Facebook page recognizes national gay suicide issue

Amanda Sedo
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A recent Facebook group — R.I.P. due to gay abuse, wear purple — was created to recognize the growing national problem of gay suicide across the nation. Today is a day of honor to remember the gay teens who have taken their own lives within the last few months.

The event, which was initially started to honor the six gay boys who recently committed suicide as explained in the event description, involves wearing purple today. With more than 1,276,945 Facebook members attending the event as of Oct. 18, many gays, allies and students see this as a positive way to raise awareness about gay suicide.

Food science junior Katie Abraham said the group is a good idea because it brings awareness to the issue.

"People need to stop turning a blind eye because that doesn't help anybody," she said.

Although there has been a lot of media coverage about gay suicide on a national level, some are unaware of the suicides occurring in San Luis Obispo.

"I know of a couple suicides that weren't talked about," said Barbara Adams, the president of the Central Coast chapter of Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). "I think that they should have been; the families didn't want to let it out."

Despite a lack of awareness throughout the general population, many residents of San Luis Obispo are concerned — concerned enough to recognize the recent suicides at a vigil last week.

Kris Gottlieb, a member of the AmeriCorps and assistant coordinator of the Pride Center on campus, said the problem needs acknowledgment.

"It is absolutely necessary for [the suicide victims] to be honored, and it is necessary to have the conversation," Gottlieb said. "This is a crisis for the local community."

Prop 23: California job initiative or dirty energy?

Alicia Freeman
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Proposition 23, named both the California Job Initiative and the Dirty Energy Bill by each respective side, has caused much conflict, driving volunteers against it to visit Cal Poly to raise awareness about the controversial bill.

According to the California voter information guide, Prop. 23 seeks to suspend the global warming bill, AB 32, "until unemployment (rates) drop to 5.5 percent or less for a full year."

Supporters of the bill said now is the time to address unemployment, not global warming, but also said they do not want to get rid of AB 32 completely.

Ludy Dunn, the president and CEO of the Orange County Business Council (OCBC), said AB 32 is "causing a great deal of difficulty for businesses" in this economic time.

"It'd be better to kick off the economy and (get) people jobs than focus on the environment," Dunn said.

Dunn also said California was a "clean tech leader before AB 32 was passed," so she said it was better to get the unemployment rate down.

Opponents of Prop. 23, however, claim the proposition is more focused on allowing Texas oil companies Valero and Tesoro a way to sidestep California's environmental progress.

Lindsay Jacobsen, a full-time CALPIRG worker and volunteer against Prop. 23, defined the bill in a far different way than Dunn, calling it the "dirty energy proposition."

"(Prop. 23) is definitely going to roll back the global warming law," Jacobsen said. "(This) results in

see Energy, page 3

'He'll be missed by so many people'

Cal Poly graduate Andrew Thiel died in a plane crash on Friday; memorial in UU Plaza on Monday

Erin Hurley
MUSTANGHURLEY@COMCAST.NET

Growing up in Linden, Calif., Cal Poly graduate Andrew Thiel and his siblings were as close as brothers and sisters could be. Jealousy and sibling rivalry never came between them. Andrew's father Mark said. Andrew's brothers were his biggest fans, but it never made him too proud.

"Andrew was everything a parent could ask for," Mark said. "He was someone who helped others without ever being asked."

When Andrew's family and friends received the news that his private plane went down in Baja California, Mexico, leaving no survivors, on Friday afternoon, they were shocked and devastated.

The plane was flying to the small town of San Quintin, Mexico as part of Flying Samaritans, a nonprofit organization which operates free medical clinics in Baja. On the plane with Andrew were pilot and plane owner Roger Lyon, an attorney from Cayucos and doctors James Thornton and Graciela Sarmiento from Arroyo Grande.

It was Andrew's first trip with the Flying Samaritans.

According to The Tribune, the 1973 Beechcraft Bonanza A36 left the El Cipres air base Friday afternoon in foggy weather. Flying Samaritans President Victor Jones said Lyon radioed the plane's position 10 miles after takeoff as part of standard procedure. There was no further radio contact after 7:30 p.m. as reported by The Tribune.

Jones said two other planes took off on the same trip after Lyon's plane left. When the two other planes landed in San Quintin and the pilots realized the third plane was missing, an alert was issued.

There is a rule against single-engine planes flying after dark in Mexico, according to Jones, so the absence of Lyon's plane by nightfall was a sign something was wrong.

There was never a time when we talked that Andrew didn't say 'I love you' before saying goodbye.

— Mark Thiel
Andrew Thiel's father

see Thiel, page 2

Andrew Thiel died in a plane crash on Friday; memorial in UU Plaza on Monday
Thiel
continued from page 1

ing in San Quintín.
"Andrew had a soft spot for
Kids," Mark said. "He wanted to go
into plastic surgery so he could help
kids with deformities like cleft pal­
atites."

Mark said his son graduated
from Cal Poly with honors in June
and had already taken the Medical
College Admission Test (MCAT).
Andrew's older brother Garrett
said Andrew was just finishing his
secondary applications to medical
schools and already had interviews
set up with hopes of discussing his
trip to San Quintín in interviews.
Garrett and Andrew were both bio­
logical sciences majors living and
studying together at Cal Poly. Gar­
rett also graduated in June — he
went on a mission trip to North
Carolina after his freshman year;
when he returned to Cal Poly two
years later as a sophomore, he was
in Andrew's class.
"It was rare to see us apart — peo­
tle thought we were twins," Garrett
said. "Andrew was selfless; he always
thought about others first. He was
the best brother and the best friend
I could ever ask for."

Andrew attended Linden High
School in Linden, Calif, where he
was the valedictorian of his class in
addition to playing basketball, base­
ball and football. School personnel
said he was a peer tutor and made
presentations at local elementary
schools on drug and alcohol pre­
vention.

According to Linden High
School personnel, Andrew's death
left the school community reeling
and continues to be incredibly dif­
ficult.

Biological sciences senior Tyler
Simpson, a close friend of Andrew's
during his time at Cal Poly, said he
studied with him for the MCAT.

see Thiel, page 3
Energy
continued from page 1

more air pollution and stifles the clean
energy economy.”

Steven Maviglio, the official spokes-
man for the "No on 23" campaign, said the oil companies were misrepre-
senting the issue and they have no
interest in California’s economy.

