not as it was in the time of his life.

Despite the fact that his life story is not the first documented instance of a "saint" in the Roman Catholic Church, the new saint's life will continue to be studied and celebrated by believers.

Four days without state compensation would cost the Hudson-Ulster School District at least $1.6 million, estimated Dave McLaughlin, the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services.

Keeping the school open those five days without state compensation would cost the HUDS at least $1.6 million, estimated Dave McLaughlin, the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services.

The truck has already visited Sacramento, and after its San Francisco stint it'll travel to Reno.

This is not the first foray into alternative-fuel vehicles for UPS. The company first used a fleet of electric "package cars" in New York City in the 1930s.

CONNECTICT (MCT) — A Canadian man who spent four years toiling in eastern Connecticut was named a saint Sunday by Pope Benedict XVI. The man's influence today is not as it was in the time of his life.

Despite the fact that his life story is not the first documented instance of a "saint" in the Roman Catholic Church, the new saint's life will continue to be studied and celebrated by believers.

Four days without state compensation would cost the Hudson-Ulster School District at least $1.6 million, estimated Dave McLaughlin, the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services.

Keeping the school open those five days without state compensation would cost the HUDS at least $1.6 million, estimated Dave McLaughlin, the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services.

The truck has already visited Sacramento, and after its San Francisco stint it'll travel to Reno.

This is not the first foray into alternative-fuel vehicles for UPS. The company first used a fleet of electric "package cars" in New York City in the 1930s.

CONNECTICT (MCT) — A Canadian man who spent four years toiling in eastern Connecticut was named a saint Sunday by Pope Benedict XVI. The man's influence today is not as it was in the time of his life.

Despite the fact that his life story is not the first documented instance of a "saint" in the Roman Catholic Church, the new saint's life will continue to be studied and celebrated by believers.

Four days without state compensation would cost the Hudson-Ulster School District at least $1.6 million, estimated Dave McLaughlin, the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services.

Keeping the school open those five days without state compensation would cost the HUDS at least $1.6 million, estimated Dave McLaughlin, the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services.

The truck has already visited Sacramento, and after its San Francisco stint it'll travel to Reno.

This is not the first foray into alternative-fuel vehicles for UPS. The company first used a fleet of electric "package cars" in New York City in the 1930s.

CONNECTICT (MCT) — A Canadian man who spent four years toiling in eastern Connecticut was named a saint Sunday by Pope Benedict XVI. The man's influence today is not as it was in the time of his life.

Despite the fact that his life story is not the first documented instance of a "saint" in the Roman Catholic Church, the new saint's life will continue to be studied and celebrated by believers.

Four days without state compensation would cost the Hudson-Ulster School District at least $1.6 million, estimated Dave McLaughlin, the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services.

Keeping the school open those five days without state compensation would cost the HUDS at least $1.6 million, estimated Dave McLaughlin, the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services.

The truck has already visited Sacramento, and after its San Francisco stint it'll travel to Reno.

This is not the first foray into alternative-fuel vehicles for UPS. The company first used a fleet of electric "package cars" in New York City in the 1930s.
Word on the Street

What do you like or dislike about the recent fall weather?

- Zach Dellis, English freshman
  "I like the cold, but I don't like the fluctuation."

- Megan Carnow, child development freshman
  "I think it's about time it started raining."

- Michael Tjandra, biomedical engineering sophomore
  "I'm ready for the fall weather to stay."

- Margaret Pack, journalism junior
  "I don't like the rain. It gets in the way of things I want to do."

- John Farrell, general engineering senior
  "It's bitterly sudden, but nice to have a change."

- Karen Latos, computer engineering senior
  "This is the only one that doesn't need any improvement."

Law gives NASA four-month deadline to develop new spacecraft for exploration

Mark K. Matthews
Robert Block
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

A law signed a week ago gives NASA four months or less to develop a dozen different plans for the future, including a detailed report on how it would replace the retiring space shuttle. It's an ambitious schedule, one that NASA chief Charlie Bolden said requires the agency to "think and act boldly."

But as has been the case for much of his tenure, Bolden won't be around as the plans get rolling. The jet-setting former astronaut left for China Friday on a week-long trip. Since taking charge of NASA in July 2009, the Bolden has visited 14 countries and has been missing at critical moments.

Last year, he slipped one of the first shuttle flights under his watch to visit Japan, and most recently was on a trip to Europe and the Middle East when the House nearly defeated the NASA vision endorsed by the Obama administration.

"How about saving the manned space program — in America?" said Rep. John Culberson of Texas, one of several Republicans who opposed Bolden's most recent trip. "Charlie Bolden should stay focused on America's manned space program."

His absence and several gaffes have led to speculation that Bolden may not be in command of NASA much longer.

"There's always speculation about people's tenure in Washington," said Lori Garver, deputy NASA chief. "We have gotten too used to it, and we don't even consider it a distraction at NASA because we are so excited about our future."

Bolden was unavailable for comment.

Bolden's relationship with the White House has been strained since President Barack Obama introduced his plan for space exploration in February.

In the week leading up to the announcement of that plan, Bolden was in Germany and Israel on a trip that included a commemoration for the Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon, killed in the 2003 Columbia accident.

Even after the Obama plan became public, Bolden never seemed to get on the same page as the administration, once telling staff to work on an alternative to Obama's plan of using commercial rockets to resupply the International Space Station with crew and cargo.

And in April, Bolden appeared to contradict the White House when he supported further test flights of a rocket being developed by the agency's Constellation program — despite Obama's aim to scuttle the project's Ares rockets.

Ultimately, Congress and the White House settled on a plan, which became law Oct. 11. It assigns NASA to build a new spacecraft for exploration beyond lower Earth orbit while giving commercial rockets a larger role in supply missions to the International Space Station.

During a media conference call on the day of the signing, Bolden read a statement, thanked reporters and turned the call over to Gaye — a practice that has become routine. Two sources said Bolden continued to listen to the questions addressed to Garver but was barred from speaking.

In fact, an Administration source said the White House originally planned to hold a public signing ceremony but cancelled it when Bolden expressed interest in changing his travel plans and attending.

Although the White House denies it, Administration sources said Bolden has been told to keep a low profile.

Bolden has all but disappeared from public view since the White House publicly reprimanded him last month, after NASA's inspector general found that he acted "inappropriately" when he consulted with Marathon Oil Corp. about a proposed NASA biofuels program.

Bolden is a former director of Marathon — which has its own biofuels program — and still holds shares worth up to $1 million.

Adding to the administration's issues is that Bolden stays in the news even when he travels overseas.

He riled conservatives this summer when he told the Middle East network al-Jazeera that one of his top priorities was outreach to the Muslim world.

And against the advice of top NASA officials, he returned to the region recently to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the first Arab astronaut's shuttle flight, a trip that came as Congress was fiercely debating the bill providing a blueprint for future human space exploration.

The China trip has stirred controversy as well. "It should go without saying that NASA has no business cooperating with the Chinese regime of human spaceflight," wrote Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.), who sits on the subcommittee with oversight of NASA's budget.

