Cal Poly received a 'B-' on GreenReportCard.org, a website that rates the environmental activities of colleges. It received 'A' in administration, climate change and energy, student involvement and transportation, 'B-' in food and recycling, green building and endowment transparency, and a 'C' in investment priorities.

'We're going in the right direction'

Cal Poly is taking steps toward environmental sustainability with new programs

Alicia Freeman
ALICIAFREEMAN.MAS@gmail.com

With greenhouse gases and global warming peaking over the horizon, Cal Poly's environmental sustainability groups push for changes in the way students and others engage environmentally.

The Center for Sustainability in Engineering (CSiE), "whose business is the innovation of and management of technology to provide new and creative solutions in the global community's quest for sustainable solutions," according to their website, aims to get Cal Poly engineers involved in environmental sustainability.

Linda Vanaupa, co-director of CSiE, also said sustainability is a goal of CSiE. "Myself and other colleagues continue to pursue the questions and issues in sustainability," Vanaupa said. "For me, it is not limited to environmental sustainability, it includes the question of social equity, which is of course linked to environmental sustainability and economic sufficiency and well-being."

Vanaupa said CSiE does this with the group Sino-US Strategic Alliance for Innovation (SUSTAIN), which partners with Tongji University in Shanghai, China. Stanford University and the China-US Center for Sustainable Development to address increasing global threats to living systems, national calls for education reform and dwindling economic resources, according to their two websites. SUSTAIN is currently working on an effort in San Luis Obispo, SUSTAIN-SLO, to get a diverse array of Cal Poly majors working toward a new way of teaching environmental sustainability with new courses and projects, such as an effort to make a sustainable food system. SUSTAIN-SLO is set to start next quarter.

Another campus group aiming for environmental sustainability is the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CA-FES) Center for Sustainability, which was recently recognized in February 2010. Hunter Francis, the director for CA-FES Center for Sustainability, said the college is currently working on changing curriculum to gear it more toward sustainability, managing the operations of Cal Poly's vast amount of land and educating students and the community on ecosystems services such as composting.

Francis said students who want to be more environmentally conscious should "educate themselves on the impact of their decisions ... whether it's food or transportation."

"Food is a great place to start," Francis said. "We all eat every day. Learning where your food comes from is (a importance)."

The work these groups put in to make Cal Poly and San Luis Obispo more sustainable is paying off as Cal Poly received a 'B-' on GreenReportCard.org, a website that rates the environmental activities of colleges throughout the US and Canada. This is the highest score among all of the building success and all aspects of disaster reduction," Siembieda said. Once the building is up, Cal Poly faculty, along with faculty from Virginia Tech and other universities, will plan the curriculum. The program will cover all aspects of safe construction from brick laying to technical design.

The program is designed to benefit Haitian students and citizens, said the director of Virginia Tech's part in the program, Fred Krimgold. "One of its primary functions will be to ensure that reconstruction and new building in Haiti is safe," Krimgold said.

By teaching Haitians earthquake-safe building fundamentals and design, Cal Poly will "help Haitians rebuild their own buildings and own communities," Siembieda said.

Like most of the country, the State University of Haiti was devastated by last year's earthquake. "The university itself lost virtually all its buildings in Port-au-Prince," Krimgold said.

The State University of Haiti is currently working on rebuilding its disaster mitigation will be offered.

Cal Poly professor of city and regional planning William Siembieda is in charge of organizing faculty support for the program. He was asked to lead the charge by Thomas Jones, dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, because of Siembieda's experience in disaster recovery and planning.

Siembieda said he is passionate about how the facility in Haiti will aid the people there. "In this building we're going to train Haitians in all aspects of environmental sustainability and economic sufficiency and well-being."
Environment

continued from page 1

California State Universities. They received 'A's in the categories food and recycling, green building and endowment transparency and a 'C' in investment priorities. Yet, Poly received an 'A' in the other categories (administration, climate change and energy, student involvement, and transportation), except for shareholder engagement, which Cal Poly was not applicable.

Francis said he felt Cal Poly has been using better building practices than Cal Poly Canyon Village, when first constructed, received a LEED Gold certification for "meeting required standards in sustainable building according to the U.S. Green Building Council ... by (earning) 42 of the required 39 to 51 points to earn designation," according to a press release.

Even so, Francis said there is still work to be done. "On the food realm, I think we can do a better job of choosing organic foods so students have a choice," Francis said. Though Cal Poly received an 'A' in student involvement, Wynn Calder, the director of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future (USLF), said students can change many of their habits to become more environmentally responsible. "In my experience, students, faculty and staff can all do quite a lot every day to conserve energy and water," Calder said. "It is important to stress that the big challenge we face is getting people to make an effort to take shorter showers at lower heat levels."

Calder said students should start reducing use of disposable materials, recycle as much as possible, drive less by carpooling and taking public transportation, turn off lights, computers, printers and other electronic devices when rooms are unoccupied, overnight and on weekends.

Calder also said to save energy, mini-fridges and space heaters should be avoided, as well as non-energy efficient electronics, and students should make an effort to install solar panels. "I think we're going in the right direction," Francis said.

Students, faculty and staff can all do quite a lot every day to conserve energy and water.

--Wynn Calder
Director of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future

Laughs and leisure

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The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will hold two public meetings this month with Diablo Canyon Power Plant owner Pacific Gas & Electric Co. (PG&E) in San Luis Obispo. The meetings will cover issues related to the operation of the nuclear power plant, and its possible license extension, according to NRC spokesperson Victor Dricks.

The first meeting was yesterday at 7 p.m. at the Embassy Suites.

Prior to the meeting, Dricks said officials from PG&E were scheduled to present the results of an analysis completed with the U.S. Geological Survey on a fault discovered in 2008. The fault is located about a half-mile off the shore from the plant and is known as the Shoreline Fault.

"PG&E as our licensee is required to maintain a long-term seismic program (LTSP) and analyze any new information that comes to light that could have an impact on the plant," Dricks said. Other faults discussed in the analysis are the Hosgri, Los Osos and San Luis Bay, none of which pose seismic threat to the power plant, according to PG&E spokesperson Kory Raftery.

"(The study) found all those faults fell within safety margins," Raftery said. "Diablo Canyon was constructed to withstand much more movement than those faults can produce."

Raftery said seismic studies of the region will continue because it is a long-term program that will continue until the plant closes, and as a nuclear facility, it prides itself in its transparency about safety to the public.