"It’s misappropriating as something
(it’s not)," Maviglio said. "It’s really
about two Texas oil companies who
do not want us to clean up their pollu-
tion, and... 98 percent of the money
for it comes from the oil industry and
almost 90 percent comes from out of
state, so I think they care very little for California’s econo-
ym.

Dunn, on the other hand, said the oil
companies backing the proposition are
beside the issue. Dunn said the oppos-
ing side was funded by "Wall
Street" types that do not represent the
whole California population.

"Green jobs are only 3 percent of
all the jobs in the nation," Dunn said.
"That’s the problem with AB 32: it’s
trying to kill (the) 97 percent of jobs
for (that 3 percent)."

Bill Day, the executive director of
media relations for Valero Energy
Corporation, also called AB 32 "cost-
ly," and said Valero really does have
an interest in California’s economy.

"With two refineries in California, 1,600
jobs, $122 million a year paid in
California of $122 million, 83 com-
pany-owned stores and another 800 privately-owned stores that we
supply with fuel, Valero has an interest
in California’s economy being strong,"
Day said. "That rights now, California’s economy is in deep trouble.

"And Dunn said they do not
want to abolish AB 32, but rather
"suspend" it until unemployment gets
better, opponents, according to the
"No on 23" website, said Califor-
nia has rarely had an unemployment
rate of 5.5 percent for a full
year. Maviglio said the oil compa-
nies were using fear as a tactic for
the proposition.

"They’re preying on fears about
the economy, which is just an ex-
cuse for them to (pollute)," Ma-
viglio said.

Dunn said focusing on who was
backing the proposition instead of
the fairness of it was not an excuse
to be against it. However, the in-
volveinent of the oil companies
drive people to volunteer. Maviglio
said more than 1,000 people had
volunteered to fight the bill.

Tessa Salzman, a volunteer for
"No on 23:" said finding out Texas
oil companies funded the bill drove
her to volunteer her time.

“When I learned how ridiculous
this proposition is and saw how ob-
vious it was that the oil companies
are just in it for the money, I got
super pumped up about politics
for the first time," Salzman said. "I
am passionate about the environ-
ment and for all the damage the oil
industry is already responsible for,
this is too much."

Still, Dunn said it was time
to focus on the youth, who she
called went to college and then
"could not find jobs" and on others
that cannot sustain themselves.

"(That) people who can’t pay
their rent, can’t feed their family,
the environment comes in third
place," Dunn said.

For voters caught in the middle
of this battle, they must decide if
sustaining "costly" AB 32 will
help the struggling economy or if
the proposition is "preying" on the
desperate in order to rise above set
environmental standards.

Suicide
continued from page 1

people to understand what is going
on," Gottlieb said.

While the Facebook group has
obviously attracted the attention of
more than a million members, the
question remains whether those who
accepted the invitation will actually
wear purple this week.

"I hope people come out and
wear purple," Ahmad said. "I prob-
ably will. I want to wear purple."

Dunn said that although the vigi
and Facebook event are steps in
the right direction, there is still more
San Luis Obispo residents can do.

"Education (about sexuality)
needs to start early and continue
through elementary school, that way
the bullying won’t be as bad," Adams
said.

Also, there are programs avail-
able to help parents and young
adults communicate about issues. In
PFLAG training programs, volun-
tees visit schools to educate children
about bullying. Gottlieb stressed ed-
ucation like this as a means to allevi-
ating some of the problems.

"We need to reach not just toler-
ance, but the idea that we are more
alike than we are different," Gottlieb
said.

Gottlieb also shared some shock-
ing figures about gay suicides — for
every one successful suicide there are
at least 100 unsuccessful attempts. In
order to decrease this number, Steve
Click, a board member for PFLAG,
and his husband Dana Belmonte said chil-
dren and teens should be aware of
support systems that are out there.

"Things are certainly better here
for gay youth," Belmonte said.

With organizations like PFLAG
and Parents, Family and Friends,
both Click and Belmonte said times
have improved for gay youth and
young adults, but admitted the prob-
lems for them have not been solved.

Thief
continued from page 2

Simpson was invited by Andrew
to join the Baja trip last week, but
wasn’t able to go.

“I didn’t believe it when I heard
— he had been sitting in my kitch-
en two days before,” Simpson said.

“Andrew was just a great person to
be around, with such a promising
future.”

Hayley Laker, a Paso Robles res-
ident, met Andrew a few years ago
through his brother Garrett. Laker
said Andrew would have done any-
thing for anybody if needed.

“He didn’t want to be a doctor
for the money; he genuinely wanted
to help people and save lives,” Laker
said. “All of his family and friends
have to go through the process of
dealing with this. He’ll be missed
by so many people.”

Jones said the Gold Coast Chap-
ter of the Flying Samaritans, which
covers San Luis Obispo County, will
hold a meeting today to plan a
memorial for the crash victims; it is
tentatively scheduled for next
week.

A memorial for Andrew will be
held in the University Union (UU)
Plaza Monday Oct. 25, at 5 p.m.

"Andrew had so much prom-
ise, but he was still so humble and
grounded," Mark said. "There was
never a time when we talked that
Andrew didn’t say ‘I love you’ be-
fore saying goodbye.”

Ballard High’s suicide-prevention club wrote messages of support in chalk out-

"Five to eight years ago kids were
struggling," Click said. “Now with
the youth Gay Straight Alliance,
there is some support in schools.”

Despite the increase in support,
there are still suicides in the gay
community.

“We have become complacent
because it’s not happening (as much)
here, but it could,” Click said.

The overwhelming support of the
Facebook group comes with a word
of caution from Click.

“More information is getting out
there, but I fear it will fall into the
back of the closet after it’s over
(Improvements) won’t happen,” he
said.

However, those concerned remain
hopeful bullying will someday cease
and acceptance will prevail, allowing
the gay suicide rate to drop.

"I want nothing more than the
suffering of these kids to be lifted," Gottlieb said.

Those interested in becoming
an ally can attend training on Nov.
4 from 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. in the University Union (UU)
Plaza.
Texas federal judge sentences Jordanian national for attempted bomb attack

Jason Trathan  
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

A federal judge Tuesday sentenced a Jordanian national who tried to blow up a downtown Dallas skyscraper to 24 years in prison, mostly rejecting defense claims that he was mentally ill andundy influenced by law enforcement agents.

Hosam "Sam" Smadi faced up to 30 years in prison under a plea agreement accepted by U.S. District Judge Barbara Lynn. He will be deported to Jordan once he serves his time.