"China is taking an increasingly aggressive posture globally, and their interests rarely intersect with ours."

Bolden wrote back that the trip had been in the works since November 2009 when Obama and Chinese President Hu Jintao agreed to a dialogue on space.
National political poll numbers may be skewed by missing cell phone users.

The polls may have a pro-Republican bias this election season.

The ranks of Americans who use only cell phones have skyrocketed. Some public polls don't survey them, however, and they miss a group of people who are more likely to vote Democratically, including the young, the poor, Hispanics and African-Americans.

The nonpartisan Pew Research Center recently found that in four out of five national polls this year, polls that contact only those with land-line phones gave Republicans a 4 to 6-percentage-point edge compared with polls that included cell phones.

In the most recent poll, a survey of likely voters reached via land lines gave Republicans a 12-point edge, 53-41 percent. Polls that also called voters who only use cell phones found the Republican edge was 7 points, 50-43 percent.

"Cell-only adults are demographically and politically different than those who live in land-line households," the Pew report said. "As a result, election models that rely on land-line samples may be biased."

The challenge in measuring public opinion has grown as more Americans rely on cell phones. In four and a half years, the percentage of Americans 18 and older who rely only on cell phones has skyrocketed from 9.6 percent to 22.9 percent, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

The tally of households with cell phones only has risen from 10.5 percent to 24.5 percent. Another 14.9 percent of homes have land lines but receive most or all calls via cell phones.

Who are these cell-phone-only people? According to the National Center for Health Statistics:

- The young: 49 percent of those aged 25-29, and 38 percent of those aged 18-24.
- The less-educated: 25 percent of those with high school educations or less, the most wireless group.
- Students: 29 percent of people who go to school.
- Hispanics: 30 percent, the most wireless of any race or ethnicity, with African-Americans at 25 percent and non-Hispanic whites at 21 percent.
- The poor: 36 percent.
- Renters: 43 percent.

Many public polls this election season do include calls to cell phone-only voters, including McCrathy-Maris polls. But some don't, including automated surveys, such as the Rasmussen poll, that use computer-generated dialing and interviews.

"All things being equal, cell phones need to be included," said Lee Miringoff, director of the Marist Institute for Public Opinion, which conducts the McCrathy-Maris poll.

"You don't want to systematically exclude a group that may have different attitudes. It's a large enough group that you can't assume that they mirror the rest of the population.

Calls to Rasmussen for comment weren't returned. Calling cell phones for a poll is more challenging and expensive than calling land lines.

First, Miringoff said, Federal Election Commission regulations require that they be dialed manually. Second, a questioner has to ask whether the person is driving or using heavy equipment. A "yes" answer requires a follow-up call later.

Third, a high percentage of people with cell phones are younger than 18 and unable to vote. Fourth, many people refuse to answer the calls because they must pay for the time, and pollsters compensate them, further driving up costs.

Overall, the "yield" of usable results from cell phone calls is about one-third of the calls to land-line phones, Miringoff said. He cautioned that the Republican bias can be slight or overcast.

In Wisconsin, for example, Democratic Sen. Russ Feingold's campaign last week disputed the McClatchy-Marist poll and others that found Feingold trailing his Republican opponent.

In congressional testimony on Sept. 22, Wright County Egg owner Martin DeCoster and his son, Peter DeCoster — who manages the central Iowa chicken facilities — said that McNeil Consumer Healthcare subsidiary is recalling about 550 million eggs — the largest such recall in history.

In statement, Wright County Egg said it had corrected shortcomings cited by the FDA and "we continue testing at four other henr facilities, according to seizure of eggs or the closing of Wright County facilities, according to the FDA document."

The outbreak of salmonella enteritidis sickened at least 1,600 people and led to the recall of about 550 million eggs — the largest such recall in history.

FDA warning tells Iowa egg producer to improve safety.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has slapped a warning letter on the Iowa egg producer at the center of last summer's salmonella outbreak, criticising it for sanitation violations, including failure to control rodents.

The agency cleared another producer implicated in the outbreak, permitting it to resume selling eggs.

In the egg recall, a second producer, Hillendale Farms in Iowa, which shared a feed supplier with Wright County Egg, was cleared to resume selling eggs to consumers from three of its seven henhouses at a facility in West Union, Iowa.

The company notified the FDA that it planned to resume shipments of shell eggs on Monday and will continue testing at four other henhouse facilities before attempting to market eggs from them.

Since the recall began in mid-August, Wright County Egg and Hillendale have been sending eggs to a "breaker" facility, where eggs are pasteurised to eliminate the threat of salmonella. The pasteurised eggs are used in such products as cake mixes.

In congressional testimony on Sept. 22, Wright County Egg owner Martin DeCoster and his son, Peter DeCoster — who manages the central Iowa chicken facilities — said that McNeil Consumer Healthcare subsidiary is recalling about 128,000 bottles of 50-count Tylenol 8 Hour caplets because of a musty smell. The problem apparently originated with a chemical used to treat wooden shipping pallets.

The company described the chances of harm from the tainted bottles as remote and said that problems reported to the company so far have been "tenuous and non-serious."

The same chemical was linked to a November 2009 recall of a variety of McNeil over-the-counter products. That was one in a string of recalls made by the company over the past two years, including the removal in April of 136 million bottles of Children's Tylenol and other pediatric over-the-counter medicines.

In the egg recall, a second producer, Hillendale Farms in Iowa, which shared a feed supplier with Wright County Egg, was cleared to resume selling eggs to consumers from three of its seven henhouses at a facility in West Union, Iowa.

The company notified the FDA that it planned to resume shipments of shell eggs on Monday and will continue testing at four other henhouse facilities before attempting to market eggs from them.
Tony Hopfinger was handcuffed by the guards and detained in a hallway at Central Middle School until Anchorage police came and told the guards to release Hopfinger.

Hopfinger has not been charged but the owner of the Drop Zone, the private security firm that's been providing Miller's security, accused Hopfinger of trespassing at the public event, a town hall sponsored by the Miller campaign. The owner, William Fulton, also said Hopfinger assaulted a man by shoving him.

Anchorage police who responded to the call said they would leave the Drop Zone and the remaining video for his work. The guard who grabbed the camera said Hopfinger had dropped it in the scuffle and denied erasing anything. The guard wouldn't give his name.

While Hopfinger was still in handcuffs, the guards attempted to prevent other reporters from talking to him and threatened them too with arrest for trespass.

Anchorage Daily News reporter interviewed Hopfinger anyway. No other reporters were arrested, though a few shoving matches and chest bumps ensued as the guards attempted to cordon off Hopfinger and block photographs and video from being taken of the bizarre school scene.

The Miller campaign released a written one-paragraph statement from Fuller, then followed with a statement titled, "Liberal Blogger Assaulted at Town Hall Meeting." In that statement, Miller accused Hopfinger of assaulting someone and of taking advantage of the meeting to "create a publicity stunt."