Therefore, the meeting was formatted so information from the report was given in detail by PG&E, followed by the NRC asking questions and then the public asking questions.

The second meeting will be Jan. 27 at the Courtyard by Marriott in San Luis Obispo to discuss the proposed license extension of the two Diablo Canyon reactors, Units 1 and 2.

PG&E began the license extension process for both units in November 2009. The current operating licenses will expire in 2024 and 2025, respectively. If licenses are extended, both units will operate for 20 additional years.

"The license extension is a pretty long process," Raftery said. "One step is going over safety, and that's what will happen at this meeting."

Dricks said he will be attending the second meeting on behalf of the NRC, where they will "verify PG&E has programs in place to manage affects on aging of plant systems, structures and components for an additional 20 years beyond the current expiration dates," he said.

When looking at the impact Diablo Canyon has on the energy production in California, some say it may be in the best interest to support the license extension.

At any given time, the two reactors produce about 2,300 megawatts of energy, provide 10 percent of the state's energy and roughly 20 percent of PG&E's energy mix, Raftery said.

This is enough power to provide nearly three million central and northern California homes and businesses with energy. The energy is a good base of clean, renewable energy, and it doesn't emit greenhouse gases as a by-product, Raftery said. When weighing the pros and cons of nuclear power, head of the natural resources management department Douglas Piirto said some proportion of our total energy needs to come from nuclear power if we're concerned about climate change.

"If the power doesn't come from Diablo Canyon, then it would have to come from coal or oil and then you would have to calculate the carbon admissions from the coal and oil," Piirto said. "The air pollution maybe doesn't look so bad now."

Piirto said the license extension makes sense in this case, and the real issues with power plants, in general, come from the disposal of nuclear waste. However, he said this is the federal government's fault because they require all nuclear waste to be stored on site.

"We are saddling the Central Coast with all the nuclear waste, when this court has allowed the nuclear plant to be here," Piirto said. "The federal government has let us down, and we need to get on this issue about what to do with nuclear waste."
Supreme Court supports background checks for government workers

David G. Savage
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

The Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the use of personal background checks for scientists and many thousands of others who work under government contracts, ruling that questions about drug use and other personal matters do not violate their privacy rights under the Constitution.

In a unanimous decision, the justices rejected a right-to-privacy claim brought by 28 veteran scientists and researchers who worked at NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) near Pasadena, Calif., making it clear they would not stand in the way when the government said it needed personal information on those who worked on billion-dollar federal projects.

However, despite the setback, privacy advocates were encouraged that the court agreed the Constitution "protects a privacy right" to personal information.

"This is good news and extremely important in the information age," said Marc Rotenberg, director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center in Washington.

"This is a constitutional victory for privacy, even though it was a loss for our clients," said Dan Stormer, the Pasadena lawyer who represented the JPL scientists.

Since 1953, the government has conducted background checks on all who seek civil service jobs. In the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, the Bush administration extended the required checks to include those at companies, colleges and think tanks who worked under government contracts.

The scientists said they had nothing to hide, held "low-risk" jobs and objected to answering personal questions about their private lives.

As part of the backgrounds checks, job seekers must fill out a personal questionnaire, and former employers and landlords are asked open-ended questions to see if anything troubling turned up.

Two years ago, the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled for the scientists and halted the checks, citing the "limitless nature of the private information the government now seeks."

The high court reversed that decision in NASA v. Nelson and ruled that backgrounds checks, long standard for federal civilian employees, were reasonable for government contract workers as well.

Writing for the court, Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. said the Constitution "protects a privacy right" and that background checks are standard for federal civilian employees, were reasonable for government contract workers as well.

Writing for the court, Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. said the Constitution "protects a privacy right" and that background checks are standard for federal civilian employees, were reasonable for government contract workers as well.

In the Sacramento case, he faulted the 9th Circuit for using "the harsh light of hindsight to cast doubt on a trial that now took place more than 15 years ago."
State

SACRAMENTO (MCT) — University of California leaders will need to make painful budget choices in coming months, including possibly shutting out some qualified students, administrators told UC regents Wednesday.

Gov. Jerry Brown proposed a $500 million cut for the 10-campus university system this month. Such a cut would require dramatic actions by UC, President Mark Yudof told the Board of Regents at its meeting in San Diego.

At some point soon, he added, the university may have to consider shutting out students who qualify for UC admission, an action never before taken by the university. UC accepts the top 12.5 percent of California high school graduates.

The discussion came a few months after regents approved an 8 percent tuition hike for next fall, the latest in a series of increases that have boosted tuition past the $11,000 mark.

SAN MATEO (MCT) — Cities across San Mateo County now spend three times as much on employee benefits as they did a decade ago, a taxpayer burden that has led to shuttered programs, reduced services and higher taxes, according to a report the county released Wednesday.

The cities' fiscal burden grew in the fiscal year that ended in June. Those increases in retirement and health benefit costs, which do not include services and higher taxes, according to a county auditor's report, resulted in a $11,000 mark.

The report estimates that $11,000 mark.

National

Pennsylvania (MCT) — A gas explosion in Northeast Philadelphia Tuesday night killed one gas company worker and sent six people to the hospital, three of whom were in critical condition, authorities said.

Executive Fire Chief Daniel Wil- liams said late Tuesday night that the body of a dead Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW) employee was found at the scene of the explosion.

The explosion occurred at about 8:30 p.m. Klise said a 12-inch gas main had exploded.

After the earlier explosion, firefighters and gas workers had cleared residents from homes in the area. Three were tests were trying to address the leak to the gas line.

Once the explosion occurred, Williams said, at least two homes and a PGW truck were set on fire, though firefighters extinguished those blaze.

Texas (MCT) — Lee Harvey Oswald's brother says he didn't know for three decades that a Fort Worth funeral director kept the original coffin that held Oswald's body and is asking a state judge to recover the proceeds from an auction of the coffin and other items last month.

Robert Edward Lee Oswald, 76, of Wichita Falls, Texas, sued Baumgardner Funeral Home, Allen S. Baumgardner Sr. and Nate D. Sanders Inc. on Friday. He alleges breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, invasion of privacy, gross negligence and mental anguish.

Robert Oswald says he bought the caskets in 1963 after his brother was gunned down by Jack Ruby in Dallas while in police custody on suspicion of assassinating President John F. Kennedy.