"I can't for the life of me figure out what moved you in this direction," the judge said in delivering the sentence.

"You got some encouragement along the way," she added, referring to FBI agents' interactions with Smadi, "but your actions were yours."

Before the sentence was delivered, Smadi was apologetic, addressing the judge in halting English.

"I'm very sorry for my actions," said Smadi, dressed in an orange prison jumpsuit with his hair grown out to shoulder length. "I could not live with myself if I hurt anybody."

The ruling came on the second day of Smadi's sentencing hearing in federal district court. He was arrested on Sept. 24, 2009, by FBI agents who said he dialed a cell phone that led authorities to his marriage, friends and even married - allegedly used to influence FBI undercover agents.

"I do believe you were vulnerable to influence," she said. "That is not a criticism of law enforcement. I deeply appreciate what law enforcement did."

Defense attorney Peter Fleury said he was disappointed by the sentence but believed the process was fair. He said Smadi was laughing inappropriately and appeared to be insincere. When the doctor asked him if he was high, Smadi acknowledged that he was, according to Patterson.

He said Smadi told him that he had persuaded prison doctors to give him 60 doses of buspirone, a drug used to get high while in federal custody, that he'd crushed up some of the pills and snorted them.

"This is unusual for anyone in a prison setting to be given a supply of drugs that you can abuse," Patterson testified. He said he alerted prison officials, who immediately discontinued Smadi's access to the prescription drugs.

A defense psychiatrist, Dr. Xavier Amador, testified Monday that Smadi was schizophrenic and is faking his symptoms.

"People who have legitimate psychotic symptoms, they hurt," Patterson said. "When he's talking about these things, he's not in distress about it." As for the donkey, Patterson said he didn't know Smadi could identify an animal by species just from the sound of its voice.

"I don't know how he knows it's a donkey if he can't see it's a donkey," the psychiatrist said.

Pentagon announces plan for flying Humvee

W.J. Hennigan  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

vWith its armored doors and bulletproof windows, the bulky Humvee has been a stalwart ground transport for the U.S. military.

But now the Pentagon thinks the bulky vehicle should also be able to fly.

On Tuesday, Pratt & Whitney's Rocketdyne division in Los Angeles announced that it had been awarded $1 million — to design a propulsion system for a flying Humvee.

Don't scoff — there is good reason for an airborne truck, defense officials say.

With the proliferation of improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, on the ground, a hovering Humvee would be an ideal way to keep soldiers out of harm's way, Pentagon officials said in announcing the award.

Dubbed the Transformer, the vehicle — at least an artist's rendering of it — looks like a toy commando truck out of a "G.I. Joe" cartoon.

But according to the Pentagon's technical specs, it would "combine the advantages of ground vehicles and helicopters into a single vehicle equipped with flexibility of movement."

The Transformer would have folding wings that pop out from the side of the vehicle and helicopter-like rotor blades attached to either the roof or the wings, depending on which design the Pentagon picks.

Also, it would be robotic, so there would be no pilot or driver behind the wheel.
Richard A. Serrano
David S. Cloud
Phil Willon
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

Military officials said Tuesday they have begun accepting applications from openly gay and lesbian recruits, creating a dilemma for many homosexuals who long have wanted to join the Armed Forces but worry their status will be jeopardized if the controversial "don't ask, don't tell" policy is re-imposed.

A federal judge in California indicated Monday she would refuse to set aside enforcement of her ruling overturning the don't ask, don't tell policy.

Obama administration lawyers are expected to file a formal appeal with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco to stop her worldwide ban and allow the Pentagon to continue its internal review of the policy.

With the policy at this point legally no longer in force, the Pentagon announced that military recruiters have begun taking applications from men and women who openly admit they are gay or lesbian.

"Recruiters have been given guidance, and they will process applications for applicants who admit they are openly gay or lesbian," said Cynthia O. Smith, a Pentagon spokeswoman.

Yet Smith noted that military recruiters have been told to remind all applicants that the court injunction could quickly be reversed.

If that happens, she said, statements by a recruit that he or she is homosexual could be used to reject them immediately, or discharge them if they had been accepted into the service.

Under the so-called don't ask, don't tell law, enacted in 1993 during the Clinton administration, recruits have not been asked about their sexual orientation when they seek to enlist — a policy that the Pentagon said would remain in effect while the litigation continues, she said.

But also under the law, anyone who freely admits he or she is a homosexual is removed from the ranks of the military.

Last week, Undersecretary for Personnel and Readiness Clifford E. Stanfill reminded recruiters in a memo not to ask to ask new members or applicants about their sexual orientation.

Many advocates, including Aubrey Sarvis, the executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, urged would-be recruits to proceed carefully in signing up.

"During this interim period of uncertainty," Sarvis said, "service members must not come out and new recruits should use caution if choosing to sign up. The bottom line: If you come out now, it can be used against you in the future by the Pentagon."

One of the first to take the opportunity to enlist was former Army Lt. Dan Choi, a Tustin, Calif., native and Iraq war veteran who came out on the "Rachel Maddow Show" on cable TV in March 2009. The West Point graduate was discharged earlier this year for being gay.

Choi, 29, made an event of his re-enlistment, tweeting his move and tweeting his move and saying he was going to "set aside enforcement of her ruling" in the courts and on Capitol Hill to keep the ban in place.

"With Democrats likely to lose control of Congress in the upcoming election," the council said, "they see the window for imposing their radical social agenda on the Armed Forces closing fast. But that is no reason for toasting our legislative debate, administrative review, and judicial restraint."

They added that the law should remain in force until at least next year, when the new Congress will receive the Pentagon's internal review and can hold hearings into the issue.

Aaron Belkin, director of Palm Center, a think tank on gays and the military at the University of California, Santa Barbara, called the military's announcement on accepting gay recruits a "stunt." He added that many legal experts expect the appellate court to reinstate the ban while they review the case.

"For the first time in 65 years we've had a week where gays and lesbians can serve openly in the military, and so far we haven't seen any negative reports of any consequences," Belkin said.

Meanwhile supporters of the don't ask, don't tell policy, like the conservative Family Research Council, said "homosexuals are desperate" to get into the military, but the government should continue to fight in the courts and on Capitol Hill to keep the ban in place.

