Bridging gap between homemade and factory

Ellery White
SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly's Steel Bridge Team will decide this month if "homemade" will be the recipe for success at this year's national collegiate competition.

The Steel Bridge Competition requires teams to build a 21-foot long bridge that can carry 2,500 pounds. The team is not purchasing pre-made parts for its bridge. Instead, the team is constructing all of the parts in its workshop.

"For the first time ever, the team is constructing a homemade bridge," civil engineering senior and project manager Lucas Hoffmann said.

The Steel Bridge Competition score is based on three factors. The judges score teams on how many people are involved in the bridge building, how long it takes to build the bridge and if the bridge can carry 2,500 pounds at any randomly chosen spot.

In previous competitions, Cal Poly's Steel Bridge Team did not finish as well as the team had hoped, said civil engineering senior and fabrication senior captain Riley Jones. In 2009, the team finished in 13th place in the nation. Last year, the team finished in 12th place.

During last year's national competition, the team saw another school use modified connectors in its bridge construction. Connectors are the pieces in the bridge that act as a bolt and nut, holding the different parts of the bridge together.

The other school manually filed off two opposite sides of the threading on the connectors, for easy and instant connections, rather than using valuable time to screw together the connectors.

"Connections are what will make or break your bridge in a competition," Hoffman said.

Unlike the other team that manually filed the threads from the file, the Mustang Daily benefits most from the new press because the color range is much greater and page count can be higher. Levenson said the press upgrade was undertaken exclusively for the journalism department. Paul Bittick, general manager of the Mustang Daily, approached Levenson more than a year ago about the prospect of improving the press production. As the possibility of robotics seeping into everyday life increases, the debate on the ethical boundaries of human and robot interactions arises.

"There are people using robots as nannies in Korea and some people see this as a cop-out by pawning off our duties on to machines," Lin said. "But there are also debates on how these interactions affect people psychologically."

Sullins said the world of robotics is advancing Sex robots are basically advanced sex toys but are they healthy?

— Patrick Lin
Director of the Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group

Printing now: new lab unveiled on campus

Victoria Zabel
VICTORIAZABEL.MPSOCIAL.COM

Though the lab was installed over the summer and has been used since then, the department took "Printing Week" — an annual event hosted by GrC in January — as an opportunity to dedicate and present the new facility, said Harvey Levenson, graphic communication department head and interim chair of the journalism department.

The new lab features an eight-unit Web publication press, and has enabled the printing facility to double page count and color capacity, Levenson said.

"We have a printing facility now that is second to none in an educational setting...it's the perfect embodiment of Cal Poly's "Learn by Doing" philosophy," Levenson said.

Sarah Nowlen has ample experience in this motto especially when it comes to the new press. Nowlen is the Web ofisa production manager for University Graphic Systems (UGS). Cal Poly's student-run printing facility.

"All the press to produce the Mustang Daily and any other jobs we get for newspaper-like publications," Nowlen said. "It's been an experience... the new press is similar to the old one, but definitely not the same."

At the beginning there was a learning curve as we tried to fine tune the press to suit our needs."

With help from professionals and department faculty, Nowlen said the press has been modified to perform efficiently. The Mustang Daily benefits from the new press because the color range is much greater and page count can be higher. Levenson said the press upgrade was undertaken exclusively for the journalism department. Paul Bittick, general manager of the Mustang Daily, approached Levenson more than a year ago about the prospect of improving the press production.

"If you run into the press and it doesn't work then you've got a problem," Bittick said. "But if you can actually start pulling out the pages that you want, that's a great thing."

"The GrC printing lab has been in use all quarter, but was presented to students and faculty during Printing Week in January. The lab will be used to print the Mustang Daily and other UGS projects.

"If you run into the press and it doesn't work then you've got a problem," Bittick said. "But if you can actually start pulling out the pages that you want, that's a great thing."

Although the press still needs to be fine tuned, Levenson said the press is now being used for the Mustang Daily and other UGS projects.
Bridge

continued from page 1

cnncctors, the team uses machines that de-thread the connectors to ex-
act measurements.

"Making our connectors, it's nev-
ver done in such a precise way," Jones said. "As Cal Poly students,
we are fortunate to be able to access
these machines to be able to do the
work we have been doing."
The team is using a CNC Lathe
Machine. A lathe is an electric tool
that rotates a piece on its axis along
with making symmetrical cuts.
The machine takes off the threaded
tracks in each connection, one by one.
The connectors are cut to have
metal on two opposite sides, one-
fourth part of the cylinder, leaving the
other two, opposite one-fourth
parts with their threading.
The result of shaving threads off
parts of the connectors makes snap-
parts with their threading.

"Making our connectors, it's nev-
er done in such a precise way," Jones said. "As Cal Poly students,
we are fortunate to be able to access
these machines to be able to do the
work we have been doing."

They attend a program over the
summer to begin analyzing the dif-
ferent structures of the bridge.
The design was finished by the first
week of October.

"The welding takes up a good 20
hours a week," Daniel Lister, a civil
engineering senior and welding cap-
tain, said.
The team uses 3-foot steel tubes.
Team members then weld seven steel
tubes to create the skeleton of the
bridge.

Both groups have boundaries,
whereas the runners can't be too
close to the building area and the
builders can't be near where the
dismissals are taking place.

The regional competition is on
March 23 through March 26 at Cal State University, Los
Angeles.

This year the team is looking to
place nationally by doing its own
welds, making its own connec-
tions and spending more than 30
hours a week on the project, Hoff-
fman said.

"We want to begin building the
program this year," Hoffman said.