Iraq (MCT) — A car bomb leveled the headquar- ters of a local security force in Iraq's Diyala province on Wednesday, killing as many as 14 people. In a separate attack, a bomber wounded the deputy head of Diyala's provincial council and killed three others.

It was the third straight day of attacks around the country, most targeting places where Iraq's minor- ity Sunnis, once a bedrock of the country's insurgency, have decided to participate in government. On Monday, a bomber killed 66 people seeking jobs with the police in Ti- krit, the hometown of the lead- er Saddam Hussein. The day before, the Sunni governor of western An- bar province survived a bomb attack on his convoy.

Tunisia (MCT) — Tunisia's transitional government on Wednesday began to redress al- leged financial and political abuses of the deposed ruler and his family as a measure of calm returned to a country rolled less than a week ago by a popular uprising.

Newly sworn-in officials launched an investigation into the financial dealings of former Presi- dent Zine el-Abidine ben Ali, who fled the country Friday. They also have taken steps to address some of the human rights abuses during Ben Ali's 23-year reign, announcing the release of 1,800 political prisoners.

A provisional government that says it is dedicated to building a modern democracy promises free elections in six months.

The interim cabinet is scheduled to hold its first meeting Thursday, with bills offering general amnesty to people convicted of political crimes and to separate the state from political parties on the agenda, TAP reported.

International

Nicholas Riccardi

Los Angeles Times


The indictments are the first in an expected series against Loughner, 22, who could face the death penalty if convicted in the Jan. 8 events. Indict­ ments on his alleged slaying of a fed­ eral judge and another Giffords staffer could be issued in coming weeks. Fed­ eral prosecutors already filed charges on those killings last week but grand jury indictments would replace them.

"Today's charges are just the begin­ ning of our legal action," U.S. Attor­ ney Dennis Burke said in a statement. "We are working diligently to ensure that our investigation is thorough and that justice is done for the victims and their families."

Loughner's next court appearance is scheduled for Monday in Phoenix. The case was moved from Tucson because Loughner is accused of kill­ing the presiding judge of the federal court there, John Roll. All of Arizona's federal judges have recused them­selves from the case, which is being heard by a California judge.

"Today's charges arc just the begin­ ning of our legal action," U.S. Attor­ ney Dennis Burke said in a statement. "We are working diligently to ensure that our investigation is thorough and that justice is done for the victims and their families."

Loughner is expected to face charg­ es in both federal and state court. The indictments issued Wednesday carry a maximum sentence of life in prison, but he could face the death penalty for killing a judge.

In his statement, Burke noted that there is a process for determining whether prosecutors will seek the death penalty. "We are in the early stages of this ongoing investigation," Burke said. "We have made consid­ erable progress in a short period of time."

Wednesday's indictment is ex­ tremely rare, declaring: "On or about Jan. 8, 2011, at or near Tucson, in the district of Arizona, the defendant, Jared Lee Loughner, with the intent to kill, attempted to kill Gabrielle D. Giffords, a member of Congress."

It also charges him with trying to kill two of Giffords' aides, Ron­ ald S. Barber and Pamela K. Simon. Both were among the 13 wounded in the shooting at a shopping center in northwest Tucson, where Giffords was hosting a town hall meeting.

Another Giffords staffer, Gabriel Zimmerman, was killed in the ramp­ age. The others were Roll, Dorwin Stoddard, Dorothy Miller, Phyllis Schek and Christina-Taylor Greene, 9.
Police security will increase for new World Trade Center at Ground Zero

Anthony M. DeStefano

Citing an enduring terror threat, New York Police Commissioner Ray Kelly revealed Tuesday that the new World Trade Center will be protected by the largest concentration of police officers anywhere in the city.

When the complex rising at Ground Zero is completed, the NYPD will station 673 officers in and around the site, far more than at any single police precinct.

The two largest precincts — the 75th in East New York, Brooklyn, and Midtown South in Manhattan — each have more than 400 police officers, according to the department. There are about 34,800 officers on the force.

"We cannot dismiss the level of threat against this site, which remains squarely in the terrorists' crosshairs," Kelly said as he addressed the state of his department at a Police Foundation forum.

Kelly said an initial contingent of officers at the trade center complex will be in place, working from a command center to provide security duties for the rebuilt site, which will include six towers, the plaza and a museum.

Port Authority police will remain responsible for the PATH rail transit hub at the site, although the NYPD will have access to the facility.

The Port Authority Tuesday had revised the plan envisioned for the PATH rail transit hub at the site, although the NYPD will have access to the facility.

The Port Authority Tuesday had no details on how many officers it will assign to the site.

Kelly's security concerns have already been factored into the design of 1,776-foot One World Trade Center building, once known as the Freedom Tower.

After the NYPD in 2004 pointed out vulnerabilities, the plan was revised to buttress the lower levels of the building against blasts, Kelly said.

The building core is shielded by thick concrete and steel, said Port Authority officials.

Kelly also disclosed Tuesday that certain streets around the site will allow unfettered access to pedestrians and bicyclists, while a "trusted access program" will allow vehicle entry for employees and visitors.

Kelly revealed Tuesday that the new trade center's full complement of 673 officers covering all shifts won't be reached until the project is finished.

"Their assignment will be years in the making, added incremental­ly, until the entire complex is finished and occupied," Browne said.

Browne said city is looking for space for a WTC command center in the area.

In his speech at the Regency Hotel, Kelly also raised more immediate concerns about international terrorism.

He noted Britain's heightening of its alert status to "severe" for airports and railroad stations this month.

"We have to be concerned about the potential for spillover here, especially given the ways in which travel and access to this country from abroad can be exploited by those who seek to do us harm," he said in a reference to visa waiver and asylum programs.
Vandenberg to launch 23-story rocket with spy satellite Thursday

W.J. Hennigan
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Perched in the fog-covered hills of Lompoc north of Santa Barbara sits a massive 23-story rocket ready to blast off from Vandenberg Air Force Base.

The three-engine Delta IV Heavy rocket, the tallest ever to be launched from the base, will be carrying a top-secret spy satellite for the U.S. government capable of snapping pictures so detailed it can shatter windows nearby.

"We got the word out to people, so they don't think it's an earthquake," said Lt. Ann K. Blodzin-ski, an Air Force spokeswoman. "Even if you don't see it, you're definitely going to feel it. It's significantly more powerful than our typical launches at Vandenberg."