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Richard A. Serrano

Anonymous

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U.S. military now accepting applications from openly gay recruits

They said he was too old, so Choi filled out papers to re-enlist in the Army.

"We're still in a war, and soldiers are needed," said Choi, adding "I have a newfound faith in our government that at least one branch is on the side of the Constitution, is on the side of the people."

In Los Angeles, army recruiters were abiding by the Pentagon's new directive, but they did not report a noteworthy groundswell of new recruits. "Right now we can't ask, but they can tell," said Fernando Sanjurjo, who is the spokesman for the army's Los Angeles Recruiting Battalion.

"We're going to do whatever we're told to do and drive on. But no influx yet," Sanjurjo added that potential recruits are being told that the "don't ask, don't tell" policy could be reinstated at any time by the appellate courts.

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They added that the law should remain in force until at least next year, when the new Congress will receive the Pentagon's internal review and can hold hearings into the issue.
The 86-year-old Mariposa resident sorted through a box full of colorful hats from September 2009 to September this year. Knobles said when she kicked off a special project, she'd made a stop to drop off 34 items to a “prudent reserve.”

The 38-year-old Mariposa resident of head injuries early this year. She has made a total of 137 hats for decoration. Adds to the hats for decoration.

After his dramatic exit, prosecutors threatened him from his pulpit on Sunday morning. Porter said the elections had nothing to do with the executive order, noting LaMalfa's apathy for the loss of a church's tax-exempt status.

The Pew survey found that 65 percent of Latino registered voters plan to support Democrats in their congressional elections, and 22 percent Republicans. The survey of 1,375 Latino adults, including 618 registered voters, was conducted Aug. 17-Sept. 19. It has a margin of error of 4.9 percentage points for registered voter responses. Jorge Murnuli, the president of Democrats USA, said the elections focused on our list,” said Rudy Lopez, the national field director and political director of the advocacy group Center for Community Change, “but we also want good schools for our kids and jobs.” Lopez said the executive order was “a gesture,” and “a good thing.” Nevertheless, he doesn’t expect Latino turnout this year to approach 2008 or 2006 levels.

In the open Senate race in Florida, Mursuli said, Democratic U.S. Rep. Kendrick Meek and independent Gov. Charlie Crist haven’t connected well with Hispanic voters.

Republican Marco Rubio, a Cuban American, opposes liberalizing immigration policy and may take a conservative stance on government programs and spending than many Hispanic voters would want. However, Mursuli said, “In the absence of information, people who are determined to vote are going to go ‘easy, meiny, meiny, moe’ and go with a Hispanic name.”
Word on the Street

What would you change about Campus Dining?

"I'd like it if the salads at The Avenue were on the meal plan instead of Planet Dollars." — Erica Wong, business administration freshman

"I don't think they should charge extra for the plasma TVs at VG and Metro." — Daniel Debruler, soil sciences senior

"I miss the $1 corn dogs at The Avenue." — Morgan Roth, social sciences senior

"I think the prices are high, but overall I think the dining service is good." — Heidi Van Campen, anthropology and geography senior

"I think we should get more variety for the money." — Jared Werner, business administration senior

"I think we should get more variety for the money." — Rich Van Hoppenko, mechanical engineering senior

"I think we should get more variety for the money." — Morgan Roth, social sciences senior

U.S. soldier in custody after publicly accused of shooting Taliban leader

Maura Dolan
LO S ANGELES TIMES

The U.S. military detained an American soldier and launched a criminal investigation Tuesday after Afghan President Hamid Karzai publicly accused U.S. forces of killing a Taliban leader in his southern Afghanistan jail cell.

American officials said a U.S. soldier was in custody after a "senior leader of the (local) Taliban" had been found shot to death in his cell in Kandahar province's rural Arghandab district.

Earlier, Karzai had issued a blunt statement launching his own probe of the allegations emanating from Arghandab, a district that's now the focus of intensified military efforts to oust Taliban forces from the fertile valley.

"Based on reports from Arghandab, coalition troops entered the Arghandab district prison at 9:30 p.m. Sunday and killed a detainee named Mullah Mubarak," Karzai's office said.

Even if the soldier is cleared, the allegations could create more friction between Karzai and the Obama administration as the two allies try to regain the initiative in the fight against Taliban-led insurgents.

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OCTOBER 19 - 21
Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

ORD ER FO R GRADUATION

- Personalized Graduation Announcements
- Class Rings [Graduation Days Discounts]
- Thank You Cards
- Certificates of Appreciation
- Diploma Plaques
- Schedule your Senior Portrait
- Join the Alumni Association

GRAD CENTER OPEN
November 18th - December 3rd
for cap, gown, and commencement tickets
check out the graduation section on our website.
Meet
MORGAN WEBB
Lead Technical Writer

Morgan Webb, co-host of the G4 X-Play and host of G4 Underground, will be speaking to students about life, careers, and current trends in technology and gaming. Following her talk, Morgan Webb will be conducting a Q & A, meet & greet, and photo op with the students.

November 12th
Cal Poly
The Construction Excellence Building
Conference Room C302
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

AIR FORCE RESERVE
AFReserve.com/MorganWebb • 800 287 1512
Whoever said two is a pair, three is a crowd and four is a group was obviously not well versed in this neck of the bedroom. It is true that two makes a pair and four makes a group (or orgy), but three, well three makes a threesome.

What is the deal with threesomes? I might be gender-biased, but it appears as though every guy wants one while most girls cringe at the thought.

But I say if the cast of "Gossip Girl" can do it, then why can't you?

The following is merely informational content and should only be attempted if you feel qualified to take on such a crowded task.

If so, take all possible outcomes into consideration beforehand because relationships and friendships can falter under the weight of three people.

Other possible names for the pants party include: three-way, double team, ménage à trois, devil's threesome and group sex.

— Karlee Prazak
Sex Columnist

A sexual triad can easily leave one party hanging out to dry. On the other hand, a severe case of TMI (too much information, duh) can be another side effect. So choose partners wisely, because once you hit the sack there is no looking back.

Before going more in depth, let's get some input from an intellectual perspective.

Merriam-Webster defines a threesome as a "group of three people or things" — followed by an example involving golf. But who depends on the "real" dictionary for these terms? UrbanDictionary.com defines a threesome as: "Three people having sex together. One person may be in the middle, or everyone can have sex with everyone else." It is followed by a better example than Merriam-Webster too. UrbanDictionary.com said "some include: skiing (a person uses their hands to stimulate two others simultaneously), the triangle position (one woman sits on a man's face and the other sits on his penis facing each other — can be either open or closed) and the wobbly-H or Eiffel Tower (where a person receives anal sex from one end and gives a blow job at the other).