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### The real fee breakdown for Cal Poly students

Sarah Sterrelli is the ASI President. Sterrelli along with Kostas McDade and Nick Donato wrote the State of the Students column.

Over the course of winter quarter, student government hosted Advocacy, Outreach and Accountability events titled "Donus for Your Dollars". The University Union (UU) Hour, in order to obtain your concerns and respond accordingly.

Since we created, the ASI Board of Directors approves the operating ASI budget for the following fiscal year, and specifically, the budget committee reviews the ins and outs of the budget proposal before the board passes it.

To ensure the student voice is represented accurately, the budget committee is chaired by the vice chair of the board, Laurel Hill, and is comprised of five students from the board as well as the University Union Advisory Board.

Three additional ASI staff members serve on the committee, one being the ASI director of business services, in order to speak on the budget committee.

This year, the ASI Fee is $92.57 and funds these areas: club funding, club services and programs (Epicenter), ASI programs and ASI events, ASI children’s programs, Poly Escapes, Chamash Challenge, Rose Float (contract with the state), athletic scholarships and student community services.

Completely separate from the ASI fee is the UUE fee, which is $133.13 and funds these additional areas: Craft Center, Union Facilities Operations, Audio-Visual, UU Welcome and Design Services, Custodial Services, Maintenance, Utilities, Intramural Sports & Tournament Operations, Open Recreation, Aquatics, Personal Training, Informal Fitness, Recreation Center Operations and the Sports Complex.

We aim to address a state budget crisis, many students have asked why the ASI/UUE fees are not being used to fund construction delays, hiring faculty or purchasing new lab equipment. Under Title V of the California Education Code, the fee for the Student Body Fee can only be used for non-academic programs. Additionally, ASI must have an increase to the UU fee to fund the Recreation Center planning and design was funded through revenue from revenue-sharing agreements, and the construction is being funded from bonds that will be repaid from future student fees. When the renovated Recreation Center opens in January 2012*, the UUE fee will increase by $65 per quarter per student. Specifically, this fee will help pay for the construction, operation and maintenance of the renovated facility.

While the Recreation Center will be closed from June 2011 to January 2012, students will not pay the $65 increase but will pay the previous fee rate in place. Since the ASI and UUE fee are mandatory, ASI can continue to provide diverse programs to enrich the student life at Cal Poly and be every student’s connection to the ultimate college experience.

Subject to change due to unforeseen construction delays.

### Recent study discovers additional threats from Type 2 diabetes

By Thomas H. Maugh II

LOS ANGELES — People with Type 2 diabetes are also more likely to die from kidney disease, liver disease, pneumonia, infectious diseases and even intentional self-harm, according to an international study of more than 820,000 people published in the New England Journal of Medicine. The study, which was conducted by the Emerging Risk Factors Collaboration, based at the University of Cambridge in England.

The data are especially concerning in light of the rapidly expanding incidence of diabetes in the United States, fueled by the growing spread of obesity. An estimated 25.8 million Americans now have diabetes, 10 million more than the last ten years ago.

Researchers knew that diabetes could shorten lifespan, “but this really says how many years of life may be lost to the health problems caused by diabetes,” said Dr. David M. Kendall, chief scientific officer and medical officer of the American Diabetes Association, who was not involved in the study.

The report also shows that those who have what is known as pre-diabetes — in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal, but not high enough to be classified as diabetes — are at risk for many of the same causes of death, he noted. An estimated 79 million Americans have pre-diabetes.

“Diabetes is often seen as a condition rather than an illness, something you can live with,” Kendall said. “But in fact, this shows that it is associated with a significant risk of both morbidity and mortality.”

The Emerging Risk Factors Collaboration is an international group of researchers that has previously studied the association of cholesterol, lipids and inflammation-promoting proteins in the blood with cardiovascular disease and other causes of death. In 2009, the group decided to extend the study to diabetes, focusing on 97 large studies that tracked subjects for an average of 13.5 years and had adequate information about fasting blood glucose levels, the diagnosis of diabetes and other medical conditions. None of the subjects had cardiovascular or other diseases at the beginning of the study.

The group reported that diabetics were 3.2 times as likely as non-diabetics to die from cardiovascular disease during the course of the study and 25 percent more likely to die from cancer. Diabetes was moderately associated with death from cancers of the liver, pancreas, ovary, colon and rectum, lung, bladder and breast. Diabetics were, however, less likely to die from prostate cancer.

Those findings are in general agreement with a recent statement issued jointly by the American Diabetes Association and the American Cancer Society. That document noted that it is unclear whether the cancers are caused directly by the high blood glucose levels or whether both diabetes and cancer are a result of underlying biological factors such as an inability of the body to properly respond to insulin or overproduction of insulin.

That document also noted there is not enough evidence about whether Type 1 diabetes, in which the pancreas stops producing insulin, is linked to an increased risk of cancer.

According to the new study, diabetics are also about three times as likely to die of kidney disease, 2.4 times as likely to die of infectious diseases (including pneumonia), 2.3 times as likely to die of liver disease, 20 percent more likely to die of heart disease, 33 percent more likely to die of renal disorders, 58 percent more likely to die of mental disorders, 58 percent more likely to suffer from intentional self-harm and 27 percent more likely to die of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

“Surprising that everything under the sun was associated with diabetes,” said Dr. Spyros Merits, an endocrinologist at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, who was not involved in the research. It is clear there is a link between diabetes and cardiovascular disease, he said, “but when it comes to non-cardiovascular disease, it’s a little more difficult to understand why there is an association.”

