Students marched from Dexter Lawn to the University Union on Feb. 15 chanting and carrying signs featuring slogans such as "Love knows no gender" and "If there's one thing I love more than one vagina, it's two vaginas."

I wanna hold your hand: Cal Poly LGBTQIA march crosses campus

Alicia Freeman
ALICIAFREEMAN.MED.MAIL.COM

"I think a big thing is it's the day after Valentine's Day, which is more of a heterosexual holiday," Reischl said. "It's just good for people to know not all couples are different genders." The marchers started to form at 11 a.m. just as students started to file out of classes. Once the group gathered, Alice Terz, a journalism sophomore, led the group through the pathway between Engineering West and the construction to the UU. The group even marched through The Avenue with various cheers, including "What do we want? Equality! When do we want it? Sineaday!"

Terz said she was originally scheduled to photograph the event, but when the megaphone got into her hands she felt empowered, yet nervous. "I kind of just put that aside and marched," Terz said. "If you are doing something impactful, you put aside your emotions."

"I kind of just put that aside and marched. If you are doing something impactful, you put aside your emotions."

--- Alice Terz, journalism sophomore

KCPR riding airwaves to mtvU radio competition

Karlee Prazak
KAARLEEPRAZEK.MAIL.COM

Cal Poly's student-run radio station, KCPR, is one of the top 10 final nominees for the mtvU 2011 College Radio Woodie, as announced on Feb. 15. First place will be awarded at the sixth annual mtvU Woodie Awards March 16.

"KCPR represents localism and diversity," Loving said. "That is something important to radio and music. I'm glad the students have been recognized in this way."

General manager of KCPR, Ted Andreas said being recognized for the mtvU Woodie has and will continue to give the station a way to reach and impact a larger audience.

"(If KCPR wins) it would be a louder way to spread our message," he said. "Our whole purpose is to be independent. We'll use this opportunity with mtvU to spread our message of independence." Andreas said independent music isn't something MTV stands for. Instead, it is corporation-based.

see Radio, page 2
same-sex couples must deal with.

"And for the most part, you can't do anything but ignore it, you know, and just not let it get to you," Ton said. "But it's really nice having some people going out and cheering and clapping for us."

Yet, Ton, who is marching for her senior year, said she understands march participants were nervous.

"I can see how for new people it could be really nerve-racking, especially going through The Avenue where there's so many people," Ton said.

Eric Davis, a liberal arts and engineering studies senior spoke at the end of the march, and said he wanted the right to hold his boyfriend's hand without ridicule, but was apprehensive about the march at first.

"I was a little nervous because I'd never done it before, but there was actually a lot of people applauding or showing support as we were walking by, which was kind of cool," Davis said. "Cal Poly doesn't tend to have many events like this, and I think it's a really good way to peacefully spread awareness and spread the message in a really good way."

Cami Thacher and Jaida White-mat, both theatre arts juniors, were bystanders to the march while promoting Fahrenheit, the Cal Poly theatre and dance department's upcoming musical.

Whitman said she was surprised by the march, but thought it was great.

"It was really empowering, it's the word I would use," Whitman said.

Thacher said she knew the event was happening and also thought it was great.

"I thought it was wonderful," Thacher said. "It was very positive. There were less people than I was expecting though."

Davis said he hoped there would be more people next year, hopefully three or four times as many.

"I just wish more people would show up next year," Davis said. "It was kind of a smaller group this year, which I think was because of the rain."

Yet, Reisch said she was happy with the turnout and said the march went really well.

Tersi said she hoped with this march, the stigma that same sex couples are "gross" to express affection for each other will lessen and bring more awareness to same sex couples.

"Love is love," Tersi said.

Radio

continued from page 1

helps that MTV is giving college radio stations like KCPR the chance to prove that it is more about the music than the corporation, he said.

"We do it because it's just about the music, and we're a music radio station," Andreas said. "KCPR is student-run. There is no class, no grade — it's all just DJs who volunteer. It's all on our own time. The only motivation is the love of music."

Andreas said KCPR hopes to use MTV's popularity and make a comeback after new technology killed the radio stars of the '70s and '80s.

"It's not that we aren't as good as we were in the '70s or '80s (when KCPR was more popular in terms of live listeners)," Andreas said. "It's just now people have XM Radio, iPods and stuff like that, so it's just becoming less popular."

