Wine-ning!: New wine center comes to Cal Poly

Claire Lindsay
SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

The new Cal Poly Wine Innovations Center will change the way Cal Poly teaches its wine curriculum. The center will be home to the Cal Poly wine program, which is the largest in the nation. It will be an incubator for winemaking technologies and new laboratories for research.

The Rec Center has been open with limited equipment and space. "It’s an inconvenience because now I need to pay for a gym membership over summer and fall while still paying my ASI fees," Huskins said. "I will be interested to see if they actually get it done by winter. We all know how construction goes."

Although the prospective plans for the Rec Center expansion said the gym will open during winter quarters, it is not guaranteed by the university. Many students said the closure of the Rec Center won’t affect them. Since construction began and the gym was minimized, they have gone elsewhere to work out.

Alyssa Beltran, an English senior, said she got tired waiting for machines and the crowds. "I would rather pay to go somewhere else, and get my money’s worth," Beltran said.

During winter, assistant director for operations of Associated Students Rec (ASREC) and one time they have seen less students going to the Rec Center for reasons similar to Beltran’s. "It’s bound to happen; if we don’t have enough room for them in our gym, they most likely would go somewhere else," Connnot said. Even though the construction has been taking place for more than a year, Connor said it cannot be completed without closing the Rec Center completely for a short amount of time.

Since the Rec Center began construction, students have attended other local gyms, and with the word of the Rec Center closing, they have had even more interest.

Orcutt Road Cellars provides a center for the Cal Poly Wines to operate. However, Orcutt Road Cellars is located off campus, which is not ideal for students. Driggs said the majority of the processing is done at the off-campus facility because there aren’t facilities on campus devoted to learning about winemaking. This means many of the wine and viticulture students do not have a place to experiment or test new innovative winemaking processes or flavors.

Driggs said while the majority of the Cal Poly Wine center is to go from zero to success, "Our program is going to go from zero to success," said Keith Patterson, wine and viticulture professor. "With the business facilities in the new center, industry professionals will gain a first-hand view of the future of winemaking and the research done at Cal Poly. Students will also experience what the wine making industry is about by working alongside professionals.

The majority of the center comes to Cal Poly together, and increase student interest. The building itself will provide more experience, knowledge and ideas, Peterson said.

The new plant will include grape crushing facilities, facilities with machinery for different winemaking techniques, taste and smell testing, laboratories, as well as event facilities for seminars and networking meetings, Peterson said. The center will bring these facilities to the Cal Poly campus to create a learning space for students and industry professionals. Peterson said. "Cal Poly, being located right in the middle of the Central Coast, makes us a focal point in the coastal wine industry," Peterson said.

With the business facilities in the new center, industry professionals will gain a first-hand view of the future of winemaking and the research done at Cal Poly. Students will also experience what the winemaking industry is about by working alongside professionals.

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ASI gives student representation across the board

Sarah Storelli is the ASI President. Storelli, along with Kostas McDade and Nick Doudas, write the State of the Students column.

Over the past 30 years with President Emeritus Warren Baker’s leadership, Associated Student Inc. (ASI) has cultivated a strong relationship with the university administration, faculty and staff, allowing for shared governance throughout all levels of the university. Not only does this relationship ensure students’ voices are heard by the decision makers of Cal Poly, but it recognizes the fundamental values that are crucial to the success of the student body and university.

As your elected representatives, great responsibility comes with great accountability, and specifically, ASI student government members serve on every single university-wide and Academic Senate Committee, ranging from Academic Advising Council to the Athletics Governing Board. Myself and the chair of the board, Natalia Walicki, serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Academic Senate and are able to express student sentiments and thoughts regarding every issue.

Additionally, as ASI President, I serve on the strategic planning committee, which allows me to offer student input as to what the students’ role is in the university, not only currently, but for years to come.

Since our shared governance relationship has been created at all levels, we, ASI Student Government, felt it a priority to formalize our long-lasting relationship in writing what shared governance means to the students.

Over the past few months, ASI Board of Directors members Kostas McDade and Eric Freeman and a member from the University Union Advisory Board, Karen Menosian, wrote a resolution on our vision of shared governance: the intent to support and have all forms of student representation and accountability, the collective student voice throughout all levels of the campus community.

We also pledge to continue to work with the administration to discuss issues that affect the entire university by promoting respect, understanding, communication and compromise towards all parties involved.

From this resolution, we are making institutional commitments to shared governance at Cal Poly, and President Jeffrey D. Armstrong supports our vision. He’s been adamant about ensuring student success and recognizes and values the importance of the long-established tradition of shared governance and how the students of Cal Poly are the heart and priority of the university. Some of the many shared governance traditions he is carrying on are monthly meetings with the ASI President and having the ASI President sit in on his Management/Staff Team meetings.