For some of the causes of death, reduced immune function and impaired defense systems of the body are clearly playing a role, he added. But for others, “more studies are needed to somehow make these associations plausible.”

Diabetes is often seen as something you can live with. This shows that it is associated with a significant risk of both morbidity and mortality.

— Dr. David M. Kendall

Chief scientific officer and medical officer of the American Diabetes Association

### Still need a class? Finish it in 8 weeks for $78*

The following online classes are available from Allan Hancock College. Classes run March 21-May 20, 2011.

**All classes fulfill Cal Poly lower-division general education requirements.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cal Poly Course</th>
<th>AHC Equivalent</th>
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<tr>
<td>ANT 201 (CP GE D3)</td>
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<td>MATH 123</td>
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<td>ENGL 148 (CP GE A5)</td>
<td>ENGL 103</td>
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*For details, go to www.hancockcollege.edu, choose the Blue Class Schedule icon on the same page and then select “Spring 2011 Fast Track Term 4”.

Online registration is available now through March 24, 2011.
Anti-gay protests now legal at military funerals

David G. Savage
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

Anti-gay protesters who picket the funerals of U.S. soldiers are protected by the Supreme Court from lawsuits brought by the families of the soldiers. The high court rejected a challenge to this 2010 decision in Snyder v. Phelps. In a peaceful and in public, the protesters have a constitutional right to demonstrate against the soldiers' deaths.

In a decision that is renewing hopes for conquering AIDS, researchers have achieved a precise alteration of a cell's genome. The engineered cells not only defied HIV infection in all nine patients who received the cells but also multiplied dramatically, which injured a local contractor. But the court ruled that the protest is protected by the First Amendment, making it legal under the high court's decision in Snyder v. Phelps.

TheFDA is concerned that medical problems with the drugs pose a health threat. Some of the targeted drugs are labeled as suitable for infants and children, but they have not been proven safe and effective. The FDA issued a warning against using over-the-counter medicines to get them off the market because they have not been proven safe and effective.

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Word on the Street
What's something memorable you did or that happened to you this quarter?

"I started kickboxing — I love it."  
— Meghan Bishop, agricultural business sophomore

"It was a pretty normal quarter for me — I do more exciting things in fall and spring quarter."  
— Anthony Lipscomb, computer engineering junior

"I got a new surfboard and my first 'B' on a college test."  
— Nick Theis, crop science freshman

"I drove on the wrong side of the road by accident — I was trying to rush."  
— Annabelle Sorensen, animal science freshman

"I made a breakthrough in some of my pretty tough classes."  
— Kelsey Miller, animal science senior

"I drove on the wrong side of the road by accident — I was trying to rush."  
— Alex Sorensen, animal science sophomore

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Irish Hilly, Junior, Sphinx, Adams, San Luis
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Mustang Village, Pacific Gardens, Western Market
College Housing, 1600 S Mission Rd, San Luis
Vallejos
Stafford Center, 6th St, University Center
Murray Village, 1st St, University Center

Farrell Smyth, UCOP/UC Merced Housing & SLO
Regional Admissions, Polytechnic & SLH
Fox News suspends contracts for Republicans who want to be president

Matea Gold
The Washington Bureau

The 2012 presidential campaign may not have officially kicked off yet, but the Fox News primary is already under way.

Under scrutiny for its employment of four potential GOP candidates, the top-rated cable news channel announced Wednesday that it had suspended the contracts of two contributors, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum, because they have indicated they are seriously considering White House bids.

At least two possible Republican candidates remain on the air at Fox News: former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, who has his own weekly show on the network.

"As soon as each of them shows some serious intention to form an exploratory committee, we would take the same action," said Dianne Brandi, the network's executive vice president of legal and business affairs.

Fox News' crowded bench of top Republican politicians speaks to how the network is viewed as a powerful platform to reach conservatives who will play a key role in the 2012 nominating contest. Palin in particular has used the network as her go-to forum, along with Facebook and Twitter. But the presence of potential candidates on its payroll presents the network with a bevy of legal and ethical questions about its independence. While there are no laws prohibiting federal candidates from being employed by a television network, the Federal Election Commission could view their time on the air as an in-kind contribution. The network also could be forced to provide equal air time to other White House hopefuls under Federal Communications Commission regulations.

"We can't have Speaker Gingrich on our payroll while he is in the midst of an exploratory committee to see if he's going to run for office," she said. "It's a clear conflict.

Gingrich is expected to announce Thursday in Atlanta that he is entering an exploratory phase to seriously consider a presidential bid.

As for Santorum, Brandi said he has indicated he plans to participate in Republican primary debates, "so that leads us to believe he is seriously considering running."

In a statement released Wednesday, Santorum said he intends "to continue my evaluation of a potential presidential run, and I will make an announcement on my final decision sometime in the coming months."

Fox News sent Gingrich and Santorum letters Tuesday night informing them of the suspension. The two have until May 1 to tell the network whether they plan to run, or their contracts will be officially terminated. Jumping in the race means walking away from lucrative contracts. Santorum has been making a little under $100,000 a year at Fox News in a three-year deal set to expire in 2013. Gingrich — who has worked as a contributor for the network since 1999 — was getting nearly $1 million a year as part of his latest two-year contract, which would have expired in 2013.

Huckabee received around $500,000 a year in a deal that goes through 2012, while Palin makes $1 million annually in a three-year agreement that extends through the end of 2012.
Government will stay open for two more weeks, but lawmakers still concerned

David Lightman
William Douglas
McClatchy Newspapers

While Wednesday's Senate vote assured that the federal government will have enough money to stay open through March 18, lawmakers and analysts expressed little confidence that a longer-term agreement on spending can be reached in time to avoid a shutdown.