He said his personal security detail had to take action to detain "the irrational blogger."

Miller campaign spokesman Randy DeSoto declined to comment on or make Miller himself a witness, available for news interviews.

The 3 p.m. town hall was billed by the Miller campaign as a chance for voters to "hear Joe Miller speak for himself." It was hardly a private gathering. In a Facebook message, the campaign urged Miller supporters to bring their "friends, colleagues, family, acquaintances, neighbors." And continuing what has become its anti-media theme, the campaign added, "Don't let the media skew your views."

In the gym rented from the Anchorage School District, Miller spent about 45 minutes addressing the crowd of several hundred and answering — or deflecting — questions.

The downtown Anchorage crowd wasn't entirely supportive. Though one man who later donated a hard hat praised Miller's position on opening up resource development and others whistled and cheered his stand on reducing the national debt and some smaller number his anti-union position, he also faced hostile questioning.

One likened him to a "welfare queen — you had a lot of children that you couldn't afford, and had to pay to "do it," referring to Miller's reliance on medical care subsidies and other federal benefits.

Hopfinger found himself surrounded by the guards, the campaign urged Miller to stand to the applause of his partisans, then said he isn't opposed to relief payments — only they should come from the states, not the federal government.

Another criticized Miller's announcement last week that he would no longer answer questions about his character or his personal history. While his opponents have previous records in elective office, he does not, the woman said. "In this instance, you have no record, so it's meaningful and it's reasonable that we would want to examine your professional background and your military...

Miller interrupted her and said he knew she was a supporter of his opponent, write-in candidate Sen. Lisa Murkowski. He said he had a public record as a state and federal judge in Fairbanks and Tok, Alaska, but added he wanted to talk about the national debt, not the farm subsidy he received in Kansas.

Miller said he would talk to people after the open question period, but he quickly left the room.

Richard Mauer

The editor of the Alaska Dispatch website was arrested by U.S. Senate candidate Joe Miller's private security guards Sunday as the editor attempted to interview Miller at the end of a public event in an Anchorage school.

Anchorage police who responded to the call said they would leave the Drop Zone and the remaining video for his work. The guard who grabbed the camera said Hopfinger had dropped it in the scuffle and denied erasing anything. The guard wouldn't give his name.

While Hopfinger was still in handcuffs, the guards attempted to prevent other reporters from talking to him and threatened them too with arrest for trespass.

Anchorage Daily News reporter interviewed Hopfinger anyway. No other reporters were arrested, though a few shoving matches and chest bumps ensued as the guards attempted to cordon off Hopfinger and block photographs and video from being taken of the bizarre school scene.

The Miller campaign released a written one-paragraph statement from Fuller, then followed with a statement titled, "Liberal Blogger Assaulted at Town Hall Meeting." In that statement, Miller accused Hopfinger of assaulting someone and of taking advantage of the meeting to "create a publicity stunt."

He said his personal security detail had to take action to detain "the irrational blogger."

Miller campaign spokesman Randy DeSoto declined to comment on or make Miller himself a witness, available for news interviews.

The 3 p.m. town hall was billed by the Miller campaign as a chance for voters to "hear Joe Miller speak for himself." It was hardly a private gathering. In a Facebook message, the campaign urged Miller supporters to bring their "friends, colleagues, family, acquaintances, neighbors." And continuing what has become its anti-media theme, the campaign added, "Don't let the media skew your views."

In the gym rented from the Anchorage School District, Miller spent about 45 minutes addressing the crowd of several hundred and answering — or deflecting — questions.

The downtown Anchorage crowd wasn't entirely supportive. Though one man who later donated a hard hat praised Miller's position on opening up resource development and others whistled and cheered his stand on reducing the national debt and some smaller number his anti-union position, he also faced hostile questioning.

One likened him to a "welfare queen — you had a lot of children that you couldn't afford, and had to pay to "do it," referring to Miller's reliance on medical care subsidies and other federal benefits.

Miller has said that kind of federal largesse is unconstitutional, and he responded by first asking his parents to stand to the applause of his partisans, then said he isn't opposed to relief payments — only they should come from the states, not the federal government.

Another criticized Miller's announcement last week that he would no longer answer questions about his character or his personal history. While his opponents have previous records in elective office, he does not, the woman said. "In this instance, you have no record, so it's meaningful and it's reasonable that we would want to examine your professional background and your military...

Miller interrupted her and said he knew she was a supporter of his opponent, write-in candidate Sen. Lisa Murkowski. He said he had a public record as a state and federal judge in Fairbanks and Tok, Alaska, but added he wanted to talk about the national debt, not the farm subsidy he received in Kansas.

Miller said he would talk to people after the open question period, but he quickly left the room.
What to do with that criminal record before you graduate

As Cal Poly students, the vast majority of us have only had limited contact with law enforcement. This typically includes eighth grade D.A.R.E. Let us know what must be done in SLO:

VISIT US AT THE UU on 10/14/10 AND ON DEXTER LAWN on 10/19/10 AND CAST YOUR OPINION

WHAT'S ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

and a receipt from a speeding ticket about two weeks after getting your driver's license.

However, there are a small number of us with some sort of significant criminal record. It was reported in 2009 by a background check provider to entities such as employers, institutions and landlords, mybackgroundcheck.com, that 1 in 29 college students in the U.S. has some sort of criminal history beyond that of a minor traffic violation.

According to the commander of the University Police Department (UPD) Lori Hashim, the UPD doesn’t keep a running tally of how many students have a criminal record, except in the case of convicted sex offenders who by law must register with their local police department.

Yet, if the 2009 report by mybackgroundcheck.com is to be believed and applied to the Cal Poly student population, then roughly 660 current Cal Poly students have a criminal history. According to the same 2009 report, most of these students will have gotten into trouble for either a major traffic violation, such as DUI (60.0 percent), disorderly conduct (9.5 percent) or theft (8.8 percent).

When talking about criminal convictions, it is important to differentiate between infractions (such as minor traffic violations), misdemeanors (disorderly conduct, shoplifting) and felonies (aggravated assault, automobile theft).

In California, most infractions such as minor traffic violations will only appear on your driving record for three years or upon successful completion of traffic school. However, conviction of a misdemeanor or felony becomes a part of your “permanent criminal record,” Hashim said.

This record can then be queried by such entities as a police department, or during a background check, through the Department of Justice, acting as a clearinghouse of convictions of criminal acts.

This type of information can be significant to graduating seniors, or see Criminal, page 10.

Nice Smile.
Nas and Damian Marley put on one of Avila's 'best concerts of the season'

Sarah Parr
SARAHPARR.MD@GMAIL.COM

Nas and Damian Marley's Sunday show at the Avila Beach Golf Resort was a celebration of hip-hop, reggae and marijuana smoking.

Although signs indicated that tail-gating was strictly prohibited, blunts, joints and other smoking utensils were passed left and right from one side of the crowd to another.

Despite the stormy weather, giant clouds of smoke filled the area — and the security guards did not overtly stop anyone from having their share of the marijuana, which is currently illegal except for medicinal uses under a physician-verified medical card.