If these terms still escape you, I suggest either utilizing your imagination or referring to everyone's smartest friend these days, Google.

It would be irresponsible to talk about threesomes without laying out some guidelines recommended by a more qualified source.

Chris Ford, a sexual education correspondent for AskMen.com, recommends proper threesome etiquette in his article "Threesome Rules."

Ford's No.1 rule: "Establish the rules." This guarantees that everyone is comfortable and aware of limitations. Agreeing on a safety-word to use in case the comfort zone gets violated is advisable at this time.

Ford's No.2 rule: "Be as giving as you can." He suggests ignoring personal desires and channeling your inner utilitarianism, or focus on what's see Sex, page 11
Music department hosts Ensemble Showcase for Parents’ Weekend

Director of Choirs Thomas Davies said it’s a nice way for students to get comfortable performing early on in the quarter and also serves as a new department event.

“This is now a representation of our department, where it’s just not all on my program to pull off this concert,” Davies said. “Which was fine — we could still do that — depending on weekend, it could be that again in the future. But I like this idea that we’re all kind of collectively doing this concert together. It makes it a department event.”

Symphony Director David Arrivée agrees and said it’s nice to take the pressure off the choir to put on a concert so early in the quarter.

“(The choir) have to prepare a whole concert in five weeks, which is really hard,” Arrivée said. “Then they turn around and do their fall concert.”

Arrivée said he likes the idea of a showcase of the department.

“We don’t have something in the beginning of the year to say, ‘Here is the music department.’” Arrivée said. “It’s such a no-brainer, it’s weird that we haven’t tried this before.”

Most groups will perform pieces that will also be played later in the quarter. The concert will begin with the symphony performing Bach’s “Toccata and Fugue in D minor,” which was made popular by the movie “Fantasia.” However, the symphony will not perform Bach’s original music but an arrangement by Leopold Sokolowski.

“He took it, orchestrated it for our symphony and, where the orchestra can expand, he makes it really big,” Arrivée said. “For example, instead of two clarinets, we have three clarinets and a bass clarinet. It’s a really fun piece. It’s very difficult because it was totally not written for their instruments. So they’ve got these things to play that are kind of unnatural, but at least it’s a cool piece.”

The choirs will follow with six pieces, performed both by the University Singers and PolyPhonics. PolyPhonics will sing “Hymnne au Soleil,” or “Hymn of the Sun” by Lil Boulanger as well as “Campion Town Races” by Jack Halloran. The University Singers will sing David Moussouy’s “Danny Boy” and “Beautiful City” by Andre Thomas.

The choirs will then combine for two final pieces, “Irish Blessing” by Graeme Jlingagcr and “Make Our Garden Grow” by Leonard Bernstein.

Following the choirs will be the University Jazz Band I directed by Paul Rinteler, performing three tunes: “Jumpin’ at the Woodside” and “Darin’” originally by Count Basie; as well as “Oye Como Va,” composed by Tito Puente and made famous by Caif Solano.

“They make an interesting contrast for the audience,” Rinteler said. “They present certain music challenges, and it’s good for the band to work on.”

After the jazz band, the Arab Music Ensemble will perform three famous pieces — “Bi-Alladhi Askara (By The One Who Enraptures),” a traditional piece, “Yay Yay Y a Nassi (Oh, Light Of My Eye),” with words by Ahmed Shams and music by Nasser Al Midawis; and “Nur Al’Ayn (By The One Who Enraptures),” a traditional piece, by Elias Rahbani and “Nur Al’Ayn (Oh, Light Of My Eye),” with words by Ahmed Shams and music by Nasser Al Midawi.

Andrew McMahan will conclude the concert with a wind ensemble, making his conducting debut as the newly appointed wind ensemble director. McMahan said he is not nervous but excited for the students to perform well.

“There is just nothing to be nervous about because they’re going to play well and it’s going to be fun, it’s going to be an enjoyable experience,” McMahan said.

Unlike the other ensembles, two of the three pieces McMahan chose for the showcase will not be repeated at a later concert. McMahan said he chose these pieces because he wanted to give the audience a taste of traditional wind band music.

“Sort of like for your literature class, you read books that are standards. These are standards. These are things that everybody should know,” McMahan said.

The wind ensemble will perform the second movement of “1st Suite for Military Band” by Gustav Holst, a transcription of “Elbas Procession to the Cathedral” and conclude the night’s showcase with Henry Fillmore’s “Rolling Thunder,” which is a circus march.

“What makes this unique is a lot of people have heard marches. Circus marches are unique in that they are fast,” McMahan said. “It’s just crazy fast. So this is something you’d play when all back brakes loose.”

McMahan said he chose these pieces because they’re not too heavy of a load for the students to tackle, but it will still be enjoyed by listeners.

“A lot of time when we’re preparing for a concert, we’re doing new music, heavy music, big pieces,” McMahan said. “This kind of music standards the audience will absolutely love.”

The show is Friday in the PAC at 8 p.m. Tickets are available in advance at pacso.org, the PAC box office or at the door. General admission is $13 and $15, senior admission is $12 and $14 and student admission is $8.
CRAVE wine tasting event to take place Friday

Marisa Bloch
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The Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance (PRWCA) will host the CRAVE wine tasting event this year including unlimited tastings from 38 Paso Robles wineries, music from the rock band TROPo and food from several local restaurants and cafés.

Communications coordinator for PRWCA Morgan Callahan said this is its 3rd year putting on the CRAVE event. "We expect to have anywhere from 400 to 500 guests attend this years event," Callahan said.

Based on previous years, the event is popular with the public. Callahan said they expect to have approximately 50 volunteers, eight bands from PRWCA and about 40 winery employees to conduct the wine tastings. Each year PRWCA tries to make the event even better than the year before.

They have many enhancements this year including four new wine bars focused on industry trends, new design and layout, live band TROPo and a few other surprises," Callahan said.

Agricultural business senior and Cal Poly Vines to Wines president Kela Driggs said she has been looking forward to this event since she heard about it last year. She said she would have attended, but she was still underground.

"I heard the event is a lot of fun, classy and a nice opportunity to dress up," Driggs said.