Pressure began to mount on both sides to stick to their guns — from interest groups, which are running ads and holding rallies, and from both political parties, each eager to tar the other as fiscally irresponsible.

The Senate voted 91-9 Wednesday to fund the government through March 18 and to cut spending by $4 billion in that time. The House of Representatives approved the measure Tuesday, and President Barack Obama signed it into law later Wednesday.

Its passage satisfied no one, since it only postponed the partisan showdown.

After the vote, Obama said, "I'm pleased that Democrats and Republicans in Congress came together and passed a plan that will cut spending and keep the government running for the next two weeks. But we cannot keep doing business this way."

He called for talks to begin immediately among Republican and Democratic lawmakers, Vice President Joe Biden, White House chief of staff William Daley and Budget Director Jacob Lew.

"The immediate issue is what level of spending can be agreed on to keep the government running through Sept. 30, the end of the 2011 fiscal year, but the talks could expand beyond that.

"Sometime this spring, the government will hit its $14.3 trillion debt limit. Unless Congress raises it, Washington then will be unable to borrow. In addition, by Oct. 1, lawmakers will have to adopt a fiscal 2012 budget, at least a temporary one. Each deadline poses risks of a shutdown.

"The high-level talks are expected to include ideas for compromising on painful choices over taxes and entitlements, programs such as Social Security and Medicare whose benefits qualified people are legally entitled to receive.

"As far as we're concerned, everything is on the table," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

But reaching a bipartisan compromise — particularly in two weeks — will be very difficult, if not impossible.

"I think they will come up with some sort of compromise, but nobody knows how this will play out."

— Maya MacGuineas
President of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget

Democrats said that Republicans not only were taking a meat ax to needed spending, but also were failing to confront broader issues.

"All of the GOP's proposed spending cuts fall on only 12 percent of the budget, not on the programs that are causing federal deficits."

"Continuously passing short-term funding bills without addressing the long-term needs of the government is inefficient and ineffective," said Senate Majority Whip Richard Durbin, D-Ill.

Outside the Capitol, members of the National Treasury Employees Union rallied behind Demo­crats, while MoveOn.org, a liberal advocacy group with ties to G.O.P. running ads and holding rallies, and from both political parties, each eager to tar the other as fiscally irresponsible.

The public is split over whether a government shutdown would be good or bad. A Quinnipiac University poll released Wednesday found that 46 percent said a shutdown would be good, while 44 percent said it would be bad. Opinions were divided largely along party lines, but 47 percent of independent voters liked the idea, while 42 percent didn't.

The survey was conducted Feb. 21-28, after the House had passed its $61 billion in cuts. The margin of error was plus or minus 2.3 percentage points.
Let the wine flow
Student starts business to ‘upcycle’ used glass bottles

Kelly Cooper
kellycooper.md@gmail.com

San Luis Obispo has its fair share of resources. And sometimes, people can find a way to incorporate them all. Take Taylor Engen, for instance.

The political science junior and co-owner of Glassed Over has tapped into the wealth of resources and ideas in the San Luis Obispo area and funneled them into his recently launched business. Glassed Over takes used glass bottles and redesigns them into drinking glasses and candles.

With the prevalence of the wine country, push for sustainability and focus on small businesses, one would think this idea had already been employed in the San Luis Obispo area. But Engen didn’t look at it that way, at least initially. In fact, he really just wanted to create.

A while back, Engen helped a friend move into her apartment when he spotted her set of cups made out of wine bottles which he’d found at a swap meet. Engen was intrigued by the idea, he said, so he looked up how to cut wine bottles in half and tried it out.

From there, Engen tried over and over to get a clean cut. After a few weeks, he finally got it right.

"At first I did it because I thought it was fun," Engen said. "I think glass is cool, so I just made sets for our house. That’s how it started."

Engen and co-owner Ted Olson, a long-time friend and student at California State University, Dominguez Hills, also started to notice how frequently glass bottles come and go, whether they’re recycled or just thrown in the trash.

So Olson and Engen collected 100 pounds of glass bottles and took them to a recycling center to see what kind of money they could get. The grand total? $7.50.

"We realized that there has to be something better you can do with glass," Engen said.

Now, with the recycling idea in...
their back pocket, the boys started piecing the puzzle together — "upcycling" used bottles (and taking note of artistic wine labels) and making them into something usable again.

Over winter break, the company started to take shape. The first step was perfecting the cut.

Engen said he practices "scoring the line" as a means of cutting the glass.

"I take a glass cutter and scratch a line in the glass," Engen said.

"Then I'll take boiling hot water and put it all along that crack, then put it in cold water. And the temperature change makes it crack."

Engen said at this point he probably gets a clean cut nine out of 10 times.

"I'd say just time is what's allowed me to get it all down," Engen said.

Currently, the two have an up-and-running website complete with an ordering system created voluntarily by a boyfriend of a cousin of a girlfriend ... of Olsons.

"He just offered to do it for free," Olson said. "So that just fell into our laps."

Olson and Engen also received help with the logo design from Engen's girlfriend, psychology junior Megan Hoffman, and friend, graphic communication junior Michaela Tutor.

"I have the resources now, I have the time now and I decided that this is the time to go for it," Engen said. "This is an example of something that's thrown at you, and you don't necessarily know where it's going. But I'm just going to continue trying to enjoy it."