However, KCPR was able to overcome the impact of new technologies to capture the attention of the mtvU staff. Andreas said one day the station received an email from mtvU saying KCPR had been nominated and to start collecting votes online.

The initial recognition from MTV was a result of KCPR's popularity due to its excellent chart system and music, Andreas said.

Charts are a way for the station to help promoters figure out which up-and-coming bands are popular. The program feeds KCPR about 100 to 200 CDs a week, which the DJs play and keep record of the most popular, and send that list back to the promoters.

These charts are paired with the DJs getting and playing new music to catch listeners' attention.

"One of the main reasons (that KCPR apart) is because we have always been known for our music," Andreas said. "Although listenership isn't as big, we have good charts and we know what's popular. We have DJs that are getting the new, good stuff out there."

In addition to the music, KCPR paired with a journalism class to start recording and airing one minute news clips throughout the day.

The station has done this in the past, but it now happens more frequently since news clips are submitted regularly. The partnership proves how hard the station is working to keep listeners engaged, Andreas said.

Such hard work and dedication, put in by the DJs and the executive staff, is what helped KCPR get this far in the top 10 of an original 50 college stations, Andreas said.

Among the other top 10 college radio stations are: WVUM (University of Miami - Florida), WUTK (University of Tennessee - Knoxville), WKNK (North Carolina State University), KTSW (Texas State University) and WFCB (Ithaca College).

WICB was the winner of the first College Radio Woodie in 2008, and general manager Rob Engelsman said it is because it operates in a very professional manner.

"We have an executive staff of 15 students, a programming department and a music department," Engelsman said.

Engelsman said bringing in the lesser-known bands helps establish legitimacy as a station, which is similar to the mindset held at KCPR.

"A lot of other stations are free form, (and) while that is great, it doesn't attract as many listeners," Engelsman said. "When we program, we try to bring in new artists and lesser-known bands."

This helped WICB win in 2008, and since then Engelsman said his station has made subtle changes, but has focused more on staying consistent to keep a strong listenership.

Winners of the award receive bragging rights and a trophy, which is made from a wooden log and stands 9 inches tall, with a railroad spike lodged into a crack in the base. It is equipped with a matching sleighhammer, which is decorated in gold leafing to match the spike, and is attached at the bottom by two hooks. The mtvU logo is burnt into the wood as the finishing touch.

This year, the awards will leave New York City for the first time to be held in Austin, Texas during the South by Southwest Music Festival. It will air on March 16 at 12 a.m. ET/PT on MTV, MTV2 and mtvU. Visit KCPR's website to find out more information on how to vote.

KCPR hires 10 to 15 new DJs at the beginning of each quarter.

Write a letter to the editor!

Send your letters to 2011wards@mustangdailyads@gmail.com. The author is at mustangdailyads@gmail.com.

I think it's a really good way to peacefully spread awareness and spread the message in a really good way.

— Eric Davis
Liberal arts and engineering studies senior

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Egyptian military calls for constitutional change

**Timothy M. Phelps**

**LOS ANGELES TIMES**

The Muslim Brotherhood announced Tuesday it would form a political party to run candidates for Egypt's parliament, while a committee of judges and legal scholars started work on amending the nation's constitution.

But the country's military rulers ordered the committee to complete work in less than two weeks, suggesting that constitutional changes in the short term would not be as extensive as many critics of the old system had hoped.

The Brotherhood, one of the oldest Islamic movements in the Middle East, has long been officially banned from Egyptian politics, though a committee was allowed to run as independent candidates for parliament. Brotherhood followers had held 20 percent of the parliamentary seats until former President Hosni Mubarak's party swept widely criticized elections last November.

An open vote would be the first real test of the movement's influence. Mubarak used the Brotherhood, which calls for a peaceful transition to a government based on Islamic law, as an excuse to justify his 29 years in power.

Mubarak used the Brotherhood anesthesiologically banned from Egyptian politics, had already promised to amend just the provisions the military wanted changed since Mubarak left office.

**STATE**

SACRAMENTO (MCT) — Before appointing him to a lucrative board post last month, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger gave former GOP state Sen. Roy Ashburn a brief job as his assistant.

The monthlong gig kept Ashburn from ever shipping a paycheck last year, serving as a bridge between the day he left the Legislature and his appointment to a $128,109-a-year job on the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board.