According to Driggs, the Paso Wine Association is in close contact with Vines to Wines and she has heard nothing but great things for this event.

"If I am excited to try a lot of new wines from wineries I haven't had the chance to visit yet," Driggs said.

Emily Binsinger is a wine and viticulture junior and volunteer this year at the CRAVE event. She said she heard about the wine tasting event through Vines to Wines and through staff from Cass Winery where she works.

"I hope to meet a lot of people in the industry and talk to them about the local wines," Binsinger said. "The reps from the wineries want to teach people about their wines and I love working events where the guests get involved."

However, Binsinger is not 21 yet, so she said her participation in CRAVE will most likely consist of activities such as setting up tables, serving food, talking with guests and meeting new people and fellow wine enthusiasts.

"It is so frustrating trying to break into the wine industry when I am not allowed anywhere near the wine," Binsinger said. "So until then, I try to get as involved as I can so that when I do turn 21 I will have established a foundation."

Binsinger encourages everyone to come and check out the wines this area has to offer. She said there is a lot to learn and the makings for a great time.

In order to ensure a safe environment for consuming alcohol, Grape- line Wine Country Shuttle Company will provide sober rides throughout the evening.

CRAVE website presents viewers with the slogan "CRAVE Wine. CRAVE Food. CRAVE Music. CRAVE Paso. (And Remember to) Swivel, Smell, Sip — Please taste responsibly."

Unlimited wine tasting is scheduled for Friday from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the Veterans Hall in San Luis Obispo.

CRAVE wine tasting is an event for attendees 21 and over and a photo ID will be required for entrance, no exceptions.

CultureFest brings diversity to SLO

Jessica Tam
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The 13th annual CultureFest, hosted by the MultiCultural Center (MCC), took place last Sunday at Mitchell Park. The free event, sponsored by MCC and different members of the community, aimed to promote cultural awareness and diversity to the San Luis Obispo community.

Victor Kim of Queer Crew from MTV's America's Best Dance Crew made an appearance and performed the closing act.

CultureFest Committee Chair James Ryemel said the event is a great opportunity to see diversity.

"A lot of times student organization don't have the same outlet so they get really enthusiastic about CultureFest, which is the one time a year they can showcase their different backgrounds, their cultures and really have that opening and welcoming atmosphere," Ryemel said.

Clubs featured at the festival included the Filipino Cultural Exchange (PCE), the Japanese Cultural Exchange (JCE), the Chinese Student Association and Movimiento Estudiantil Xicano de Aztlán (M.E.A.). CultureFest member and mechanical engineering junior Adam Eberwein said the event is about more than simply bringing different people together.

"It's about) experiencing what's important to them as well as understanding what's important to them," Eberwein said.

Throughout the afternoon, students and community members got to witness just how diverse San Luis Obispo can be through food, booth design and performances. CultureFest also featured a contest to award the club with the best of those three categories.

CultureFest hopes to continue promoting awareness throughout the community.

"Culture exists here because a lot of these students are passionate about who they are and where they come from and just want to share it," Ryemel said.

"It's about) experiencing what's important to them as well as understanding what's important to them."

— Adam Eberwein
Mechanical engineering junior

Judges for the event contest included Cal Poly Interim President Robert Glidden, Sandi Sigurdson, the executive director of leadership for the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce; Everett Brooks, coordinator of Student Clubs & Organizations on-campus; and Denise Ison, ethnic studies associate professor, who was in charge of judging the "Best Booth" competition.

Ison said the judges looked for creativity, enthusiasm, innovation and the club's ability to follow its theme. But, she said, that's not all they were looking for.

"There's so many other factors involved, I think, (such as) how connected the students are to the issues that they're presenting or to the culture that they're trying to represent out here," Ison said. "I love to watch for student interaction and interaction with the community more broadly and where there's here's evidence of thought deeper than 'Here's a good food to serve' or 'Here's a good activity to put on.'"

As a way to publicize the event, the CultureFest committee advertised on the Wild 106.1 radio station and posts on its official Facebook page and created a promotional video to get community members involved.

Not only that, but special guest Kim helped boost public relations.

"Members of the cultural clubs were excited and eager to see Kim, including electrical engineering senior and hip-hop dancer for the Chinese Student Association, Marc Perez.

"As a dancer and as a performer, we look up to him because he sets the stage and he sets the bar," Perez said. "To have someone like him is a privilege, it's something we all try to live up to."

Ryemel said members of CultureFest hope to continue promoting awareness throughout the community.

"Culture exists here because a lot of these students are passionate about who they are and where they come from and just want to share it," Ryemel said.

Monday might be the day you find your new favorite restaurant. Check out the Pub and Grub Directory!
Obama faces tough journey toward re-election

One of the oddities of American politics is that midterm congressional elections don't tell us what's likely to happen to a first-term president in the re-election campaign that follows. Bill Clinton's Democrats suffered a catastrophic defeat in 1994, but Clinton cruised to easy re-election in 1996. George H.W. Bush's Republicans did well in 1990 by losing only a handful of seats, but Bush lost the presidency two years later.

So let's ignore for a moment the noise of the coming midterm elections and look ahead to 2012 and the presidential campaign that's already underway. The news of the last few weeks has raised early warning signals about President Obama's prospects for re-election.

Start with the economy. Until recently, Democrats were fairly confident that Obama could count on the economic recovery to gather steam next year in plenty of time to lift voters' spirits and make his re-election easier. Their historical model is Ronald Reagan, who suffered a big setback in the midterm elections of 1982, when unemployment was about as high as it is now, only to win re-election by a landslide in 1984 after the economy rebounded.

But the last few weeks have brought a spate of forecasts that unemployment will actually rise in 2011 — perhaps over the 10 percent mark — and remain stubbornly high well into 2012.

Goldman Sachs' chief U.S. economist, Jan Hatzius, sees only two scenarios for next year: "fairly bad and very bad." In the likely ("fairly bad") scenario, he said at a recent conference, unemployment peaks "some­what over the 10 percent mark —  and re­mains stubbornly high well into 2012.

But President Gerald R. Ford and George H.W. Bush both lost bids for re-election in years when the economy was improving: it just wasn't improving fast enough.

No modern president has run for re-election when unemployment was over 8 percent, as it could be in 2012. (The last was Franklin D. Roosevelt, who won a landslide in 1932.)