The frontier I really want to get into is working for wineries and cutting their own bottles," Engen said. "That's really exciting because there's so many wineries around here."

However, that frontier has been somewhat difficult for the two to explore, mainly because of the distance. Olson said communication is the hardest thing to manage at this point. However, it also acts as way for the company to expand across Southern California.

"He is up in SLO and I'm down here in L.A., so it's kind of based out of two cities," Olson said. "So if we were both here, things would be easy, but there are a lot of small businesses and shops in SLO and he can get into that market which is a big benefit."

As far as managing their money, Engen said they are learning as they go. Engen is pursuing a minor in agricultural business and said he's turned to professors for financial advice. One monetary surprise was the cost of quality candles. Both Engen and Olson said they were astonished at the regular prices of candles on the market.

"We had no idea — we thought five to 10 bucks," Olson said. "And people looked at them and they said, 'That's it? That's how much you're selling it for?'

However, the current price range seems to suit demands, considering the bottles are hand-cut and the scented soy-based wax is hand-poured.

"I want to charge lower prices, but the truth is, it's all handmade," Engen said. "We really try to emphasize that."

At this point, the duo has it figured out, but are still pursuing new prospects because of the initial drive behind the project — enjoyment.

"I have the resources now, I have the time now and I decided that this is the time to go for it," Engen said. "This is an example of something that's thrown at you, and you don't necessarily know where it's going. But I'm just going to continue trying to enjoy it."

mustang daily is now accepting applications for the 2011-2012 editor-in-chief.

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Karaoke en Español brings students together through song

Anieca Ayler
ANIECA.AYLER.18@CALPOLY.EDU

A karaoke event featuring popular Latino songs will be held today by the Cal Poly Multicultural Center (MCC). "Karaoke en Español," is an opportunity for students to sing along to popular Latino songs with microphone in hand. Coordinator for MCC programs Renoda Campbell said the event is a learning experience for attendees. "Music is one of the universal languages," Campbell said. "During this event, the words, the feelings and meanings of the songs will be explained. Our guests will have the opportunity to have fun and learn a little Spanish with the hope of increasing appreciation of another language."

The night of the event, attendees will be briefed on the history of Latino music and the importance and power of language. They will also discuss the prevalence of the Spanish language in California, the problems that come with it and language barriers in general.

Biological sciences junior Devon Buddan, one of the students planning the event, said even though there isn't an official language in America (most assume it is English), many feel pressured to learn it. "When people come here by immigration or relocation, or if they know different languages, they experience forced assimilation," Buddan said. "And a lot of times, Spanish is valued as a lesser language. ("Karaoke en Español") is to give an appreciation for that language and culture."

Songs with Spanish and English lyrics will be played, but all with native Latin American artists.

"Karaoke en Español" will be the fifth event part of the Latino Heritage Series, which aims to give the students something fun to do but also to educate them on Latino culture and heritage, Buddan said.

Past MCC events featuring Latino culture this school year included a Latino fashion show, a movie night, Dia de los Muertos arts and crafts and a discussion of Arizona's Immigration bill.

"The MCC held some serious events in the fall, so this time we wanted our guests to have fun and learn a little about the Spanish language," Campbell said.

The month of October is dedicated to Chicano and Latino heritage every year, but Campbell and her student staff have at least one Latino event every quarter.

That way, it doesn't tax the student staff or our guests as it relates to their studies, gives everyone more variety and brings a more holistic approach of the 'Heritage Series' during the entire year," Campbell said. Latinos made up 12.1 percent of the student body in the fall, according to the Multicultural Center, which creates an intimidating atmosphere for some students.

Ethnic studies sophomore Isabel Montenegro, who also helped plan the event, said she felt very uncomfortable during her first year at Cal Poly. Montenegro said she found a safe haven at the Multicultural Center where she first came in just to study. "The "home away from home" mantra of the center became true for her and she eventually applied to become a part of the Latino Heritage Series.

"I could come here and be with people like me," Montenegro said. "Unlike in my classes where I'm usually the only Latina." Montenegro said she loves being involved with the center because she can show people her heritage and how it important it is to other Latinos.

"Karaoke en Español" will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. in the University Union (UU), room 217.

For more information about the "Karaoke en Español," the Multicultural Center or Student Life and Leadership, visit MCC's events page, or stop by the Multicultural Center office in the UU, room 217.

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Miley Cyrus makes her way back onto the big screen

Miley Cyrus has been going through some real growing pains of late. The 18-year-old has been criticized for her bad fashion choices at various award shows, including the recent Grammys. And the viral video of her reportedly smoking the herb salvia in December had some of her young fans — and their parents — raising their eyebrows.

Cyrus will once again be presented to the public in a new way when her new action comedy hits theaters.

The Weinstein Co. announced Wednesday that it acquired the U.S. distribution rights to "So Undercover," another movie in which the star breaks away from her wholesome image, and will release it in October ("when schools are back in session," a company statement said). Cyrus plays a street-smart private eye hired by the FBI to go undercover at a college sorority, where sorority-like hijinks no doubt ensue.

Directed by Tom Vaughn ("What Happens in Vegas"), the movie also stars actors Jeremy Piven, Mike O'Malley and Kelly Osbourne.

"We're excited to be working with Miley Cyrus as she transitions from child phenomenon to grown-up star," said the Weinstein Co.'s David Glasser in a statement. "She's got charisma and talent to burn, and "So Undercover" shows her to be a deft comedic actress."

Cyrus most recently starred in "The Last Song," a romantic drama that grossed $89 million at the global box office.