The Air Force has closed nearby locations, such as Jalama Beach County Park, as a precaution. But that won't stop townspeople from coming out to see the show, said Lompoc Mayor John Linn. The base is the city's largest employer. "Everyone will be in their front yards for this one," he said, "Living here, you get used to launches. But this is different. This is the big kaboom.

About 10 seconds after the rocket hurtles toward the sky, a sound wave "as loud as a freight train" will sweep over Lompoc, a town of about 43,000, Linn said. "It'll rattle windows and make dogs bark, that's for sure."

Southern California residents eager to see the blastoff set for 1:08 p.m. can head to the beaches or the mountains for a glimpse. But it may be difficult to see because it's a daytime launch.

The Space Launch Complex 6 is known on base as "Slick Six." The launch pad built in 1969 was once intended to accommodate space shuttle launches, but they remained in Florida.

Since then, the launch pad has gone through many renovations. Most recently, Vandenberg spent $100 million on upgrades over three years.

The rocket was built by United Launch Alliance, a joint venture of Lockheed Martin Corp. and the Boeing Co., It is the nation's largest unmanned rocket.

Three hydrogen-fueled engines — each roughly the size of a semi-truck — provide 17 million horsepower, or the estimated equivalent of nearly 11 Hoover Dams.

When the engines roar to life Thursday, more than 350 Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne engineers and technicians will be watching. It took them five years to develop and four years to assemble the engines at the company's sprawling Canoga Park facility, said Steve Bolley, the company's vice president of launch vehicle and hypersonic systems.

"It's a very complex product," he said.

Because the launch is closer to home, many Rocketdyne employees will be able to attend the liftoff, Bolley said.

The rocket made its maiden flight in 2004 and is capable of lifting payloads of up to 24 tons into low Earth orbit. All four of the previous Delta IV Heavy launches took place at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Although little is known about what exactly the rocket will be lifting into space — because it is classified — analysts say it is probably a high-powered $1-billion spy satellite.

Their speculation is based on the customer being identified as the National Reconnaissance Office, the secretive federal umbrella agency that operates spy satellites.

While Cape Canaveral is the launch site for NASA's civilian space program, Vandenberg has been the site of military space projects for more than half a century.

The rocket is slated to be webcast beginning at 12:43 p.m. at the rocket launcher's website.

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Ladysmith Black Mambazo bring voices back to Cal Poly

Amber Kiwan
AMBER.EKMN.NOUPGMAIL.COM

Award-winning musical group Ladysmith Black Mambazo is bringing the spiritual songs and intricate harmonics of South Africa to the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center (PAC) on Jan. 22.

Assistant professor of ethnomusicology Kenneth Habib said he is looking forward to hosting the music group this weekend.

"It really is a privilege to have them here," Habib said. "They're a really exciting group, and the style of music is very fun. It's enriching."

The group gained international recognition when it contributed its unique sounds to musician Paul Simon's classic American style, collaborating on his 1986 album, "Graceland."

The group's performance at Cal Poly is one of many stops on its American tour, which will end in March on the East Coast.

Joseph Shabalala formed Ladysmith Black Mambazo in Durban, South Africa in the '60s. The first part of the name comes from Shabalala's hometown, Ladysmith. It is located in the KwaZulu-Natal province, which is home to the Zulu people — the largest ethnic group in South Africa. "Black" refers to oxen, the strongest farm animal, and "Mambazo" means as in Zulu, communicating that the group's musical strength will conquer any rivals it may have.

The group has performed twice at Cal Poly, most recently in 2005. Steven Lerian, director of Cal Poly Arts, said the group always receives a strong audience reaction. The previous two shows each sold more than 1,000 tickets.

"They are the kind of iconic group in their musical genre that can come back every five years or so," Lerian said.

The a cappella choral group is made up of nine members, each with perfectly complementary tenor, alto or bass voices. When the group first formed they were banned from local singing competitions because, according to their website, their voices were so polished and tight, it was unfair to other competitors.

Environmental management senior Missy Cochran is a self-proclaimed lover of world music and a fan of Ladysmith Black Mambazo.

"I like the fact that they're a cappella," she said. "They take some common songs and sing them in an African style. It's fun to hear popular music sung in an ethnic style."

Ladysmith Black Mambazo's music has religious undertones, stemming from Shabalala's conversion to Christianity in the '60s. But the group points out the music is not directed at any one religion; it can invoke emotion in listeners of all spiritual backgrounds.

The music, which Shabalala has called "classical Zulu singing," blends traditional South African sounds with the emotion and spirituality of Christian gospel music.

Lerian said Cal Poly Arts tries to bring cultural groups to Cal Poly's campus, which he said is otherwise relatively remote in terms of exposure to other cultures.

Shabalala often refers to Ladysmith Black Mambazo as a form of a mobile academy, teaching the world about South Africa. And for many Cal Poly students, this learning experience may be unlike any of their classes on campus.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo has received three Grammy Awards and collaborated with artists such as Stevie Wonder, Josh Groban and Sarah McLachlan. The group has performed for Pope John Paul II, the Queen of England and has shared the stage with Paul McCartney, Rod Stewart, Eric Clapton and Phil Collins.

"Songs from a Zulu Farm" is the group's newest album, which is scheduled for release on Jan. 25. It is part of a larger project, stemming from the members' desire to share a piece of South African culture that is separate from apartheid issues.

Professor Habib will lead a pre-performance lecture, scheduled for 7 p.m. the same night as the show. He said many topics will be covered, including the history of the group and the choral traditions and harmonies found in their style of music.

A general audience can learn something of South African musical culture and gain appreciation for vocal music and ranges of vocal expression," Habib said.

Ticket prices for Ladysmith Black Mambazo's performance start at $20.

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It's the best thing since sliced bread.
Instrumental duo El Ten Eleven hits SLO Brew, sans vocals

Kelly Cooper
KELLYCOOPER.MD@GMAIL.COM

Tonight, SLO Brewing Co. is in for a different kind of concert.

Instrumental indie rock duo El Ten Eleven will bring its combination of a double-neck guitar and electronic drums to the stage sans musical lyrics. So, when people aren't singing along at a concert, what are they doing?

Bassist Kristian Dunn said he's seen some pretty interesting reactions.

"Often times, if the crowd is crazy enough, they'll sing along with instrumental parts — and I love it," Dunn said. "When people sing along with instrumental parts, it's the ultimate compliment."