What global warmers tend to forget is that the earth has normal cycles. Visit Yosemite Valley, it was carved by glaciers more than 4,000 feet thick (maybe a mile deep). Those glaciers came and went twice with no human intervention. The current glaciers in the Sierras were created by another ice age, 10,000 ago.

The earth has been colder and the earth has been warmer than the present. It's not hard to imagine what it would take to effect the earth's climate. Let's say one degree of the earth's core is subject to the wind.

What is happening to us is the same thing happening to the earth. The earth has been warmer than the present. It's not hard to imagine what it would take to effect the earth's climate. Let's say one degree of the earth's core is subject to the wind.

Obama will be on his own. And there's another danger sign for the president: Republicans have fallen out of love with him.

In 2008, Obama won the presidency, in part, by "expanding the electorate" and attracting a much stronger 53 percent rating among 18- to 29-year-olds, but even that is a big drop from earlier numbers.

The morning-after skeptics were visible in a town hall meeting Obama held with young voters Thursday on three cable networks. It wasn't a lovefest.

"If the economy does not improve over the next two years, why don't we vote you back in?" asked a questioner who identified himself as Adam Hunter of Washington.

Campaign manager David Plouffe says young voters again will be a key part of Obama's strategy in 2012. But judging from the polls, it may not turn out that way.

It's far too early, of course, to hand-icap a 2012 election against a Republican candidate who would be seeking his third term with no challenger within his own party, a major factor in the defeat of incumbents Ford, Jimmy Carter and Bush. He will lead the country through two years of real-world events that could elevate his stature, including continued confrontations with congressional Republicans. And by 2012, even the pessimists think the job picture will begin to recover.

But not one how this year's congressional election turns out, Obama faces a steeper road to re-election than any Democrat expected.

Dole McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times.
The entire world owes a debt to Chile. The small South American country gave the world a long overdue break from seemingly endless wars, natural disasters, man-made calamities, moral dilemmas and a sense of pessimism that have been taking root in many parts of the globe.

Chileans, with good reason, are bursting with patriotic pride. They have detailed with the historic rescue of 33 miners trapped deep inside the Earth. The drama in the Atacama Desert gave us all a chance to root for the same team. What everyone, everywhere, wanted was an old-fashioned happy ending. And Chile provided it in high-tech, nail-biting, heart-warming living color — all that, in an irony-free production reminiscent of a different era.

Does anyone remember before cynicism took over? Back then, technology could conquer any challenge, providing a seemingly sure path of putting ideals above self-interest. Back then, the big, powerful countries sent rockets into space and men into the moon. It looked as if they could achieve anything their vast wealth and know-how could produce. Smaller nations captured global attention only with messy wars, tin-pot dictatorships and assorted disasters.

The world, to state the obvious, has changed. The old superpowers now look tired and, frankly, incompetent. Sure, the Chilean rescue benefited from the skills and equipment of key players from the United States and from pivotal technology from Europe. The Chileans wisely welcomed international help without giving up control of the operation.

Hope-filled patriotism played a powerful role in this gripping drama long before a happy ending seemed the likely outcome. Soon after we heard that the miners had survived, on Aug. 26, the government released a number of businesses, including a television network.

The government made sure Chile's name and flag were visible in every shot. But there was little resistance to the patriotic appeal from the rest of a nation that already had much to be proud of. For many reasons, Chile is one of Latin America's best success stories.

Patriotism served everyone well. The miners' appeals to national pride helped turn the project of saving their lives into a national imperative. It raised the profile of their plight, and it made success a yardstick by which the government and its top officials would be measured. In the end, this paid off for everyone.

The government quickly took charge and made it clear it would spare no expense to save the 33 lives. Notice this: A country that values every single life is a mature country that deserves respect.

Today, President Pinera's approval ratings, which got off to a tepid start in his young administration, have received a huge boost. But no one in Chile is more popular than Mining Minister Laurence Golborne, previously just another government official. Their popularity is well deserved.

The miners' inspiring story will bring not only movies and books; it will trigger a flurry of lessons-learned studies, teaching government and managers how to handle disasters. If the result is better management, more determination to succeed and less cynicism, then the world will owe the Chilean people an even more lasting debt.

Frida Ghitis wrote about global affairs for The Miami Herald.

Miners inspire patriotism around the world

The miners' appeal to national pride helped turn the project of saving their lives into a national imperative.

— Frida Ghitis

Writers for the Miami Herald

Gay and lesbian students require protection and respect from schools

A spate of suicides by gay teenagers has produced what looks like a unitarian front against anti-gay bullying. But at least one conservative leader sees a sinister homosexual agenda in efforts to combat such bullying by acknowledging and affirming gay students.

As The Los Angeles Times recently observed, harassment of gay and lesbian students is part of a larger problem, and therefore, schools should pursue comprehensive anti-bullying efforts. That doesn't mean teachers and administrators shouldn't recognize anti-gay bullying as a distinct issue rooted not only in adolescent cruelty but in cultural condemnations of homosexuality.

When they do so, however, they are accused by some conservatives of taking sides in a culture war.

An extreme example was a recent article by Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council. Perkins accused the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network and similar organizations of exploiting the suicides of gay teenagers "to push their agenda of demanding not only tolerance of homosexual individuals but active affirmation of homosexual conduct and their efforts to redefine the family." For good measure, he endorsed the theory that gays and lesbians can be converted to heterosexuality, a notion dismissed by psychiatrists and psychologists.

In time, the idea that schools shouldn't take sides when it comes to the dignity of gays and lesbians will seem as quaint as the idea that teaching children about racial equality is furthering an "integrationist agenda." Meanwhile, schools should treat gay and lesbian students and their families with respect and welcome efforts by students to oppose anti-gay bullying, such as the Gay-Straight Alliance groups that have been formed at thousands of U.S. schools. Preventing the harassment of gay students will require careful attention to the law (which gives students who want to create a homosexual club the right to express their opinion in a nondiscriminatory way). But schools should recognize that standing up for gay students involves more than protecting them from bullying.

— Los Angeles Times Editorial

Meanwhile, schools should treat gay and lesbian students and families with respect.

— Los Angeles Times Editorial

get your opinions, rants and raves with send your letter through mus t angdaily.net
October is BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH! Show your support by wearing pink and visiting the Colleges Against Cancer informational booth on Oct. 28th in the U.U. Plaza. We will provide information about self breast exams and the importance of early detection. Come visit the booth and pick up a 2011 Sponsor the Comic T-R-M-A-U-E-Y-E. $10 donation to the American Cancer Society!
Giants continued from page 16
to put runners on first and second with one out. But he induced a weak flyout from Jimmy Rollins and struck out Raul Ibanez.