The opening act, Latin and reggae-rock band Rey Fresco, even encouraged the crowd to partake in smoking.

"Feel free to light one up — it's Sunday," lead singer Roger Keiaho of Rey Fresco said.

Rey Fresco opened its act with the instrumental jam "Ninja Kush" ("kush" is a form of marijuana). Harpist and vocalist Xocoyotzin Moraiza joked about the title.

"It's a song about a farmer," Moraiza said and began his harp jam.

As Rey Fresco played songs from its debut LP "The People," rain hit the arena. Fans put their hoods on, popped open umbrellas and listened to Rey Fresco play, enjoying the act but waiting for Nas and Marley to hit the stage.

Once Rey Fresco ended its act with a cover of Buena Vista Social Club's "Chan Chan," the rain had stopped and a rainbow highlighted the cloudy sky.

Fans cheered and took pictures of the rainbow and about a half hour later, a little after 5 p.m., Nas and Marley were introduced. Before Nas and Marley hit the stage, a deejay played popular and significant hip-hop songs to get the crowd energized.

Nas, Marley and its high-energy band opened the show with the drum-heavy "Tribes at War." The backup singers sang and gyrated to the African-sounding beat and a man twirled a Rastafarian flag during the entire show.

After a few more songs together, Marley left the stage and Nas began his solo session with the song "Represent" from his most critically acclaimed, RIAA-certified gold album see Nas, page 11.
Food Column

Artichokes: the real edible flowers

Edible flowers — when people hear these words they think of pretty delicate flowers that adorn the tops of wedding and anniversary cakes. The majority of the population would not think of Thursday night Farmers’ Market and McLintocks’ grilled artichokes when they hear the term edible flowers. However, as a cousin to the sunflower, this green armored delectable is an edible flower whose beauty is much more than skin-deep.

As many an artichoke consumer would agree, the best part of this flower is not its overall appearance, but its divine heart hidden within. Although this plant is perennial, like apples, it still has prime growing seasons which its flavor and abundance are more readily accessible. The peak season for the globe artichoke is from March until May, along with a smaller crop in October — relevant to the current season.

Troville claims the lofty title of "The Artichoke Capital of the World." The annual Castroville Artichoke Festival announced the beautiful Marilyn Monroe as the Artichoke Queen in 1948, and the artichoke continued as one of the valley’s top five cash crops, now with a pretty face attached to add a little outer beauty to this thiny flower.

For the best flavor and texture it is important to consume artichokes within four days of purchasing them, or as close to when they were picked as possible. The peak season for the globe artichoke is from March until May, along with a smaller crop in October — relevant to the current season.

Let’s get to picking and eating the perfect artichoke. When picking an artichoke, look for a little trick — one must understand the value of patience. With conventional cooking of the artichoke, such as steaming and boiling, it tends to take 25-40 minutes depending on the size of the artichoke — this is when those baby chokes gain appeal with shorter cooking times. However, with the ease to use and college friendly microwave you can reduce this cooking time to less than 10 minutes. What a relief!

Before cooking the artichoke, use kitchen scissors — or if you are anything like me, use regular scissors — to cut away the sharp tips of the leaves. Eating the artichoke — as a messy eater myself, I am glad to say — is a hands-on affair in which all parties involved get their hands a little dirty.

The condiment to accompany a freshly prepared artichoke is a highly delifable topic. Those from the East Coast tend to enjoy dipping into melted butter, while those from the West Coast prefer a rich mayonnaise or aioli. Which do you side with? During this quick preview season in Castroville in particular, Castroville claims the lofty title of "The Artichoke Capital of the World." The annual Castroville Artichoke Festival announced the beautiful Marilyn Monroe as the Artichoke Queen in 1948, and the artichoke continued as one of the valley’s top five cash crops, now with a pretty face attached to add a little outer beauty to this tiny flower.

Getting your criminal history expunged is not an option due to either money, time or court rejection of your petition, being forthright and honest with your potential employer about your criminal past is your best course of action. Johnson said. In her discussions with employers, a company is much more likely to hire the employee if they address any issues from their past during the interview process, rather than just letting them come up during the screening or background check; this is not an area where surprises are a good thing.

While time is always the easiest way of separating yourself from your deviant past, the ability to point to previous work experience and compiling a list of compelling references and advocates is another strategy. Character witnesses and others who would be willing to talk to the potential employer can be impressive and might be enough to alleviate any fears the potential employer might have.

Criminal continued from page 8

those competing for a sought after internship with a criminal record.

June Johnson, program coordinator for Cal Poly’s Career Counseling Services, said she has noticed a steep up tick in the past five to 10 years of companies doing background checks on new employees.

On a job application, most companies will want to know if you have been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony (and if so, to provide an explanation). On the other hand, some companies will take your word; a growing number are going so far as to complete a professional criminal, driving and credit history check in addition to contacting personal and professional references. This has resulted in the expansion and growth of companies providing this information, such as mybackgroundcheck.com, ChoicePoint and Radaris.

The Cal Poly student with a criminal record — or anyone with a criminal record for that matter — has a couple of options. The first, most time-consuming and expensive, is to get any misdemeanor or felony criminal conviction "expunged" (removed) from your record. Such action might be worth the time and expense if it means getting a desired job out of college.

The process of getting a criminal conviction expunged begins at the same place where you were convicted; this means returning to the courthouse to file your appeal with the court clerk. If you were convicted of a felony (and you are off probation), you will need to get your charge lowered to a misdemeanor. This can be accomplished by filing a "PC 171b" petition with the clerk. If you were convicted of a misdemeanor or were successful in getting your felony lowered to a misdemeanor (and again, you are off probation), you will then want to file a "PC 192.5/3.4 petition" with the clerk.

Of course, unless you’re Erin Brockovich, you’ll want to have a lawyer do most of this work for you. A cursory scan online of lawyers who provide an estimated cost for such services ranges anywhere from $500 to $1,000 for a misdemeanor, and $1,000 to $2,000 for a felony.

If getting your criminal history expunged is not an option due to either money, time or court rejection of your petition, being forthright and honest with your potential employer about your criminal past is your best course of action. Johnson said. In her discussions with employers, a company is much more likely to hire the employee if they address any issues from their past during the interview process, rather than just letting them come up during the screening or background check; this is not an area where surprises are a good thing.
**Universal Studios gets into Halloween spirit**

Jessica Gelt  
LOUISIANA TIMES

The jagged growl of motors revving up in the distance cuts through the warm evening air at Universal Studios Hollywood. "I hear the sound of chainsaws," says John Mundy, creative director of the studio's theme parks. "That seems a bit more ominous, spooky, and downright brutal.

Mundy begins planning the 17-day event in January and by the time October creeps up, he can't get the manufactured scent of burning bodies out of his nose. The immersive park-wide show seems to be as much about working as producing five stages simultaneously. Nearly 500 actors are employed and an additional 250 crew members oversee makeup, costumes, lights, sound, prosthetics, construction and other behind-the-scenes necessities.