Payroll records show that Ashburn served Schwarzenegger briefly as an "assistant to the governor" in the Office of Planning and Research at an annual salary of $99,996, an increase of $4,905 over his senatorial salary. He earned $83,335 for one month of work.

"When Schwarzenegger named Ashburn to the appeals board post on the governor's last day in office, critics questioned whether the move was a reward for Ashburn backing of the Senate Republican caucus in supporting about $12 billion in temporary tax increases in 2009.

**LOS ANGELES (MCT) —** The judge handling the trial of Michael Jackson parked his private airplane at a regional airport in the South Bay.

A powerful sandstorm and a national religious holiday on Tuesday, meanwhile, quashed most of the labor protest in Cairo that has continued since Mubarak stepped down.

As Tahiri Square, the only signs of abnormality were military police marching a strong front in direct traffic, unlike the usually inefficient civilian police they replaced; a crowd circling a shiny to the "martyrs of the revolution," taking photographs of their pictures; and idle althusic teenagers and young people swaying up and painting.

On the promenade along the Nile, families and young people out enjoying the celebration of the prophet Muhammad's birthday stalled by the heavily guarded Ministry of Information, which just four days before had been the scene of a tense confrontation between thousands of protesters and the army that only ended when Mubarak's resignation was announced.

Earlier several hundred fire police officers gathered outside the Interior Ministry to demand back their jobs. Egypt Air, the government airline, cancelled numerous flights due to job actions and public transportation services had been reduced to almost nothing at the peak of the Egyptian tourist season. Bards were ordered to remain closed for the rest of the week.

**ILLINOIS (MCT) —** A day after a Chicago woman was accused in a lawsuit of striking and killing a man with her car while updating her Facebook page by cell phone, the woman's mother on Tuesday vehemently denied the allegations, saying that her daughter used the online site well before the crash occurred.

Rosario Rodriguez said her daughter, Arcelis Beas, pleaded that she needed to go to the gym as she sat in her car while waiting for it to warm up outside her boyfriend's home last Dec. 27. Beas struck Raymond Veloz about two miles from there, police said at the time.

The lawsuit, filed Monday in Cook County Circuit Court by Veloz's daughter, contradicted that Beas' Facebook update was posted at 7:54 a.m., the same time that Veloz's cell phone records showed a call being made to 911.

**NEW YORK (MCT) —** The New York Stock Exchange and Germany's largest stock exchange Deutsche Boerse agreed Tuesday to merge operations.

The boards of NYSE Euronext and Deutsche Boerse both vested Tuesday morning on the deal, which was leaked to the public last week.

Shareholders in the German company are set to hold a 60 percent stake in the merged firm, while NYSE Euronext shareholders will have a 40 percent stake. The new company will be incorporated in the Netherlands and have joint headquarters in Frankfurt and New York.

Though each company built its reputation as a place to exchange for stock trading, a majority of the revenue at the new company will come from other aspects of their operations.

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Obama's proposed budget could have big consequences for Californians

Michael Doyle
MCCALLUM NEWSSTAFF

 Californians would face some familiar looking budget cuts under the Obama administration spending plan announced to mixed reviews Monday.

The fiscal 2012 budget would reduce police grants, slash reimbursements for imprisoning criminal aliens and put some farmers on a modest financial diet. It would do little to explicitly help California dig itself out of its own budget problems.

While including money for flood-control projects in Sacramento and through the San Joaquin Valley, as well as such Democratic priorities as education, the administration’s $3.7 trillion budget proposal overall seems relatively austere for the state.

“There are substantial cuts in the president’s budget, which will trickle down and have an adverse impact on California,” said Mary Beth Sullivan, executive director of the nonpartisan California Institute for Federal Policy Research.

President Barack Obama’s proposed cuts, Sullivan added, may still be relatively less draconian for California than those proposed by House Republicans.

The budget proposal goes beyond dollars and cents. For example, the Obama budget includes language declaring that “a woman may breastfeed her child at any location in a federal building or on federal property.”

But the budget mostly talks about money, sometimes in politically dicey ways.

Obama’s budget, for instance, proposes cutting the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. This year, the program is providing $300 million to states for imprisoning illegal immigrants who have committed crimes.

Obama proposes $1.36 million for next year. California typically receives about one-third of the national total, for state prisons and county jails. Fresno County, for example, received $816,000 for incarcerating criminal aliens last year, while Sacramento County received $1.7 million. Stanislaus County $196,000, Merced County $174,000 and San Luis Obisp County $175,000.