The Los Angeles-based group, comprised of Dunn and drummer Tim Fogarty, started layering and electronic drums to the stage, sans musical lyrics. So, when people aren't singing along at a concert, sans vocals.

"It definitely makes it much easier to schedule band practice," Dunn said.

Since the birth of the band, the two have released four albums; the most recent being "It's Still Like a Secret," which was released last November. Despite the success of their past albums, Dunn and Fogarty decided to take a different approach to recording the album.

Dunn said in the past they'd record an album and then tour after the release to promote it. Yet the two felt frustrated with that formula because, after an album was recorded and released, they couldn't make any changes.

"The songs would inevitably change as we played them on tour," Dunn said. "They would get more refined, and we ended up liking them better."

Thus, the formula for "It's Still Like a Secret" was backtracks — they wrote the songs as best they could, took them on tour, and came back and recorded the refined pieces. Dunn said sometimes they'd find that their songs would go through both dramatic and subtle changes — yet all were noticeable to Dunn and Fogarty.

"When we're in a practice room, we can feel like it's working really well; but thin you play in front of 200 people, it can feel completely different," Dunn said.

Another interesting route the band has taken is releasing its past few albums on the band's own record label, Fake Record Label. Dunn said the two were inspired by a do-it-yourself ethic, mainly because they knew what they wanted and couldn't find a label on the same page.

"Every single one of them — they just wouldn't really have brought to the table that we couldn't bring ourselves," Dunn said. "So it was like, well, what for?

And with ideas in mind to sign a few other bands to the label, Fake Record Label is holding out strong.

"We decided just to do it ourselves — we've done pretty damn well for ourselves," Dunn said.

Thus, without being under the umbrella of someone else's label — or any baggage from extra band members — El Ten Eleven has what any successful band ultimately wants: freedom. And this freedom clearly presents itself through the duo's experimental, yet melodic style.

Cal Poly graduate Ben Eckold, a listener for more than three years, said he's gained an appreciation for Dunn's looping riffs on top of riffs on guitar and bass.

"Just the back and forth between the drummer and guitarist is cool and cohesive musicianship," Eckold said.

Eckold said the music sounds similar to Ratatat but with less synthesizers and more guitar.

"It's really melodic and has almost hip-hop drum beats and really awesome guitar work," he said.

Electrical engineering sophomore Kristine Carreon said she is a fan because she feels the music is just well.

"It's really soothing, and it's cool all that good music only comes from two guys playing," Carreon said. "But it's not simple because it's only two guys, there's a lot going on."

The fact that the group is strictly instrumental has opened many doors. Dunn said their international recognition could be attributed to the absence of English lyrics.

"Not having English vocals may help that because, to people in Japan or the Philippines, it's just the music," Dunn said.

However, he said it's hard to know what people might think if they'd have more or less fans if they had vocals.

"I'm sure there's a lot of people that aren't into us because we don't have vocals," Dunn said. "But we're fine with that. Berthomieu didn't have vocals, and Miles Davis didn't have vocals."

Further, the band's unique musical aesthetic allows fans to use their music in mashups. Dunn said he takes this as a high compliment.

"It tickles me when I see those things," Dunn said. "I think it's great — I love hearing Lil' Wayne rapping over our music, it's so fun."

And every once in a while it works surprisingly well.

However fans are listening, the band has been on tour promoting the album to either sold out or packed audiences across the western region since mid-January. Dunn said they're feeling optimistic because of the numbers coming out to their gigs.

"It's going great because we've never played a lot of these places before," Dunn said. "Phoenix usually sucks but for us it was great."

Dunn said he hopes San Luis Obispo can continue the band's packed-house streak.

"If Phoenix can pull it off, then I'm sure SLO can too," Dunn said. "I have faith in your town."

Tickets for the all-ages show are available for $8 at the door, online at ticketer.com and Boo Boo Records. Doors open at 7 p.m.
Students, faculty collaborate for ‘We’re Bach in the Mission’

Victoria Billings
VICTORIA.BILLINGS.MP@GMAIL.COM

The Cal Poly Early Music Ensemble will present “We’re Bach in the Mission” in Mission San Luis Obispo on Jan. 22. The student performers will be joined by Cal Poly faculty members as well as professionals from Santa Barbara and Los Angeles as they play three pieces from the beginning of Bach’s career.

Thomas Davies, conductor of the ensemble, is organizing the concert with the conductor of the Cal Poly Symphony, David Arrivée. The two professors wanted students to have an opportunity to work side-by-side with professionals.

“This is what we wanted to mix faculty and students performing,” Arrivée said.

Davies also invited Paul Sherman, an oboist from Los Angeles, as well as professors Grey Brothers and Michael Shafran from Westmont College in Santa Barbara. Davies said this will give Cal Poly students an idea of how musicians work in the real world.

“They get to sit there and rub shoulders with professionals,” Davies said.

In previous Cal Poly concerts, faculty members have been featured soloists but have never performed as part of an ensemble with students.

Music junior Claire MacKenzie said she finds the idea of singing with her professors exciting.

“We’ve never been able to collaborate with our professors on the same level,” MacKenzie said. “It’s really an honor to have this opportunity.”

The Early Music Ensemble gets its name from the time period its pieces come from. They focus on music from the 16th and 17th century almost exclusively, and one of the biggest names from this time period is J.S. Bach.

“A lot of the music we sing is from the Baroque era and the Renaissance,” MacKenzie said. This time period appealed to Davies and Arrivée in particular when they were planning the concert.

“Tom and I have been wanting to do this for a long time,” Arrivée said. “We both love Baroque music.”

The concert will begin with an instrumental piece, Bach’s “Orchestral Suite in C Major,” a set of stylized dances performed by the Cal Poly Symphony and faculty guests. The ensemble and other choral groups will join for the cantata, “Aus der Tiefen rufe, Herr, zu dir” and the motet, “Ich Lass dich nicht,” a call-and-response piece in which the choir and orchestra will split into two parts.

Gurveer Deol, a student member of the ensemble, said the choral pieces are entirely in German, which can be a challenge to sing.

“The consonants can trip you up,” Deol said. “I feel like I’m spitting a lot.”

Although the choral pieces are in German, Davies encourages audience members not to be intimidated. He will give a brief history of each piece beforehand and translations of the choral numbers will be in the program.

He said he hopes the beauty of the arrangements will move people.