Hundreds of gallons of movie blood spill, red or yellow, everywhere. The path that is the sight of the park, from the outskirts of Jurassic Park: The Ride to the back lot tram, is transformed into a dungeon of madness as crowds make their way — often screaming and eyes half closed — through five life-sized mazes constructed to recreate sets from popular horror films.

The horror nights, which kicked off the last weekend in September and close at 1 a.m. Halloween night, draw sellout crowds, although Universal would not disclose attendance figures. It is one of dozens of special-effects laden Halloween events that crop up in Southern California each year, including Knott's Scary Farm, Halloween Horror Nights, Queen Mary's Dark Harbor Hallow-een Terror Fest and Six Flags Magic Mountain's Fright Fest.

Of these, Halloween Horror Nights is the only event that actually builds faithful reproductions of key scenes from films such as "A Nightmare on Elm Street," "Saw" and "Friday the 13th." Each scene unfolds in a different room of the maze, allowing guests to step through an alternative universe of the film.

It's a fitting state of affairs for the studio, which claims to have created the American horror-film genre with such classic 1930s movies as "Dracula," "Frankenstein," "The Munsters" and "The Invisible Man.

Rob Zombie, the heavy metal rock star and horror film director, gave Mundy and his crew a shout-out in late September from the stage of the Gibson Amphitheatre, where he was performing, for the great job they did putting together the maze for Zombie's grizzly cult classic "House of 1,000 Corpses.

"I went through it with people in the movie and the effects supervisor for the film was in the maze. They did a build-out using the original props. For all of us, it was a very strange experience because we felt we had gone back in time and were on set.

Horror actors and directors often visit Mundy's mazes. "I've heard stories," director Eli Roth recently tweeted that he was 10, "5th grader, and admired what he wanted to work with Mundy on a movie that never got made.

Watching a movie is passive," says Mundy, who has a degree in theater arts and has worked as a writer and producer and served as a consultant on Steven Spielberg's "Jurassic Park" and Peter Jackson's "King Kong.

"Wasting films to life with cinematic quality.

Mundy begins after the New Year by talking to horror film directors and other studios (not all the mazes are based on Universal movies). When he picks a movie to turn into a maze he watches the film repeatedly, taking detailed notes and putting them on Post-it notes all over his walls. Then he writes a 50- or 60-page treatment for the filmmaker to read and sign off on.

Construction of the mazes begins in late June when Mundy and his art director, Chris Williams, use location stilts from the films to build identical sets from bloody floor to ceiling.

In the House of 1,000 Corpses' maze, Captain Spaulding's fried chicken critters are in a counter window and the scent of fried chicken is pumped into the room. In another room, Mundy presents a vintage Mrs. Butterworth's syrup bottle that is half hidden beneath a table covered in Popular Mechanics magazine from the 1950s. The in-cinematographer in the maze for A Nightmare on Elm Street reeks of the smell of burned bodies, another pumped-in scent. Fake blood squirts from squashed eyeballs.

On a recent Friday night, the mazes were packed with shrieking men, women and children. (Though the mazes aren't recommended for kids under age 12, that didn't stop some people from bringing their pets). Monsters and fiends roamed the park's streets, lurching up to people and hovering in full creeper costume. Girls leaned close to boyfriends, who tried to appear fearless.

Within the mazes, the actors — called "scareactors" — repeat their given motions or actions every 10 seconds for seven to eight hours a night. They saw off their own hands, search through intestines for a key in the "Saw" maze, pop out from behind slimy doors; peel the skin off a person's face and drill into a brain. "Places on my body get sore that I don't expect," said actress Elissa Wagner, who plays the part of "grindstone doll" in the "Friday the 13th" maze. She is sitting in a makeup chair at Stage B, a studio parking structure that serves as makeup and costumes headquarters on show nights.

"All night long she gets her face ground off by Jason," says Mundy cheerfully, as he watches the make-up artist apply prosthetics that turn Wagner's face into a mask.

In another room, actors kneel in front of handmade costumes, pin in mouths, altering bloody dresses and flinging up fred-krueger sweaters. Around the corner, actors line up to get airbrushed in a room filled with classic horror masks. Halloween Horror Nights is a repository for all kinds of obscure horror film paraphernalia from actual movie sets.

Mundy, who built his first haunt ed house in his parents' garage when he was 10, is a storehouse of knowledge about the history of horror. He first saw Frankenstein when he was 4 and cried not because he was scared but because he felt sorry for the creature. He keeps a "monster room" at his house packed with memorabilia and he can rattle off the date of Lon Chaney's death and a host of other monster-movie trivia like he's ordering an extra value meal.

All the end of each horror night, Mundy is almost always the last to leave. It's his job to close down the back lot's Terror Tram, which cycles people through the Bates Motel and past the same "Psycho" house used in the original movie filmed on the Universal lot.

"The last thing I turn off are the lights in the "Psycho" house, and it's a fitting state of affairs for the history of horror. He first saw Frankenstein when he was 4 and cried not because he was scared but because he felt sorry for the creature. He keeps a "monster room" at his house packed with memorabilia and he can rattle off the date of Lon Chaney's death and a host of other monster-movie trivia like he's ordering an extra value meal.

All the end of each horror night, Mundy is almost always the last to leave. It's his job to close down the back lot's Terror Tram, which cycles people through the Bates Motel and past the same "Psycho" house used in the original movie filmed on the Universal lot.

The last thing I turn off are the lights in the "Psycho" house, and it's a fitting state of affairs for the history of horror. His 10-year-old self was in awe of the house. "That can only mean one thing to him," says Mundy. "It's his job to close down the back lot's Terror Tram, which cycles people through the Bates Motel and past the same "Psycho" house used in the original movie filmed on the Universal lot.

Mundy was born in Souderton, Pennsylvania, and started making haunted houses as a child. He built his first haunted house in his parents' garage when he was 10, and has been a horror film enthusiast ever since.

"I was definitely worth seeing Nas and Marley songs. Nas got his share of marijuana when an audience member lit a joint. The crowd smoked simultaneously during the course of Nas and Marley's set.

Nas finally had his chance to perform solo — causing the crowd to move and groove as he performed his most well-known song. "Welcome to Jamrock" in addition to some of his most well-known songs. Nas and Marley returned to center stage and performed a few more songs. Nas got his share of marijuana when an audience member lit a joint.

Later in the show, Nas thanked the crowd for attending, bowed with Marley and admitted he wanted to smoke more, but after part of the crowd chanted "one more song," Mundy and Nas returned to center stage and performed a few more songs. Nas got his share of marijuana when an audience member lit a joint.

Marley introduced the concert's closing song. " Could You Be Loved" by The Police is Nas' s blending of hip-hop and reggae styles.

Marley and Nas returned to center stage and performed a few more songs. Nas got his share of marijuana when an audience member lit a joint.

Most fans seemed to have enjoyed the concert. Nas and Marley's set.