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Developing democracy in Arab countries

Paul Lichnowsky

A basic tenet of the U.S. war against terrorism under both George W. Bush and Barack Obama has been the need to "drain the swamp"—to eliminate the conditions that drive young Muslims toward extremism. Now, in much of the Arab world, the inhabitants of the swamp have pitched in courageously to drain it themselves. Are we ready to help?

The Obama administration says yes, but in some cases, it's been slow to take action. And most members of Congress say yes too, but they're caught up in a frenzy of budget cutting that's likely to rob the money available for the job.

The first step, of course, is helping democratic revolutions succeed. After some initial hesitation, President Obama pronounced himself fully on the side of the demonstrators in Tunisia, Cairo and Tripoli. Critics have complained that the administration could have done more; administration officials promise that, once the dust settles, we'll learn that they did more than was publicly known. For example, one official suggested to me, the administration and allied governments have tried through back channels to persuade Libya's air force to ignore orders to fire on demonstrators.

But once a dictator has been toppled, there is much more work to be done. In countries such as Tunisia and Egypt, there are constituencies to write or revise, elections to be organized and monitored, voters to be registered.

In past years, some grass-roots democratic groups in the Arab world may have hesitated to accept American aid because they, or their potential voters, saw the United States as an enemy, not a friend.

"I don't think there's a problem now," said Kenneth Pollack, president of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. "There's great pride in all of these places that these protest movements were indigenous.

Luckily, the United States already has programs available to provide the kind of advice and training that Arab democrats may want—a legacy, in part, of the George W. Bush administration, but one the Obama administration has continued.

The State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development, the foreign aid agency, are already designing a proposal for a package of "transition assistance" to newly democratic countries in the area. But that's likely to be a slow process. Tunisia, for example, overthrew its dictatorship more than a month ago, but it has yet to receive any new help from USAID.

More promising vehicles, in the short term, are the nimbler non-government organizations like iWatch, which can launch small projects quickly. Its National Democratic Institute, sponsored by the Democratic Party and funded by a combination of U.S. government and private donations, has sent an expert to Yemen to serve as an unofficial conduit between the government and opposition leaders. The International Republican Institute, the GOP counterpart, has already launched a public opinion poll in Egypt to show building politicians what their potential voters think.

Once elections are held and new governments installed, there will still be work to do to make sure the fledgling democracies succeed. One crucial aspect will be economic aid to help improve the lives of millions of people who live in poverty even as their elites—and neighboring countries such as Saudi Arabia—live in opulence.

Why is this important? Democracies that fail to deliver material progress don't always stay democratic. And that's where Congress comes in. The spending bill for the rest of this year that the Republican-led House passed last week cuts foreign economic aid by about 17 percent worldwide; it would cut the National Endowment for Democracy, the organization that funds those nimble democracy institutes, by 6 percent. And House Republicans have made it clear that they plan further cuts next year; some firebrands have even proposed eliminating foreign aid entirely, or eliminating it for every country except Israel.

In the short run, the Senate—and common sense—is likely to save U.S. democracy promotion from being gutted. "We're the flavor of the moment," an executive at one of the institutes (not Wallack's) told me wryly, "Everybody's offering us money." But even a long run, if foreign aid is slashed overall, even the little democracy-promotion agencies will feel the squeeze.

Here's a modest proposal: The administration and Congress should choose a country to turn into a real success story, and make sure it gets all the help it needs.

For years, one of the problems of promoting democracy in the Arab world has been the shortage of positive models for others to follow. It's still a problem today: Unreconstructed kings and presidents look at the tumult around them, do they see any examples of smooth, successful transitions they might be tempted to emulate? Or will they see chaos, and conclude that repression is still the better course?

Among the wealthy monarchies, the administration already appears to have settled on Bahrain, where a reformist crown prince has taken on the challenge of negotiating with the opposition.

Among the other countries, the United States will feel compelled to help Egypt, because it is so big, and Yemen, because a branch of al-Qaeda is operating from its mountains. But Egypt and Yemen are desperately poor countries that will take years to turn around.

But there's at least one country that deserves special attention because it holds such promise as a potential model for success: Tunisia. It's relatively small (about 11 million people). It's a middle-income country, with a per capita national income of about $9,500. Its population is relatively educated; one reason for the revolution was that too many college graduates were unemployed. Its revolution was largely peaceful; it suffers from no major ethnic or sectarian conflicts.

The people of Tunisia were the ones who started this wave of democratization. Now we should help them sustain it.

Obama and his aides have used the uprisings in the Arab world as a test case for the authoritarian government of Iran, which has attacked demonstrators in Tehran even as it praised them in Cairo. But the best way to promote democracy in Iran—or Syria or Saudi Arabia—is to help democracy succeed in Egypt, Yemen and Tunisia.

Luckily, the United States already has programs available to provide the kind of advice and training that Arab democrats may want.
Michael Smerconish writes a weekly column for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Harry Reid just called for "an adult conversation" about prostitution. OK, I'm in.

A few years ago, he published a memoir, "The Good Fight." When it was released, I interviewed the Senate majority leader about gambling, Cuba, and, in Searchlight, Nev., a town he said that then had "13 brothels and no churches."

"I learned to swim in a bordello-swimming pool," he told me with a laugh. I couldn't resist responding, "Today they call that a Jacuzzi, senator." (I spared him my joke about the backstory.)

He's no longer in good humor about the oldest profession and seeks to ban it in Nevada, the only state where it is legal in some areas. (It's known as the first place for innovation and investment.)

"If we want to attract business to Ne­vada that puts people back to work, the time has come for us to outlaw prostitution," he said.