In a similar vein, subsidized cotton, rice, wheat and corn growers in California’s Central Valley confront proposed cuts to those the administration calls “the wealthiest farmers.”

The proposal would block subsidies to growers with more than $500,000 in farm income; the current limit is $750,000.

“This represents a disproportionate cut in the safety net for farmers,” said Tim Johnson, president of the Sacramento-based California Rice Commission.

At the same time, Obama proposes keeping the Market Access Program at $200 million. The program subsidizes overseas advertising, most recently for such groups as the California Cling Peach Board, the California Walnut Commission and the California Table Grape Commission.

Some proposed cuts would directly affect California. For example, Obama wants to eliminate a $20 million air-quality grant that was written specifically to help Central Valley farmers retrofit their dirty diesel vehicles.

In other cases, the state would take a hit as a result of broader budget savings. Boeing Co. production plants in Southern California, for example, would feel the pinch from the administration’s proposal to save $2.5 billion by stopping production of the C-17 military transport.

The C-17 proposal will hit political turbulence, as support for the aircraft includes jobs-oriented California liberals like Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer as well as military hawks. The House Armed Services Committee is chaired by Southern California conservative Republican Howard “Buck” McKeon.

Other proposals would hit programs popular with Obama’s Democratic base, such as the Community Development Block Grant program, which would be cut 7.5 percent.

Many California cities would feel that cut. Last year, for instance, Fresno received about $12 million, Merced about $2 million, Modesto about $3.9 million and Sacramento about $10.7 million in block grant funding.

This week, the House will vote on a “continuing resolution” that would keep the federal government operating through fiscal 2011. The measure includes language to prevent money from being used to restore the San Joaquin River or to reduce Sa Joaquin River irrigation capacity, as well as an additional $1 million to fund other Folsom Dam modifications; $5 million for levee and channel improvements along South Sacramento streams; and $18 million to improve the safety of Success Dam on the Tule River east of Porterville.

The Obama budget includes money for the river restoration. Sen. Diane Feinstein, D-Calif., wrote the original San Joaquin River restoration bill.

Other California water projects generally make fewer waves.

The Obama budget includes $399,000 for Merced County streams; $1 million to raise Folsom Dam and boost its flood-control capacity, as well as an additional $21 million to fund other Folsom Dam modifications; $5 million for levee and channel improvements along South Sacramento streams; and $18 million to improve the safety of Success Dam on the Tule River east of Porterville.

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Going clubbing
Starting a club on campus proves to be a tricky process

Cal Poly has 277 chartered, active clubs on campus, but what does it take to start a club, and how difficult is it to gather members?

For students looking to start a club, the process is a little more work than some might originally think.

Michelle Crawford, the program coordinator for Associated Students, Inc. (ASI), said students cannot just say we want to become a club and then become a club," Crawford said. "But there is some work that needs to be done just to ensure that all clubs are using the Cal Poly name are doing so in the correct manner.

Also, club officers must have a 2.0 grade point average, which must be checked. After that, the paperwork is processed through both ASI and Student Life and Leadership. All recognition is actually done on behalf of clubs by Student Life and Leadership."

Crawford also said the process can get lengthy if students are not proactive about filling out the paperwork.

"If a club is really on it and Student Life is able to check grade point average and confirm the adviser's employment with the state, it could take a week and a half to two weeks," Crawford said.

Civil engineering junior Ariana Jarrell said SAMPE was originally an active club in the '90s that Jarrell, along with her officers and adviser, recently re-chartered.

"Let's say a club was active around the '80s, and then all the officers graduated and the club laid dormant for a while," Crawford said. "And then in the '90s, all of a sudden there are eight students who are interested. They can come in, and we can actually pull the bylaws for them. If that is the same philosophy and mission they would like to carry on, then

"I have to wait and do this Friday,'" Jarrell said.

"It took us a while to get everyone's signatures, get the bylaws passed, and taking a club that was inactive for so long and making it active," Jarrell said. "It was time consuming because I was doing it with all my other classes. If I had mid-terms, I had to be like, 'Okay, I have to wait and do this Friday.'"

After the paperwork is processed, club officers — including the president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and adviser — must sign a charter in order to be recognized. Then the officers must complete online training.