"I was definitely worth seeing Nas and Marley songs. Nas got his share of marijuana when an audience member lit a joint. The crowd smoked simultaneously during the course of Nas and Marley's set.

Nas finally had his chance to perform solo — causing the crowd to move and groove as he performed his most well-known song. "Welcome to Jamrock" in addition to some of his most well-known songs. Nas and Marley returned to center stage and performed a few more songs. Nas got his share of marijuana when an audience member lit a joint.
United States politics requires us

It has been well documented that midterm elections feature a much lower voter turnout than presidential years. Whether people feel it’s not as important or aren’t a part of the “ Establishment” (which seems to be the problem this year), many people decline to head to the polling stations come election day. Yet, only two years after young adults turned out in record numbers, I fear that some young people have already become disenchanted with the political process and are willing to

We really are fortunate to be able to participate in our political affairs; for historically, people were not citizens but subjects.

— Jeremy Cutter
Liberal columnist

Life is so fragile. This guy sounds really legit. I love Cal Poly.

— Brent Davis
In response to "BREAKING: Cal Poly alum dies in Baja plane crash"

Nice propaganda piece, Alicia. This university will never reach its maximum potential so long as the Cal Poly Corporation has free reign to rob it blind. Did you even ask to see their financial records? I know that There is all our money going! The purpose of the Cal Poly Corporation should be

Nice propaganda piece, Alicia. This university will never reach its maximum potential so long as the Cal Poly Corporation has free reign to rob it blind. Did you even ask to see their financial records? I know that There is all our money going! The purpose of the Cal Poly Corporation should be

to offer the highest quality of service at a price which allows them to just break even — but this hasn’t been the case for decades. They are an entity which is provided complete protection from any form of competition, and they have used this monopoly protection to divest millions every year into a few private “salaries” for “board members” (old rich men who serve for life and haven’t even been to the Cal poly campus in 20 years). Our campus needs to take over the corporation so that all profits can be given back to the school.

— Matt
In response to "What is the Cal Poly Corporation?"

Thoroughly irrelevant maybe. Sure Keishi opened with an ad hominem attack, but there are valid points in the comment. Baldwin should have just dismissed the name calling with a sentence or maybe a paragraph and moved on. Instead he spends five paragraphs dissecting what it means to literally be a child. We already know what a child is and so does Keishi. The whole child bit shouldn’t be so easily dismissed either. I believe Keishi is saying you are like a child in that you hold romantic notions of how the world works (as a child would) when the reality is more complex.

— Arlo White
In response to "Politics is more than Liberal and Conservative"

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features select comments that are written in response to articles posted online. Though not all the responses are printed, the Mustang Daily reserves the right to publish any given subject. No personalization, please.

Send your letter, in 250 words or less, to mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com. Or submit it at mustangdaily.com.
'Dame-dos' tourists flocking Miami helpful but still worrisome

Once again, Latin American tourists — benefiting from their countries' strong currencies and a weak U.S. dollar — are flocking to Miami and buying up whatever they can. It's good for Miami, and it's good for the visitors, but the whole thing makes me nervous. I've seen this happen before, and it didn't end well. Mainstream economists say this time it's different, but readily admit that the story may not have a happy ending.

Much like in the early 1990s, when South American tourists were known as "dame-dos" (give me two) by Miami merchants because they used to buy two sets of whatever they liked, there is a big increase in Brazilian, Argentine, and other Latin American visitors to South Florida.

According to the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau, tourism from Brazil has grown by 15 percent during the first six months of this year, while visitors from both Argentina and Colombia have risen by about 10 percent over the same period. Arrivals from Latin America have risen even more steeply over the past three months, other tourism industry sources say.

The tourists can be seen carrying heavy shopping bags from area malls, or lining up at real estate brokerages that keep track of local condo sales. If real estate prices haven't plummeted further in Miami, it's thanks to international buyers, she told me.

The reason for the latest surge in Latin American visitors is clear: Most Latin American currencies have become increasingly stronger, and the U.S. dollar increasingly weaker.

Brazilians are coming on weekend shopping sprees. Miami's Aventura Mall is reporting a 30 percent increase in Brazilian visitors during the first six months of this year. Prices for many items are cheaper in Brazil than they find at home.

Trouble is, some of the most recent Latin American financial crises have been preceded by years of strong currency appreciations. Before Mexico's financial collapse of 1995, the Brazilian and Colombian crises of 1998 and Argentina's meltdown of 2001, these countries' currencies had become increasingly stronger.

Are we in front of a bubble that will burst once again? I put that question to several economists this week. They said most Latin American countries are more resistant to external shocks than they were in the 1990s, because they are managing their economies more responsively and because there is a new factor that is helping South America: the appearance of China as a massive buyer of commodity exports.

But economists also warn that if Latin American countries allow their currencies to keep appreciating, it will become increasingly difficult for them to export — especially non-commodity goods — because their products will be too expensive in world markets.

"When currencies are too strong, it tends to hurt exports," says Eduardo Lora, chief economist of the Inter-American Development Bank. "If exports go down, you would eventually see a drop in growth, a reduction of jobs in the formal economy, and a shift of newly-unemployed people to the informal economy."

My opinion: We should celebrate most Latin American countries' economic growth, and recognize that they have been more financially responsible in recent years. But I'm worried that we may see new financial crises in the region unless countries move faster to diversify their exports and come up with new and better products to sell abroad.

To do that, countries should invest more — and invest more smartly — in innovation and education. Currently Latin American countries together account for less than 2 percent of all world investments in research and development of new products, according to the Inter-American Science and Technology Research Network.

If most countries in the region added a big push for innovation, science, technology and education to their generally sound economic policies, we would all breathe more easily, and could expect to see Bush Latin American shoppers traveling to Miami for a long time.

Andres Oppenheimer is a Latin America correspondent for the Miami Herald.

Expressing personal beliefs through bumper stickers not always good

Adding indifference to injury, the Supreme Court last week refused to hear the appeal of a woman who was ejected from a speech by President George W. Bush because she had an antiwar bumper sticker on her car. The case would have provided the court the opportunity to rule that citizens who pose no threat of disruption may not be barred from presidential events that are advertised as open to the public.

In 2005, Leslie Weise and Alex Young obtained tickets for a Bush town hall meeting on Social Security held in Denver. But they were ordered to leave because a bumper sticker on Weise's car read "No More Blood for Oil." Weise and Young subsequently sued two volunteers at the event who, they argued, had ejected them at the behest of White House aides.

Unlike, say, a Rose Garden signing ceremony to which only supporters of the legislation are invited, the Bush event was ostensibly open to anyone with a ticket. Nevertheless, Weise was ordered to leave simply because of the message on her bumper sticker. This obvious discrimination on the basis of viewpoint was justified by a federal appeals court on the grounds that the plaintiffs weren't speakers at the event but attendees, and that agents of the government didn't remove the bumper sticker.