“You have to come ready to listen,” Davies said. “It’s not about visual. Shut your eyes for a minute or two and just listen to the music.”

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“They get to sit there and rub shoulders with professto...
Stomp the Plaza celebrates diversity at Cal Poly

Victoria Billings
VICTORIA.BILLINGS@GMAIL.COM

Cal Poly students can celebrate diversity today during Stomp the Plaza in the University Union Plaza.

The event is put on by Diversity CORE, which stands for "Clubs and Organizations Resources." Diversity CORE is a new campus organization that attempts to unify Cal Poly's many different cultural clubs and Greek organizations.

Emily Hong, a biological sciences and political science junior who helped start Diversity CORE, said Stomp the Plaza is the first event in a movement to bring together groups that celebrate diversity in culture, gender and sexual orientation.

"The goal of the event is so that students can celebrate with us diversity on this campus," Hong said. "You've been poked by The Mustang Daily

Poke them back at www.mustangdaily.net

Hey, we've got a real news feed too.

Emilie Hong
Biological sciences and political science junior

"The goal of the event is so that students can celebrate with us diversity on this campus," Hong said. "We're all here for the common cause," Buddan said.

The event will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Civil engineering junior and member of PCE Mariel Cuison said the event will pique Cal Poly students' interest in different cultures on campus.

"Honesty, I think that some people don't know that we have cultural clubs at Cal Poly," Cuison said.

"We're just happy that we're being allowed to do this on campus," Montenegro said. "It shows that we have some support."

Stomp the Plaza is one of the first cultural events of its kind to be held on campus, Montenegro said. MCC typically hosts CultureFest — a weekend event showcasing Cal Poly's cultural clubs — at the beginning of the year, but at an off-campus location.

"We're all here for the common cause," Buddan said.

Stomp the Plaza is basically a mini CultureFest on campus," Buddan said.

Hong, Buddan and Diversity CORE hope to make Stomp the Plaza an annual event that will introduce students to the variety of clubs and organizations, as well as unite the groups themselves.

"We would love for (students) to realize that diversity is present on this campus." — Emily Hong

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China surpassing the U.S. in education

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Chinese President Hu Jintao is coming to Washington amid much gnashing of teeth over whether Chinese power is growing as U.S. might wanes.

The Chinese military clearly feels empowered. Beijing has gotten more aggressive with Japan and Southeast Asian nations over claims to disputed territory. China has also failed to rein in its ally, nuclear-armed North Korea, whose bizarre behavior threatens the region.

More recently, before Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates arrived in Beijing last week in hopes of improving ties with Chinese military officials, China test-destroyed a stealth fighter jet, clearly proclaiming its new muscle.

Yet, if we are concerned about competition from China, we should look beyond Beijing's growing military — and economic — might. Far better to focus on China's progress, and our lag, in educating our future workforce. That's where the real Chinese challenge lies.

After all, despite China's military growth, its Asian overreach is pushing its neighbors to ally more closely with Washington. And despite the current recession, the U.S. economy is still powerful and innovative. But we are failing to produce the educated manpower we need to compete in a globalized world.

Consider this: In 2009, a representative sample of students from Shanghai outscored their counterparts from 65 countries in reading, math, and science in a respected test given by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, an organization of the world's 34 leading industrial powers. The United States scored 17th in reading, 29th in math, and 25th in science.

"We have to take this test and get up call," Secretary of Education Arne Duncan told the New York Times.

"True, there are problems in comparing a cross-section of 15-year-olds from China's most highly developed city, population 20 million, with broader samples from other entire countries, including the United States. Yet the results — which OECD administrators say they believe were legitimate — should still prove the Chinese culture of education that stresses long class-room hours and far less time spent on extracurricular activities. If the Chinese can produce these results in Shanghai, it's obvious they can reproduce them in many more cities in coming decades.

I saw the product of China's educational drive when I spoke with students in May on the campus of Beijing's Tsinghua University — the Chinese equivalent of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Among them was a future biologist, economist, journalist and film director.

What struck me was our shared confidence and optimism, and their awareness of just how far. They all spoke excellent English; some wanted to be journalists, journalist and engineer.

The Chinese model, which spurs an explosion of U.S. investment, education are even more dismal: About one-fourth of U.S. ninth graders fail to graduate, compared to six percent for schoolchildren in China. Four years down, Duncan says. Among the 34 OECD countries, only Mexico, Spain, Turkey and New Zealand have higher dropout rates than the United States does.

And when it comes to fluency in foreign languages — which is vital for a globally competitive workforce — the U.S. system is a loser. In Europe, students start learning foreign languages in kindergarten. As for China, some studies project it will soon have the largest number of English speakers in the world among its population, if India doesn't get there first.

Of course, the United States has many excellent public and private high schools, and still has the world's best universities. But economic pressures are driving our kids and stars to slash budgets for schools and colleges, just as China pours funds into its universities to make them world-class and draw the best talent from abroad.

And it gets worse. This year, says Duncan, China will award more doctorates in engineering and the sciences than any other country. Until this year, that distinction was held by the United States.

So, when Hu visits Washington, members of Congress should focus at least as much on China's brain power as on its military power. If they want to compete with Beijing, they should consider the funding of math, science, and language teaching, and of basic research at universities.

And they, along with President Obama, should come up with new ways to inspire students and parents about the value of education. Chinese parents and students revere education in a way that too many of our adults and young people no longer do.

"Fifty years later, our generation's Spunkin moment is back," President Obama said last month in North Carolina in December, referring to the Soviet Union's surprise 1957 launching of the Sputnik. It spurred an explosion of U.S. investment in math and science teaching. It is a theme he will probably stress in his State of the Union address.

Yet too few Americans remember Spunkin, which occurred when the country was still able to unite around common goals. And fewer still are familiar with those shocking OECD stats about Shanghai.

Those figures should jolt us. The nations with the best-educated workers will lead the global economy, China gets it. Obama gets it. But unless Congress and the rest of us get China, it will roll past us no matter what many misleaders build.

When it comes to fluency in foreign languages — which is vital for a globally competitive workforce — the U.S. is a loser.

Trudy Rubin
Philadelphia Inquirer columnist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As I was riding home I noticed that the flag in the U.S. was at half-mast this last week. I believe this is one of the best ways someone can pay respect to an individual who has passed away.