Dennis Hof, famous for owning the Moonlight Bunny Ranch (featured on HBO's "Cathouse" program) wasn't taking the matter lightly. When I brought up eight employees from his brothel in Car­son City to the state capital to lobby against Reid. In Charlotte Heston-Sandoval said.

And the state's Senate majority leader, Steven Horsford (no pun in­tended), said, "I personally do not support prostitution; however, it has been handled by local governments in the past, and it has been a history and tradition."

Well, these girls are right, and Reid is wrong.

Instead of ostracizing Nevada, more states should follow his lead and stop legislating morality. The govern­ment has no business determining consensual sex among adults. It doesn't have economic and public safety interests in taxing and regulat­ing such conduct. There are many reasons it's time to think outside the, er, square.

First, what's the difference between passing a cosmic down the bar and handing over money? When the aim is to get someone in the sack? They are different denomi­nations of the same overload, and no government should seek to differen­tiate between them. A society like ours that rightfully does not tell a woman what to do regarding her carnal conduct. Prior to the point of viability should have a similar hands-off policy re­garding her carnal conduct.

Second, no one wants prostitu­tion in residential neighborhoods, which is an argument for, not against, legal prostitution. Like an adult bookstore, it should be subject to zoning. We will never eradicate the world's oldest profession, but we should be able to at least con­solidate it in areas with no schools or residences.

Third, legalization presents an opportunity to clean up a tawdry business in the public's best interest. Consider the adult-film industry in the San Fernando Valley outside Los Angeles. There have been times when the industry's largest companies and studios have gone dark on their own volition because stars tested posi­tive for HIV — billion-dollar enti­ties closed on their own initiative. In L.A., the thousand or so porn stars are all tested monthly, and show the results before they can work. Is the system perfect? No. But it is sig­nificantly cleaner and safer than the open season on many urban streets right now.

Fourth, in these economic times, should we not consider the gray in­dustry were legalized throughout the state and legitimateized by strict gov­ernment regulation and zoning.

And finally, legalizing prostitution is the ultimate compassionate con­servative cause. Face it, there are some among us whose looks, derision, dis­ability, etc., preclude any reasonable chance of finding companionship for the short term. Those of us employed in the adult-film industry are in­dustry were legalized throughout the state and legitimateized by strict gov­ernment regulation and zoning.

Let's stop, er, beating around the bush. It's time to legitimize, legitimize, and tax the pants off the world's oldest profession.

Ginny Anderson
In response to "The Manhattan Daily presents comments that are written in response to article posted online. Though not all the responses are printed, the Manhattan Daily prints comments that are coherent and foster intelligent discussion on a given subject. No overgeneralization, please.

NOTE: The Manhattan Daily features select comments that are written in response to article posted online. Though not all the responses are printed, the Manhattan Daily prints comments that are coherent and foster intelligent discussion on a given subject. No overgeneralization, please.

Restrained needed in Libya

The fallout of "tragedies and the need for human health, happiness, or safety on the whole. We, and you, need to abandon them and go bold­ly into a future of openness, accep­tance, and exploration in all facets of life, sex most definitely included.

A quick, but important, clarification: "Falsettos" was the first musical *on Broadway* to explicidy address the AIDS epidemic. There were several musicals written about the AIDS crisis throughout the 1980s and 1990s, but none made it all the way to Broadway prior to "Falsettos." In fact, one of the earliest pieces written about the epidemic, "The A.I.D.S. (Artists Involved with Death and Survival) Show," produced by San Francisco's Theatre Rhinoceros in 1980, was heavily musical in its con­tent. Music has played an important role in how the arts have responded to the AIDS crisis and I want to give proper credit to the practitioners whose work came before "Falsettos." Thanks!

Glenn Anderson
In response to "Musical-comedy Falsettos portrays controversial issues."

The following editorial appeared in the Dallas Morning News on Tuesday, March 1.

The Obama administration predict­ably is taking heat from conservatives about its restrained response to the crisis in Libya. There are even calls for a U.S. military intervention. A thou­sand testers that this is their tevoludon. To test how this affects the American people. From the strea. Western intervendon is short of calling for deployment of aircraft to fire on protesters.

The administration's initial re­straint was appropriately designed to protect American lives. Until hundreds of Americans could be evacuated, the administra­tion reasoned that tough talk against Gadh­afi could put lives in danger. We need only recall Iraqi dictator Sadd­am Hussein's kidnapping of several hundred Westerners in Kuwait in 1990 to understand the ease with which unscrupulous megamilitaries will put innocent lives on the line to press political objectives. Gadhafi is certainly no exception.

Given the regional volatility and precarious reputation America has among Arabs, comments like those from Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona after an airport attack in Libya. Urg­ing Obama to "get tough," McCain stopped short of calling for deployment of ground troops but endorsed embas­saging a no-fly zone over Libya to pre­vent pro-Gadhafi military from using aircraft to fire on protesters.

No-fly zones are useless unless en­forced militarily. McCain should need no reminding, after the 1995 "Black Hawk down" incident in Mogadishu, that American military intervention al­ways has a real risk of escalating out of control.

Besides, in none of the Arab upris­ings so far has there been a notable cry on the streets for American assis­tance. The U.S. must not disregard the strong sense of pride among pro­testers in Libya's rebellion. Reproduction is part of animal life, so it's in our nature to engage in reproduction. Sex is part of animal life, and as it happens, we are animal life, so it's in our nature to engage in sexual activity. It's about damn time.
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"The question I keep getting is 'OK, why are you looking at Cal Poly?'" said Chisholm, who graduated from UC Santa Barbara with a degree in economics. "And at the end of the day it is because I spent 13 years in the Central Coast area. I love it. I love the people and I felt like I at least needed to look into the opportunity."