This naive misreading of the free-speech issue at the heart of the case cited out for reversal by the Supreme Court. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor, who dissented from the decision not to hear the case, wrote that it's well established that the government "may not deny a benefit to a person on a basis that infringes his constitutionally protected interests."

Quite simply, Weise was punished for her beliefs and put on notice that criticizing the government could result in her exclusion from similar public events in the future.

In their dissent, Ginsburg and Sotomayor expressed the hope that their colleagues chose to sidestep the case not because they agreed with the lower court's First Amendment analysis but because the defendants were volunteers who might enjoy immunity under a federal statute. The two dissenters noted that separate suits against the government officials who are accused of orchestrating the ejection are still pending.

One of these suits might serve as a vehicle for a definitive decision by the court. That ruling should affirm that when the president invites the public to hear him speak, he can't pick and choose his listeners on the basis of their opinions.

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times on Friday, Oct. 15.

get it off your chest.

send your opinions, rants and raves to mustang@daily.net

all letters should be 250 words and are subject to editing for grammar, spelling and style.

The appearance of China as a massive buyer of commodity exports. But economists also warn that if Latin American countries allow their currencies to keep appreciating, it will become increasingly difficult for them to export — especially non-commodity goods — because their products will be too expensive in world markets. "When currencies are too strong, it tends to hurt exports," says Eduardo Lora, chief economist of the Inter-American Development Bank. "If exports go down, you would eventually see a drop in growth, a reduction of jobs in the formal economy, and a shift of newly-unemployed people to the informal economy."
The New York Times Crossword
Edited by Will Shortz  No. 0914

Across
1  Standing (6)
2  Features of Sophie's plays (5)
3  Shoes, with "off" (4)
4  Ribs for dinner (10)
5  Major constituency? (4)
6  Something an agent might wear (8)
7  In consecutive order (7)
12  Knowing, as a secret (7)
21  Big news on the fourth page (11)
23  Mad about the (7)
24  Cracker brand (8)
25  Just barely legit (7)
26  Gets used to (7)
27  It's next to the (9)
28  Service (4)
32  Else if go (4)
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
ACROSS
1  AARON LINCOLN (8)
2  ROSE MILLER (7)
3  NOSE HOMER (8)
4  DOUG MCFARLAND (9)
5  BOBBIE INDIANA (10)
6  DAVE WHITE (9)
7  BILLIE CAPELL (10)
8  HAROLD BROOKE (11)
9  GENE KELLY (11)
10  MARTIN SHEEN (9)
11  LEROY BROWN (8)
12  PATRICIA WINTER (10)
13  JON STEIN (5)
14  EZRA TOWERS (12)
15  ROBERT KISS (10)
16  DOROTHY MACKAY (9)
17  JOHN JOHANNES (11)
18  ELIZABETH ANEWTON (11)
19  KENNETH BILLY (12)
20  HARRY JACOBS (10)
21  JOHN BURGER (9)
22  CHARLES WINTERS (10)
23  JOHN BURGER (9)
24  HARRY JACOBS (10)
25  JOHN BURGER (9)
26  CHARLES WINTERS (10)
27  JOHN BURGER (9)
28  HARRY JACOBS (10)
29  JOHN BURGER (9)
30  CHARLES WINTERS (10)
31  JOHN BURGER (9)
32  HARRY JACOBS (10)

Down
36  What a slow person may need (8)
37  Nads (3)
42  Word written on the "Sailor's Flag" (8)
43  "Dig it!" (8)
47  "Summer cooler" (8)
48  Place for a ring (8)
49  Astronomer Halley (6)
50  Step-up (8)
52  Sound (8)
53  "I'm leaving a cloud of smoke" (9)
54  "He's flaunted by an officer" (9)
55  "Musical gate in Buenos Aires" (9)
56  "Eyes of House" (9)
57  "Fraud articles for a hint to the flower" (9)
58  Cloud (9)
59  Endure (5)
60  Arab's upholstery (8)
61  Astrology's (6)
62  Stats for a CEO (8)
63  You, to a Gueaker (8)
64  Werent 'tap tap' on a keyboard (11)

65  Went 'tap tap' on a keyboard (11)
66  What makes a pin spin? (7)
67  Regret (7)
68  After a lawyer's name (7)
69  Creations, e.g. (5)
70  One-up (4)
71  "That, to Tomie" (5)
72  2011 AWARENESS MONTH! (7)
73  "You get a role, her name is..." (11)
74  "It's driven over..." (10)
75  A response to "Will you go?" (11)
76  A choice from a menu (7)
77  A shoe (5)
78  A smudged when something's (11)
79  A reminder (5)
80  A "Winter" ice cream (7)
81  "It's over the top in the kitchen" (11)
82  "A King" in the Bible (11)
83  A soup (7)
84  "Barley" (7)
85  A cheese (7)
86  "Ice" (4)
87  "Dame" (9)
88  A dessert (4)
89  "First" (9)
90  "Chocolate" (9)
91  "Art" (9)
92  "Italian" (9)
93  "Excelsior" (9)
94  "January" (9)
95  "April" (9)
96  "October" (9)
97  "July" (9)
98  "December" (9)
99  "February" (9)
100  "September" (9)
101  "August" (9)
102  "April" (9)
103  "November" (9)
104  "March" (9)
105  "February" (9)
106  "January" (9)
107  "December" (9)
108  "November" (9)

Her diamond is too big when...
(No more than one of these sentences: No one has a good ending for)

1. It is a time to Design (7)
2. It is a Middle name (7)
3. It is a band (7)
4. It is a song (7)
5. It is a book (7)
6. It is a movie (7)
7. It is a CD (7)
8. It is a ship (7)
9. It is a TV show (7)
10. It is a TV show (7)
11. It is a TV show (7)
12. It is a TV show (7)
13. It is a TV show (7)
14. It is a TV show (7)
15. It is a TV show (7)
16. It is a TV show (7)
17. It is a TV show (7)
18. It is a TV show (7)
19. It is a TV show (7)
20. It is a TV show (7)
21. It is a TV show (7)
22. It is a TV show (7)
23. It is a TV show (7)
24. It is a TV show (7)
25. It is a TV show (7)
26. It is a TV show (7)
27. It is a TV show (7)
28. It is a TV show (7)
29. It is a TV show (7)
30. It is a TV show (7)
31. It is a TV show (7)
32. It is a TV show (7)
33. It is a TV show (7)
34. It is a TV show (7)
35. It is a TV show (7)
36. It is a TV show (7)
37. It is a TV show (7)
38. It is a TV show (7)
39. It is a TV show (7)
40. It is a TV show (7)
41. It is a TV show (7)
42. It is a TV show (7)
43. It is a TV show (7)
44. It is a TV show (7)
45. It is a TV show (7)
46. It is a TV show (7)
47. It is a TV show (7)
48. It is a TV show (7)
49. It is a TV show (7)
50. It is a TV show (7)
51. It is a TV show (7)
52. It is a TV show (7)
53. It is a TV show (7)
54. It is a TV show (7)
55. It is a TV show (7)
56. It is a TV show (7)
57. It is a TV show (7)
58. It is a TV show (7)
59. It is a TV show (7)
60. It is a TV show (7)
61. It is a TV show (7)
62. It is a TV show (7)
63. It is a TV show (7)
64. It is a TV show (7)
65. It is a TV show (7)
66. It is a TV show (7)
67. It is a TV show (7)
68. It is a TV show (7)
69. It is a TV show (7)
70. It is a TV show (7)
71. It is a TV show (7)
72. It is a TV show (7)
73. It is a TV show (7)
74. It is a TV show (7)
75. It is a TV show (7)
76. It is a TV show (7)
77. It is a TV show (7)
78. It is a TV show (7)
79. It is a TV show (7)
80. It is a TV show (7)
81. It is a TV show (7)
82. It is a TV show (7)
83. It is a TV show (7)
84. It is a TV show (7)
85. It is a TV show (7)
86. It is a TV show (7)
87. It is a TV show (7)
88. It is a TV show (7)
89. It is a TV show (7)
90. It is a TV show (7)
91. It is a TV show (7)
92. It is a TV show (7)
93. It is a TV show (7)
94. It is a TV show (7)
95. It is a TV show (7)
96. It is a TV show (7)
97. It is a TV show (7)
98. It is a TV show (7)
99. It is a TV show (7)
100. It is a TV show (7)
Graven
continued from page 16