SAMPE was originally an active club in the '90s that Jarrell, along with her officers and adviser, recently re-chartered.

"If a club is really on it and Student Life is able to check grade point average and confirm the adviser's employment with the state, it could take a week and a half to two weeks," Crawford said.
Finding the right gear for your sex drive

What it comes down to is making sure everyone in the relationship is happy lest it ends or one person cheats.

— Caitlyn Harkins
Sex columnist

Caitlyn Harkins is an English sophomore, Mustang Daily copy editor and sex columnist.

We're college students. The perception of us in media and popular culture is we are sex-crazy and reckless with our partners. But is that true?

It is rarely acknowledged that there are stereotypes surrounding sex drive, gender and age. Although there are people who have minimal sex drives or are asexual. In a survey conducted by Ed Laumann, a professor of sociology at the University of Chicago, 17 percent of men showed a lack of interest in sex.

Whereas women are often shown running down advances, there are women who have stronger libidos than their partners.

These harmful stereotypes still exist though, instilling the concept that men who have minimal sex drives or are asexual. In a survey conducted by Ed Laumann, a professor of sociology at the University of Chicago, 17 percent of men showed a lack of interest in sex.

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Clubs

continued from page 6

they can actually pick up where that club left off, and they don't have to do this process."

Sam Cates, a business administration sophomore and president of the Cal Poly Motor Car Association (MCA), said he and vice president, Alex Robinson, came up with the club, which was chartered in November.

"Last year, my roommate, Alex, who is now my vice president, and

it would take drives together all over San Luis Obispo," Cates said. "There's lots of pretty roads to drive on and we figured there must be other students at Cal Poly who enjoy driving and, you know, buying cars. Or just are into cars, are just car enthusiasts."

Cates said the staff of ASI and Student Life and Leadership helped extensively with the chartering of his club and felt they helped make his vision a reality.

Crawford said club services wants to help new clubs flourish on campus.

"We have staff that are trained and dedicated to helping them through the process, and so if they're ever in question about what is going on, come sit down and talk to us," Crawford said. "If we need to sit down with them for an hour, we'll sit down with them for an hour to make sure there's no confusion because I think the most frustrating thing is for a club to get started on a process to find out that they've gone down the wrong path."

For new clubs, the paperwork is not the only problem; they must also gain members.

Jarrell said her club was able to get members because of her adviser, Elhady Elghandour, who is an engineering lecturer. He invited students from his classes to the club, which aims to compete in the bridge building competition at the SAMPE conference in Long Beach this May.

"First I thought it would be hard to get members, but Dr. Elghandour is a teacher and he sees so many students per day, so he has a lot of students he keeps in contact with," Jarrell said. "And he recommended, 'Hey, you should join this club.' And right now I have roughly 12 members."

Jarrell said gaining funding has also been a problem with her club.

"There's a huge market here for a car club," Cates said. "It's just people need to know who we are. You just take a stroll through Poly Canyon garage or Cerro Vista parking lot, and you kind of know the car enthusiasts: nice BMWs and Mercedes and things like that."

Crawford said some clubs just have fewer members than others and you kind of know the car enthusiasts.

"A lot of times we find groups that are socially based, so they have already built that in, so they start having club meetings and their membership grows quickly," she said. "Some clubs can be in existence for years and always keep a membership of 10 or 20 people. Then, we have clubs with 500 members."

With business cards, a Facebook and a website, Cates' car club shows perseverance. Cates said he hopes to have memorabilia soon, including t-shirts, license plate frames and stickers.

Jarrell said she has not yet decided when general meetings will be held and has only a Facebook group for her club. She also said she has yet to find a secretary.

"I've had a hard time finding a secretary. I think because there are a lot of boys in engineering and they feel like a secretary is a girl's job," Jarrell said.

The new and very different clubs aim to go to Cal Poly's upcoming Open House in April to introduce their respective clubs to the public and years for new members.

Jarrell said she wants her club to be a supplement to school as members can come on their own time and learn about building bridges and other SAMPE activities.

"I just want it to be something that's fun, something that's a supplement to school," Jarrell said. "Definitely school comes first. We all organize it around our own time. It's really just when everyone can make it."

Cates said he wants a refuge for car guys and gals to talk and learn about cars. "Car guys and gals are kind of a unique breed," Cates said. "When you get going with somebody and talk cars, you can get going for hours."