Whether the flag was lowered to honor the late Rep. E. Kennedy or to sympathize with the tragic shooting that occurred in Arizona, I'm proud that Cal Poly has recognized these deaths and made the simple yet awesomely powerful act of lowering the flag. When I see something like this I get a feeling down inside that makes me feel proud of the individual who knew and loved him or her so much.

I would like to point out that this is not the first time ever when events at Cal Poly have been mentioned or occurred however. On Dec. 8, 2010, Pfc. David Finch was killed in Iraq. When I traveled to Colorado over Christmas Break, many of the flags around the towns were at half-mast. The folks over there didn't know Finch on a personal level, but knew the power of keeping an individual and their family in their thoughts and prayers. I wish we here at Cal Poly could dedicate even just one day a month to those who have served for our country. You don't have to agree with the military's actions overseas, the big wigs here at home are the ones making the decisions for our troops. It wasn't their wish to be deployed overseas, they're just doing their service for their own country and it's least we can do to thank them for their services.

While I may not know Mr. Kennedy, Pfc. David Finch, or any of the victims involved with the shooting in Arizona, it's the least I can do to help show my respect to them on my bike ride home from school.

Chas Carlson, aerospace engineering senior

Dear Editor,

Thank you for including the article "Cal Poly professor dies" in Mustang Daily on Tuesday, Jan. 4. This is not only a tremendous loss to the modern languages and literature department, but to Cal Poly and global community as well. Martinez cared about every person who walked into his office and classroom. He is dearly loved and sincerely missed. His family and close friends are in my prayers.

Shannon Garner, liberal studies junior
The press needs more focus on real responsibilities

Edward Wasserman is Knight professor of journalism ethics at Washington and Lee University.

David Nelson died last week. He was the last surviving cast member of television's "Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet," which ran from 1952 to 1966 and, for Boomers, was the mother of all family sitcoms born in mid-century white suburbia — warm, prosperous, toothless, responsible.

In time the Nelsons gave way to the mutant households — the Coneheads, the Bundy, the Simpsons — who in turn yielded to the erasure domesticity of today's reality TV, of Jersey Shore and the Jackass franchise, where David's successors defly their parents and seek out spectacular indignity, and have a blast.

Today's TV generation isn't watching to distance themselves from the most extraordinary worldwide assault on official secrecy ever.

Why? Why would newsfolk who should revel in chipping away at government deceit do anything but rejoice at the flood of authentic documentation that WikiLeaks, withstanding enormous pressure, has directed to them — even deferring to their judgment as to what's wise to publish?

It's because for all their insurgent posturing, our news media finally covet approval, the wider the better, and abhor the label of irresponsible. And it's a mistake. There is indeed true irresponsibility, behavior that harms, but it's not the dark muttering of a grumpy 95-year-old woman in the twilight of a distinguished career.

And it's not insisting that the duty of the press is to ensure that publicly significant information be made public, even if secrecy claims must at times be ignored.

Real irresponsibility is when the press submits to the wisdom of the herd, by pandering official lies and enabling a deplorable administration to start a needless war, or by suddenly embracing, in unison, the notion that reining in public spending matters more than alleviating the suffering of millions of fellow citizens.

Protecting unpopular opponents instead of punishing it, defying authority instead of coddling up to it, refusing to march in lockstep regardless of governmental or popular pressure, these are the actions not of an irresponsible press, but of one that's doing its job.

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times on Monday, Jan. 17.

Most Americans are familiar with the ubiquitous poster by L.A.-based street artist Shepard Fairey of then-candidate Barack Obama looking off into the distance, pensive yet candidate Barack Obama looking at a National Press Club event in 2006. Fairey found the photo on Google, traced Obama from the original shot by Mannie Garcia and filled it in in beige, white and blue.

The rest is history. Obama was elected and became leader of the Free World, while Fairey got bogged down in years of litigation with the AP. The legal question was whether Fairey made "fair use" of the photograph and therefore wasn't bound by copyright restrictions.

Last week, the lawsuit came to a sudden end when Fairey and the AP announced that they'd reached a tentative settlement. But for the rest of us, tricky questions remain as to where to draw the line between art and theft.

"Fair use" is the legal concept that guides whether and when copied material may be reused by another creator. It has become especially important in an era when digital technology allows artists to, with the press of a few buttons, use other people's finished products as raw material for new works.

Federal law has set guidelines for determining what is or is not a fair use. Courts consider, for example, how much of the initial work was used, to what degree the original work was "transformed" in the subsequent work and whether the existence of the new work in effect reduces the potential earnings of the original work.

Our view is that although copyright laws are designed to protect copyright holders, they are also supposed to encourage creativity and innovation. Fairey made some clear mistakes — the biggest was that he apparently lied at the outset about having worked from Garcia's photograph — but in the end, we believe the work he created was substantially transformed from the initial image. The two were different enough that it's highly unlikely he negatively affected the market for the initial work.

The poster that resulted was no longer a straightforward news photograph of Obama, but a stylized, blue pencil drawing that conveys an entirely different feel, a differ- ent Obama and which mimics the propaganda posters of the mid-20th century.

Meanwhile, as part of the settlement, the AP and Fairey announced that not only aren't they going to battle this out indefinitely, they are planning to collaborate in the future. Thus, the adversaries — the multinational corporation and the street artist — become business partners.

Long live capitalism!
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NOW HIRING!!
Wrestling

continued from page 16

wrestling Boise State this year," Todd said. "In order to beat Boise that might be what we have to do. It's taking a gamble."

If the match starts at the 157 or 165-pound weight class and stays close until the Novachkovs' turn at the lower weights, it would not be surprising to see such a move.

Only one rematch factors into the dual against Oregon State, and it is heavyweight. Atticus Disney looks to avenge a close 4-1 loss to No. 12 Clayton Jack at the Las Vegas Invitational. The match marked Disney's first loss as a Mustang, but he said critical mental errors were a deciding factor.

"I think I got stuck in the moment and kinda froze," Disney said. "I wasn't being offensive and looking to score. I was wrestling not to lose instead of wrestling to win, and when you do that you're almost always going to get beat."

Disney said his wrestling strategy remains unchanged going into the match, but he looks to view the match through a different mindset this time.

"It's time to prove to him that the loss was a fluke," Disney said.

Although the only rematch occurs at heavyweight, the other conference matches will be just as intriguing.

Barrett Abel, a 157-pounder, has quietly racked up a 18-7 record in his first year as a Mustang after transferring from UC Davis, but he will face one of his biggest tests so far against No. 2 Adam Hall of Boise State. Abel said he has faced Hall in previous seasons, which left him nursing knee injuries, something he recalls but does not fear.