"He had command of four pitches and was able to move the ball to both sides of the plate with all four of them," catcher Buster Posey said.

After Cain glanced a fastball off the arm of Carlos Ruiz and walked pinch-hitter Ross Gload with two out in the seventh, manager Bruce Bochy went to the mound for a chat.

"He was just asking how I was feeling, just of instilling that he had confidence in me," Cain said. "It was like, make your pitches, and we can get this guy out."

Cain made his pitches and put away Victorino on a grounder to second to end his day. The Giants pitchers limited the Phillies to a .194 average through the first three games. They've held them to 18 hits and struck out 29.

It was by far Cain's best performance against the Phillies. He was 0-3 with a 6.23 ERA before Tuesday.

He said the difference this time was simple: he put the Phillies on their heels by getting ahead early in the count.

"I was ... trying to make them a little more defensive," he said. "That's what we kept trying to do from the start to the end."

Cain had help from a couple of former Phillies — Aaron Rowand and Pat Burrell. Benched the first two games, Rowand led off the fifth inning with a double and scored the third run. Burrell drew a critical two-out walk in the fourth, saving an at bat for the torrid Cody Ross, who drove in the game's first run with a single.

"This has got to be the top one, really," Cain said when asked where the victory ranked in his career. "To be able to go out there and throw the ball well and help your team win is a great feeling."

Women's golf finishes second in invitational

Mustang Daily Staff Report
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The Mustangs shot a final round of 297 — third best in school history — to lift the Cal Poly women's golf team to a second-place finish in the Shocker Invitational Tuesday at the Sand Creek Station Golf Course. The Mustangs finished with a 35-over-par 611 total.

Freshman Asia Adell opened with an 80 on Monday and rallied for a 70 on Tuesday. She jumped from 17th place into a tie for fifth place in just her third collegiate tournament.

Along with Adell, junior Caitlin Farley shot a 74 on Tuesday — she shot 78 in the first round — and climbed four positions into a tie for eighth place. Sophomore Alicia Weber tied for 10th place with a 76.

Freshman Alex Phillips, who shot a 77 to tie for 16th place, and sophomore Kirsten Locke, who had a final-round 86, also scored for Cal Poly.

Cal Poly will host the Lamkin Grip Cal Poly Invitational on Nov. 1-2 at Cypress Ridge Golf Course in Arroyo Grande.
Volleyball’s hot start hasn’t translated to huge crowds

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The Cal Poly women’s volleyball team boasts a (15-6, 5-3 Big West) record this year, but it seems the word hasn’t spread.

Biology sciences sophomore Jamie Martin has never attended a women’s volleyball game.

“It’s not that I have anything against volleyball, it’s just that when I think of a typical college game to watch. I go to football or basketball,” Martin said.

Martin is not alone.

Out of 120 students polled, 76 have gone to a Cal Poly football game while only 13 students said they have gone to a women’s volleyball game match.

Last week, 1,895 fans attended the Cal Poly vs. UC Santa Barbara match in Mott Gym. In comparison, 7,345 fans showed up to the Cal Poly football team’s season opener — two weeks before school started.

Those who have attended games talk about the excitement of volleyball.

Business administration senior Daniel Schwartz said he goes to as many volleyball games as he can. If he can’t make a game, he checks online for the results the next day.

“I feel that Cal Poly goes under the radar and we bear these teams out of nowhere,” Schwartz said. “My friend and I go to the games and yell stupid things at the opposing team to mess with their heads. Unfortunately, we couldn’t make the UC Santa Barbara game and we secretly blame Cal Poly’s loss on us for not being there to throw off UCSB’s performance.”

Assistant coach Justin Hutchins said volleyball is an exciting sport to watch, it has been with the team since April after being an assistant coach at Utah Valley University.

“Division-I women’s volleyball is the most exciting sport to watch,” Hutchins said. “You get good athletes, lots of rallies that are fast paced and there’s scoring on every ball. I think that’s just a showcase of athleticism at its highest level.”

Not only do some think Cal Poly women’s volleyball is entertaining to watch, others said the game brings the Cal Poly Big Three have proven to be a good game for us. Cain was locating his pitches perfectly.”

Assistant coach Justin Hutchins said volleyball is an exciting sport to watch, Hutchins said. “You get good athletes, lots of rallies that are fast paced and there’s scoring on every ball. I think that’s just a showcase of athleticism at its highest level.”

Not only do some think Cal Poly women’s volleyball is entertaining to watch, others said the game brings the San Luis Obispo community together.

Director of Athletics Allison Cone has been with Cal Poly for 16 years. During her time, she has witnessed fluctuations in attendance.

“The excitement of the game translates to the community,” Cone said. “There’s high quality volleyball, there’s the band and it’s fun in the gym. I’d like to see attendance rise especially as the team continues to have such high success.”

In 2006, people were turned away. During an NCAA second-round match, Mott Gym experienced a sell-out crowd with more than 3,000 fans at Cal Poly faced California. Though Cal Poly fell 3-2 in the game set as precedent for future attendance.

“There’s no doubt in my mind that if we get in the NCAA, which we have a good chance of doing, this community would come together and Mont Gym would sell out again,” Cone said.

Selling out Mont Gym has an impact on the game.

“Other teams already hate coming to Mont Gym just because we have such an advantage, but when we have it full of fans, the girls thrive off that energy and it really does make a difference,” Hutchins said.

On the season, the team averages 13.53 kills per set, 2.83 digs per set and 2.21 blocks per set. The team’s success also includes a .253 hitting percentage.

Outside hitter Kristina Groves averaged 3.79 kills and 2.83 digs per set this season. She earned Women’s Volleyball Player of the Week for the first time since Kyle Atherstone on Sept. 22, 2008.

“It’s always exciting when there’s a turnout,” Groves said. “It’s nice to have the support of fans, and I hope it’s entertaining for them to watch.”

Middle blocker Jennifer Keddy is the team’s top blocker with 1.07 blocks per set. She averages 2.83 kills and hitting .377 this season.

“There’s a better energy seeing everyone in the crowd,” Keddy said. “It helps us come together as a team.”

The team returns to Mont Gym Friday to host Cal State Northridge in a Big West Conference match at 7 p.m.