Under Chisholm, the Vikings' volleyball team tallied their 11th straight 20-plus win season in 2009 and, on the football field, the Vikings won the Big Sky Conference in 2007 and 2009. A key component of that success is Chisholm's ability to select the right coaches for the appropriate jobs, he said.

"I feel really good about my ability to hire coaches. I've hired nine head coaches at Portland State and five of them have already won conference championships," said Chisholm, who has also had three different coaches earn Big Sky Conference Coach of the Year honors. "I would anticipate trying to do the same thing at Cal Poly."

But one of the main issues at Cal Poly, some argue, is the lack of attention the smaller programs receive, which may arguably be Cal Poly's best. Men's cross country boasts 11 Big West titles, wrestling is starting to compete for Pac-10 supremacy and volleyball was an at-large bid away from making the NCAA Tournament last season.

If Chisholm is the next man in charge, the attention those programs receive will not be lost in the shadows of others, he said.

"You have to do a little bit of everything," Chisholm said. "In addition to the renovations we did around football (at Portland State), we also renovated locker rooms in softball, women's soccer, women's volleyball and improved the locker rooms for track and field. ... If you give everybody the tools to be successful, then you have done your job as an AD."

Cal Poly's final candidate for athletic director — current San Diego State senior associate athletic director Don Oberhelman — will have his open forum March 8, at 11:30 a.m. in Mott Gym.

Softball

continued from page 16

freshmen. Since the team is so young, upperclassmen have stepped up to provide support and guidance for the younger members, Cahn said.

The age of the team has motivated Condon to take advantage of "teaching moments" in pre-season play. Westlund said such lessons have been crucial in the team's advancements.

"Before the Cathedral City Tournament we talked a lot about winning the first pitch ... not waiting for two strikes to go by before making an attempt," Westlund said. "In the Texas game we did much better with that."

In addition to teaching moments, veteran players are also playing a key role in the development of the young Cal Poly team. Sometimes the best advice on how to improve comes not from the coaching staff, but rather from fellow players, Sobezak said.

Condon agrees, and said the team as a whole has good chemistry. The freshmen are settling into their roles nicely, and the upperclassmen "aren't trying to manage (the younger players) ... everyone on the team has a voice, and that's what will make the team better, faster."
In his 30-minute open forum yesterday afternoon, current Portland State athletics director Torre Chisholm addressed a wide variety of topics. Chisholm answered questions after question, anything from facility upgrades, to his reasons for being interested in the Cal Poly job. But in every response, one word kept surfacing: Potential.

"I’ve been able to observe Cal Poly from afar," Chisholm said. "I’ve already seen a lot of great accomplishments and I already see a lot of great potential as well.

It's a recurring theme in Chisholm's past as an athletics director. He had no problem finding success for the Vikings. At Portland State, he was able to turn around a school — which had won five championships and titles and 10 regular season or conference championships, prior to his time — into a powerhouse. He had no problem finding success at his places I have been," Chisholm said. "And I would think I would have the ability to do some of the same if I was here."

If he does come to Cal Poly, the Mustangs will be inheriting a man who has a very diverse resume. Prior to his current four-year stay at Portland State, Chisholm served as the associate athletic director for Development and Marketing at UC-Irvine.

See AD Search, page 15

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Softball hopes tough, early competition pays off down the stretch

The Cal Poly softball team has a tough nonConference schedule. Of the 14 games they’ve played, 10 have been versus ranked opponents. So far, the result has not been good for unranked Cal Poly.

The Mustangs have a 2-12 record coming out of the Cathedral City Classic last weekend. The Mustangs squared off against No. 11 Texas, No. 6 Oklahoma, No. 7 Washington, No. 14 California. Though head coach Nora Sobezak said.

"We’re not totally failing like our record suggests... sometimes we are losing in the last couple innings," Sobezak said. "Though it might not seem like it, we are improving each game, and the (nonConference matchups) have given us a solid base to work off of."

Kimberly Westlund, a freshman shortstop, said improvement is evident in the game Cal Poly played against Texas Feb. 25.

"Even though we lost, progress was there," Westlund said. "Our pitching was better... no homeruns were hit, and no runs were scored in the first inning. That’s what (nonconference) is for — learning from our mistakes so we don’t make them in league play."

In addition to the foundation being laid by the preseason, the lineup is also positioning the team for postseason success. There is a formula used in collegiate sports known as Ratings Performance Index (RPI) which is a ranking calculated based on a team’s win/loss record, as well as the quality of their competition. Playing these ranked teams will increase Cal Poly’s RPI, making it higher than those of Big West opponents.

"The winner of Big West automatically goes to the postseason bid, but the other bids go to the teams that have the highest RPI," Condon said. "Even though we’ve been projected to win Big West, I can’t bank on that. If we don’t take first place, I wanted to be sure Cal Poly still had the opportunity to compete in postseason play."

Postseason competition is on the mind of senior pitcher Anna Cahn. Cahn wants to make it to postseason "more than anything" and does not believe Cal Poly’s current record is any indication of what’s come.

"Even not winning is preparation... sometimes losing is OK because we played to the best of our abilities and did good things," Cahn said. "We have a really young team, and we are using (this competition) to work out the kinks and make the necessary adjustments."

The team currently has a player breakdown of two seniors, two juniors, four sophomores and eight freshmen.

See Softball, page 15