"As another player on the court, Kristina is a confident person that you’d want (to be on the) team," Gera said. "You can believe she’ll get the job done, and you can go to her for help and for a confidence booster. She keeps good energy and attitude."

Graven’s dedication to volleyball helped her choose which college was most suitable for her academic and athletic career. Having chosen Cal Poly over California and UC San Diego, she couldn’t be happier with her decision.

"I really like the coaching staff, their philosophy and the atmosphere of the school," Graven said. "I just felt like I fit in here."

In addition, Graven said the new group of people she met at Cal Poly shares great chemistry and works well together.

"I’ve had a great time with the team and it’s been really fun," Graven said. "We play really well together; everyone is really positive. Everybody respects everybody — it’s not (as if) you have to have the title of ‘captain’ (to be respected). Everyone has their place and say."

On the other hand, off the court, Graven’s future dreams have nothing to do with volleyball.

"I like to cook a lot — all the time," Graven said. "I think I want to end up cooking for a career and open my own bakery in the future. But, volleyball takes up a lot of time. It’s hard to have other hobbies."

Graven and the women’s volleyball team will return home on Oct. 22 against Cal State Northridge at 7 p.m.

Woods
continued from page 16

degree this summer. They have two children.

"Certainly I’m a lot more at peace now," Woods said. "Everyone’s getting used to the new living conditions. The kids are adjusting."

"I learned a lot about myself and I learned how things went wrong, why they went wrong and to take a pretty deep and introspective look at myself and there weren’t a lot of things I liked about it," Woods said.

"I come from a much better place, much more grounded place now than I ever have before. I’d like to get back to a full playing schedule next year and be ready for the big events again."

Other players in the Chevron tournament include this year’s U.S. Open winner, Graeme McDowell, and PGA Championship winner Martin Kaymer.

The others are defending tournament winner Jim Furyk, Steve Stricker, Paul Casey, Rory McIlroy, Luke Donald, Matt Kuchar, Dustin Johnson, Ian Poulter, Hunter Mahan, Zach Johnson, Anthony Kim, Bubba Watson, Sean O’Hair, Camilo Villegas and Stewart Cink.

The event’s $5 million purse ranges from $1.2 million for the winner to $140,000 for the last-place finisher.
Kristina Graven wastes no time on her path to success

Jessica Tam
JESSICATAM.MD@GMAIL.COM

Outside hitter Kristina Graven was the first athlete to be named the Big West Player of the Week for the 2006-2007 season and since then has kept the success rolling. Now with the Mustangs (5-6, 5-3 Big West) threatening to make a run at the top spot in the conference with about a month left in the season, the women's volleyball team is paralleling Graven's triumphs.

Graven has already racked up an impressive athletic resume. She was the No. 28 ranked recruit in the nation out of high school by PrepVolleyball.com, a list of the best U.S. recruits with the most potential in college. She led the Mustangs with 17 kills in a four-set win against Marshall on Aug. 28. She was named to the Shamrock Classic All-Tournament Team, one of the largest USA volleyball tournaments on the East Coast.

In addition, the Mustangs defeated Arizona in Graven's first game when she racked up double digit kills and digs. She did it again against Notre Dame on Aug. 28. But the 18-year-old still has one dream she shares with her fellow teammates.

I think we all really want to win (the Big West) right now, that's the thing we're working towards," Graven said. "We just need to win out the rest of our matches and (make it to the) tournament and (do well) there."

Currently, Graven is the highest ranked recruit coach Jon Stevenson has worked with at Cal Poly. Graven has high hopes that Stevenson will lead the team to victory. The team's recent win against UC Riverside and Cal State Fullerton was a result of good coaching, Graven said. "He's really good in practice," Graven said. "He has scouting reports and we watch tapes (to help our performance). He knows everything the teams can do and what their tendencies are."

To help the girls prepare for matches, the coaches try to make practice "game-like" and "emulate the game as much (as possible) so when (the players) get on the court, it's like second nature to them," assistant coach Caroline Walters said.

Walters can tell this technique works when she sees Graven on the court, she said.

"As a freshman, I think she's already exceeded expectations," Walters said. "She's a leader statistically in all our matches played, and that's all you can ask from a freshman. She has quick speed for someone who just came from high school to college."

Graven has support from her teammates, too. Growing up with Graven, middle blocker Marianne Gera said she "really see that (Graven) has evolved into a really great volleyball player."

As a freshman, I think she's already exceeded expectations... She has quick speed for someone who just came from high school to college.

—Caroline Walters
Volleyball assistant coach

Junior Seau’s SUV plunges over cliff

Andrew Blankstein
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES — Tiger Woods said Monday he's hoping to cap "a long, frustrating year" with a victory at the WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship this week in Arizona after missing the cut in the Farmers Insurance Open last month.

"My game's coming around," he said in a video teleconference with the media. "Hopefully, I can get two more (wins) before I get to Chevron."

Woods also is in danger of losing more than five consecutive years, to regain the form that enabled him to win 14 major tournaments. Woods also is in danger of losing the No. 1 spot in the world golf rankings, a position he has held for more than five consecutive years, to Englishman Lee Westwood in the coming weeks.

Woods, 34, hasn't won this year and has only two top-five finishes in 12 PGA Tour events. But with the help of a new swing coach, Sean Foley, Woods said he's turning things around.

"I'm still working toward it," Woods said in a video teleconference from Orlando, Fla. "I don't have it all dialed in yet. I have two more events prior to the Chevron event" in China and Australia.

"Hopefully, I can get two more wins before I get to Chevron."

Woods said he's also making progress with his personal life in the aftermath of the scandal, which led to his divorce from Elin Nor-