Crawford said new clubs like Jarrell's and Cates' should put themselves out there in order to get the new member diversity they hope for.

"I think that people will go on the ASI website and will look at the club directory and look up clubs," she said. "But for them to want to participate we always encourage clubs to put themselves out there, make flyers, post on Facebook, do whatever you can so people can learn about you."
Republicans support Obama's handling of Egypt

Dick Polman is a columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Hey, check out some of the nice things that people have said lately about Barack Obama:

"The president, I think, is handling this (Egypt) situation well, under the most difficult kind of circumstances." —Donald Trump, Republican presidential candidate

"I really have no fault with the president, Obama, the way he's handled this process." —Former President George W. Bush

"We ought to speak as one voice during this crisis. We have one president." —Rep. John Boehner, GOP House leader

So say four top-tier Republicans —Sen. John McCain, Sen. Lindsey Graham, House Speaker John Boehner, and Senate GOP leader Mitch McConnell. It's particularly jarring to hear McConnell say that we're united behind one president, given that his stated top priority is to topple Obama.

Even Warren Kristo, arguably the king of conservative punditry, is advising his brethren to cut Obama some slack: "Reasonable people will differ in their analyses of rapidly changing circumstances half a world away —a fact that should make us somewhat tolerant of the Obama administration's own stumbles."

Normally, Republicans would relish the opportunity to skewer a Democratic president who's immersed in a foreign crisis, if only to stoke the old stereotype about how Democrats are soft and naive on the world stage. Yet with the exception of a few predictable complainers (Sarah Palin and Newt Gingrich), most Republicans have been mute or passively supportive. What's up with this? How come so many owed Obama feet seem to be channeling Arthur Vandenberg, the influential Republican senator who insisted in the last 1940s that "politics stops at the water's edge?"

The cynical answer: Obama's domestic crises are perfectly content to eviscerate a bipartisan spirit today (swinging voters like bipartisanship), knowing full well that if events go sour in Egypt, they can always blame Obama tomorrow.

Substantive answer, Part One: The caring and feeding of Hosni Mubarak, an ally who played nice with Israel and provided regional stability, had been American policy since 1981. Every president from Reagan to Obama had given lip service to Egyptian democratic aspirations while doing business with Mubarak. George W. Bush talked a lot about fostering democracy in Egypt, but just three years ago he lauded Mubarak as a potential leader of "the freedom-of-justice movement." All told, America has spent roughly $60 billion to Egypt over the last 30 years; most of it goes to Mubarak's military, not to democracy promotion.

In other words, there's no way the GOP can whack Obama for 31 years of bipartisan complicity, or credibly claim to be the party most in sync with grassroots Egyptians. Substantive answer, Part Two: The conservative camp has been split internally since the Egypt story went global. Many of us even want to be in sync with the grass roots; they were fixated on bolstering Mubarak in the time of need. They said we owed the guy, big time. Mubarak had sustained a cold peace with Israel, he had aided our counterterrorism programs, and he was a lot of fun to keep the oil flowing.

Which is why potential presidential candidates Mike Huckabee and Mitt Romney, long-standing friends of the Mubarak dynasty, are constantly required to balance the nation's idealism (the promotion of democracy abroad) with its realism (breaking bread with useful bad guys). Obama's brief was no different. Edwards wrote, "The world is never easy. One wishes for more democracy, more freedom, more protection from abuse in all places where these rights are in short supply. But there are other considerations, and they necessar­ily impinge on the decision-making process."

It's laudable that Republi­can leaders have hung back while Obama pursues the best mix at the crux of historic change. And it would appear that realists require us to get in tune with grassroots Egyptian idealism. Perhaps we can artfully nudge a new Egypt toward a secular, inclusive democracy that could stabilize the region and act as a force for good. That strikes me as a worthy bigger-than-person pursuit. It would do us good as a nation to at least postpone the inevitable day when domestic politics cascades once more beyond the water's edge.

"The point is, Middle East poli­tics is far too complicated, and far too removed from our control, to afford us the luxury of certitude. Most Republicans have kept their powder dry — staying afloat, not getting out of Obama's cautious call for "an orderly and genuine transition"...largely because the future of Egypt seems unknowable. There's no percentage in taking a firm stance that might wind up looking bad down the road. Better to fold the complexities, and the domestic political risk, to Obama.