"If anything, I know I can be competitive with him," Abel said. "I don't think you prepare any different. You prepare to beat the best guys all year long, so now the best guy is coming up, you don't change."

Steven Vasquez, one of the heroes in the Wyoming match, has a 18-4 record this year, but he faces 184-pounder Kirk Smith, another top-ranked Boise State wrestler.

Ryan DesRoches leads the Mustangs with a 24-5 record and boasts a top 20 ranking, and it appears he won't face a higher ranked opponent for the remainder of the season.

"My goal now is to go undefeated straight through NCAs and hope to get ranked in the top 12. I don't wrestle anybody now who's seeded above me, which is a bummer," DesRoches said after a tough loss against No. 6 Shane Ounef of Wyoming. Fortunately for DesRoches, he has only dropped one match against an unranked wrestler this season, and the last time he fell to an unranked wrestler in a dual meet was in 2008 against Kevin Wainscott of Oklahoma State.

"We want to prove that we can hang out with anybody," Disney said.

Perry focuses on winning, but he will also keep a keen eye on the mental toughness and grit of his team.

"We want to win on fight and heart, and if we lose, we want to lose fighting and we want to lose with heart," Perry said. "If they do that, we'll be happy."

Men's basketball hits the road for televised game

The Cal Poly men's basketball team hits the road this weekend to take on UC Riverside tonight and Cal State Northridge on Saturday for a game televised on FSN Prime Ticket. The Mustangs ended their three-game winning streak last week at home on Saturday to UC Irvine, 65-53. However, the team is still on pace to replicate the program best 5-2 start in conference play head coach Joe Callero strung together last season in his first year with the team.

To do so, they will have to win both games this weekend.
The Cal Poly wrestling team comes off one of its biggest wins this season against Wyoming only to face two more ranked programs away from home this weekend. The team enters the heat of its Pac-10 conference schedule with a dual against Intermar's No. 27 ranked Oregon State on Jan. 21 and No. 3 Boise State on Jan. 23.

The Broncos are one of the dominant teams in the Pac-10 and are going to be a factor in the NCAA Championships, giving Cal Poly a chance to see how it stacks up against the best in the nation. "Boise State is my dark-horse to win the NCAA Championships this year, and we've got to be ready to go against," co-head coach Mark Perry said.

No. 14 ranked Filip Nowicko tumbled down the rankings after an uncharacteristic loss to Wyoming's Tyler Cox, but the weekend offers redemption when he faces Oregon State's Current Drucker, ranked No. 11 in the nation, and Boise State's Andrew Hochraster, No. 2 in the nation.

Assistant coach Tyrel Todd said Nowicko will have one of the toughest matchups of anyone this weekend.

"It's always tough, as a senior, bouncing back from a loss like that," Todd said. "We're really hoping he'll show up to wrestle against Oregon State and compete to get a win, just for his confidence back."

Filip's brother, Boris, will also face ranked wrestlers, although both trail slightly behind him in the rankings. He will take on Levi Jones of Boise State on Jan. 23, a wrestler who split two matches against Filip last season.

Cal Poly coaches said they have debated the possibility of shifting their lineup against the Broncos in a close match. Josifting the match-ups could allow Filip to wrestle against Jones, who he has beaten, consequently pitting the Mustangs top ranked wrestler, Boris, against No. 3 Jason Chambers at 149-pounds.

"It would be, I guess, an unconventional way to go about," Todd said.

see Wrestling, page 15

A dream come true
Junior Burgos becomes Cal Poly's first drafted player in program history

Jeremy Goyhenetch
JEREMYGOYHENETCHI.MOSGMAIL.COM

Many players come through Cal Poly men's soccer program with dreams of playing after college and taking their game to the professional level. Former Cal Poly midfielder Junior Burgos turned that dream into a reality.

Burgos became the first player in Cal Poly's history to be selected to play in the MLS after he was drafted in the third round of last Thursday's Major League SuperDraft, 44th overall, by Toronto FC.

"Playing professionally was my dream as a little boy," Burgos said. "I started playing when I was 3, and the more I played, the more I realized I wanted to do this for the rest of my life."

As a part of the El Salvador Men's National Team player pool, Burgos had his first glimpse of the pros after being called up to play with the team on three different occasions.

After playing two seasons with San Jose State, Burgos first came to Cal Poly as a junior and made an immediate impact finishing second on the team in scoring for four goals in his first season as a Mustang.

Burgos finished his senior season leading the team with three assists and second with three goals, earning himself second team All-Big West honors.

Head coach Paul Holocher, who coached Burgos in each of his two seasons with Cal Poly, said he was proud of what Burgos has accomplished and was glad he was able to coach him along the way.

"We feel really great that we can be part of his development," Holocher said. "It's a credit to Junior, to his teammates and to the coaching staff, who put in a lot of hard work in; he deserves it. Hopefully what he learned here at Cal Poly was that, to be a top player, you have to have the right mentality, you have to have a good work ethic and you have to put the team first."

As he moves on in his career, Burgos said he will always remember the memories he made with the Cal Poly team. But one game will always stick out in his mind.

"Beating Santa Barbara in overtime on national television in front of 8,000 fans was one of the best feelings," Burgos said. "All the fans rushing the field, everyone was so happy, so excited. It is a memory I'll never forget."

Holocher said he hopes Burgos continues to develop into an even better player and continues to have the same success he did with Cal Poly.

"This is just a first step for Junior," Holocher said. "He's now got to go over there to Toronto and prove he can handle the rigors of being a professional day in and day out at the level of competition."

Burgos, along with 54 other collegiate seniors, was selected in early December by a panel of Division I coaches and MLS managers to participate in the Major League Soccer Player Combine. Players were divided into four teams, and each team played two matches between Jan. 7 and Jan. 11.

Burgos participated on team Jabulani and made the highlight reel in his team's 2-0 loss, recording a shot attempt on a free kick just outside of the penalty box.

Toronto FC, which averages 20,230 attendees per game, finished last season fifth of eight teams in the Eastern Conference with a 9-13-8 record.

Burgos said now, more than ever, he is motivated to work harder to make an impact as an MLS player.

"I think of all the hard work I've put in so far, but this is just the beginning of my career," Burgos said. "I'm going to work harder and focus a lot more to be even better."