Democrats frequently get more candid once they leave office. Mick­key Edwards, a former Republican congressional writer, wrote about foreign policy in 2009, said all presidents are constantly required to balance the nation's idealism (the prom­otion of democracy abroad) with its realism (breaking bread with use­ful bad guys). Obama's brief was no different. Edwards wrote, "The world is never easy. One wishes for more democracy, more freedom, more protection from abuse in all places where these rights are in short supply. But there are other considerations, and they necessar­ily impinge on the decision-making process."

Normally, Republicans would relish the opportunity to skewer a Democratic president, immersed in a foreign crisis.

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Triathlon
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starts at 8 a.m., with sets of competitors beginning their laps around the lake.
Sprint-distance athletes swim 750 yards in Lopez Lake, while Olympic-distance athletes swim 1,500 meters. The first part of the swim is the hardest, Wiggins said.

"The first 100 meters of every race is always a battle," Wiggins said. "You get pushed under, you get elbowed in the face."

After the swim portion, athletes leave the water and head to the transition area, where they have set up their bikes. The bike course is 24.8 miles for the long-distance race and 12 miles for the shorter race.

Finally, the cyclists dismount and begin the foot portion of the race. The sprint course is 3.1 miles and the Olympic course is 6.2 miles in length.

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The race typically finishes around 1 or 2 p.m., Wiggins said.

"It's a long day but it's really rewarding," he said.

Braden probably knows best how rewarding finishing a triathlon is.

"I would be lost without doing that," Braden said. "It just wouldn't be an option."

When people show up to practice it's because they actually want to be there and that makes for a really great training environment.

— Hannah Tillman, Animal science senior

Cahn
continued from page 12

and with a bat in her hand."

Cahn's batting expertise set her apart to make her a well-rounded player that can help her team both defensively and offensively, Condon said.

"When I'm pitching, I feel like batting is my relaxation part," Cahn said.

"My plan that I can just swing the bat and hit as hard as I can — sometimes that isn't what you want to do — but when I get the chance, I really try to help the team as much as I can."

The best part is Cahn doesn't let her skill go to her head.

"The great thing about the team is that it's not just the Anna Cahn show," Condon said. "She has a great supporting cast. There isn't one superstar that makes or breaks us if we're on."

Luckily for Cahn, she has a team willing to bring 100 percent to the field, because when the season hit full swing last year, her pitching force slowed down.

In the 2010 season, freshman pitcher Rebecca Patton took the mound after a streak of losses plagued the team before, and into the first game of conference play. Patton was up for the challenge and split pitching time with Cahn in conference games.

But Condon doesn't see this playing-time trade off as a negative, in fact, it is the opposite.

"I think (Cahn and Patton) work well together," Condon said. "We don't want to solely rely on one (player). If they're on, great. If they're off, they need to be dealt with."

For now, Cahn is looking to get a running start to success during her final season.

"My coach said this year is my victory lap," Cahn said. "I told her, 'No, this isn't. It's my home stretch.' I just have to keep going hard every inning, every game, with every pitch. Balls out."
Anna Cahn: racking up K’s since grade school

Karee Prazak
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Cal Poly pitching sensation Anna Cahn takes the mound. She is a force to be reckoned with.

This has been true since she started playing travel softball at age 11 in her home town of Los Alamitos, Calif. From the mound, she helped lead the way to many "W's" for the 18-and-under team she played on. After one game in particular, her coach pulled her aside.

"He asked me, 'Do you hear what the other coach is yelling right now?'" Cahn said. "The (coach) was saying, 'How do you feel? You just got beat by a 12-year-old.'"

From that point on, a star was born. Despite the rapid success, she never let it get to her head. As a young player among 18-year-olds already committed to colleges, the other players influenced Cahn’s competitive nature, she said.

"I was so young and innocent," Cahn said. "I was this little Orange County girl, and I was playing with girls from places like South Torrance. These were some hard girls."

Cahn remained the innocent girl she was, a quality which probably stems from her upbringing in a devout Jewish household, her mother, Mary said. If Mary had not nudged Cahn in the right direction, she would’ve spent every waking moment on the field.

"By keeping her grounded, (her father and I) made sure she did well in school and her religious studies," Mary said.

In fact, Cahn even invited her travel team to her bat mitzvah, which Mary said took precedence over some weekend games.

"I remember I gave all (my teammates) invitations and told them it was in two weeks, but they were all, 'No, sorry, we want to go party.'"

Still, Cahn didn’t let this social faux pas phase her. She went on to become a starting pitcher for Cal Poly, bringing with her a few superstitions.

Krisen Cary, who was one of Cahn’s closest friends when they played together, said Cahn’s superstitions were rooted in her head.

"When she came in as a freshman, she had really long blonde hair and she always wore it in a long single braid," Cary said. "If she didn’t wear it, she felt like she was off."

Conversely, if you ask Cahn, she would say she is superstitious only to a degree. This is probably because her team helped her overcome some of her superstitions when they convinced Cahn to chop her locks. Cary said this helped get her out of her bubble which Cahn didn’t lose her sense of humor without her signature french braid, though.

To share her sense of humor, Cary said Cahn would show up to practice every day with a new You Tube video to show her teammates before practice.

"She would find the weirdest, craziest videos to share with all of us," Cary said.

And if Cahn was the only one to laugh, it wouldn’t matter.

"One quality I admire most about (Cahn) is that she really doesn’t care about appearances," Mary said. "She isn’t inhibited if people think she looks silly because she’s always laughing. She just likes to have fun."

Even though she lives by herself in a two-bedroom house, which serves as a hotel for her parents on game weekends, she has plenty of gators around the house to keep herself in good spirits.

"(Her house) looks like the home shopping network," Cary said. "She has a stationary bike from the ‘40s that she actually still works out on. And she has a foot-massager-vibrator thing that she’ll just put on up on the couch with and use for hours."

Cahn does need all the relaxation she can get. She is heading into her senior year, and her success thus far has landed her on the 2011 Amateur Softball Association Player of the Year Watch List.

"Going from Big West Pitcher of the Year (in 2009) to the player she is now just shows her versatility," head coach Jenny Condon said. "She is a factor in the circle to prove it’s NCAA worthy

Club Triathlon team tries to prove it’s NCAA worthy

Victoria Billings
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For Britanny Braden, triathlon is more than a sport: it’s a necessity. The nutrition senior makes triathlon a priority, working out at least 10 times per week to stay in shape. "It becomes really addicting," Braden said. "It’s a huge part of my life."

Braden has been running, biking and swimming with the Cal Poly Triathlon team since she joined as a sophomore, and took eighth place last year in the National Collegiate Triathlon Championships.

The team is one of the most popular club sports on campus, with more than 140 members. Club president and animal science senior Hannah Rouse said commitment level is entirely up to students, with membership ranging from elite members who work out frequently, to students who enjoy just one aspect of triathlon.

The team holds nine practices per week, and because all members are Cal Poly students, practice attendance depends on class schedules.

"When people do show up to practice it’s because they actually want to be there and that makes for a really great training environment," Tillman said.

This year, the NCAA is also monitoring college triathlon races because of USA Triathlon’s recent petitions to make women’s triathlon a Division I sport.

"The whole feeling of triathlon is a little bit different this year as opposed to last year because we have something to prove," Tillman said. "We pay our entire way, we receive priority registration in season and it would open the door to athletic scholarships. This would be good news for women who fit triathlon into their busy schedules right now, Tillman said."

"We, pay our entire way, we work around our school schedules, work just as hard to compete and compete in as many races as many, Tillman said."

In addition to working around busy school schedules, paying team expenses is another challenge for the team members. The team pays a fee for each race because of USA Triathlon’s triathlon a Division I sport.

"The whole feeling of triathlon is a little bit different this year as opposed to last year because we have something to prove," Tillman said. "We kind of felt it was our responsibility to start setting a new trend for sports events."

The team also plans to put a bigger focus on being environmentally conscious. The PA and lighting companys will be run by a solar-powered generator. The triathlon team is inviting Cal Poly’s green clubs as well as the Green Team to participate in a green expo, said journalism senior Kevin Rouse, who is the run course director.

"We’re college students and we’re definitely one of the more progressive groups on campus," Rouse said. "We kind of felt it was our responsibility to start setting a new trend for sports events."

As well as being the only collegiate race licensed by USA Triathlon, MTS also continues to draw larger crowds each year. The race is limited to 650 participants, and last year the limit was 360, the race director said.

The coming year, the team also plans to prove its NCAA worthy with more than 140 members.

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W e definitely the best run collegiate triathlon and I think people have noticed.

Hannah Tillman
 Orbital County