Throughout my term, I have been fortunate to work with Baker, interim president Robert Glidden and Armstrong, allowing the student opinion to be exercised consistently over the transition of three university presidents. Relative to other California State Universities, Cal Poly arguably has the strongest relationship of shared governance throughout all levels of the university and is quite fortunate.

As your ASI representatives, we want you to know that we voice the opinions of all of you on a daily basis. Although you may not always see the results in one day or even one year, we work to serve you and to make the future of Cal Poly better.

One example of this is the college council restructuring and re-view taken upon the ASI Board of Directors. Through this, we hold each college accountable to how the council’s money is spent. Specifically, ASI College Council Funding is available for College Councils to enhance their image promote the college to students within the college and encourage broad student involvement in college activities. ASI College Council Funding is used in order to create an opportunity for all students of the college to benefit from and depending on the expenditure, participate in as well.

Since we only have a year in office to make change and progress we are able to begin projects and sometimes finish them during our term, but more importantly, pave the way so projects that are concern of students will be carried on by our successors.

As your student representative we proactively voice the student opinion on various levels throughout the university and enthusiastically embrace all opportunities to continue to work closely with the administration, faculty and staff to discuss important matters that affect you.
Wine
continued from page I
vide a centralized location on Cal Poly's campus, Patterson said. "The building is so close to the vineyards that the grape vines will be climbing up the walls," Peterson said. The location of the Wine Innovations Center will let students and faculty observe every moment of the winemaking process. From growth of the grapes to the bottling of the wine. It brings more knowledge and experience to every student involved in the process, Peterson said. "Having this resource on campus will make our program a force to be reckoned with," Driggs said. According to Driggs, the future of the wine program at Cal Poly will be profoundly affected by the center — an effect that can only be beneficial. Driggs said besides bringing those who are a part of Cal Poly wine together, it will also allow great expansion of the program. The expansion of the program is the number one goal of the center, and this doesn't just mean in size. Peterson said expansion in research, of knowledge and of student participation is the ultimate plan. It is not a place of commercial wine production. It is a place of teaching, and most importantly a place for learning by doing.

Rec Center
continued from page I
Blvd., just down the street from campus, said it has seen a wide variety of interest from Cal Poly students for summer and fall. Britney Scofield, a CRUB 24 employee, said it expects numbers to increase drastically once the Rec Center closes, because it is the closest gym to campus and open 24-hours a day. "We haven't worked out the specific details yet, but we will definitely be offering a special deal to Cal Poly students wanting to attend our gym," Scofield said. Another local gym known to be Cal Poly friendly is the SLO Athletic Club, formerly known as Gold's Gym, located on Osos Street in downtown San Luis Obispo. Mike Turner, one of the managers, said the gym received many new members when the Rec Center first downsized, and have stayed constant ever since. "We expect to have a lot more students come starting this summer, and we plan to offer the best package out there," Turner said. Layton said since the talk of the Rec Center closing began, people started to try and find other good deals around town for gyms. "Gym memberships may be expensive, but Poly construction is not really leaving much of a choice," Layton said.
Obama chooses not to release photos of bin Laden's corpse

Obama's statement that the U.S. will not release photos or videos of Osama bin Laden's corpse has sparked debate, and the Taliban has questioned whether there has been sufficient proof supplied by the U.S. that bin Laden was actually killed.

Steven Thomma

President Barack Obama said on Wednesday that the U.S. will not release photos of Osama bin Laden's corpse, saying it would amount to gloating that would only inflame anti-American sentiment and would do nothing to satisfy skeptics.

"That's not who we are. We don't trot out this stuff as trophies," he told CBS in an interview.

White House officials said Wednesday that other evidence of bin Laden's death might be released eventually.

That could possibly include Navy records of the seaside burial and records of the DNA analysis and facial-recognition analysis that U.S. officials say confirmed that it was bin Laden who was killed in Monday's raid.

But Obama and his administration insisted they would never release photos or videos of bin Laden's corpse, or of the Muslim burial service conducted on the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson before the body was dropped into the North Arabian Sea. The lack of evidence has fed a debate over whether the U.S. needs to prove that its Navy SEALs did, in fact, kill bin Laden.

The Taliban issued a statement in Afghanistan questioning the U.S. claim, saying the "Americans did not present sufficient evidence to prove their claim, and also sources close to Osama bin Laden have neither denied nor confirmed his death."

In the Congress, lawmakers said they saw no need to release the photos or videos.

"There's ample proof that this was Osama bin Laden," said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. "The DNA is conclusive," said Sen. Diane Feinstein, D-Calif.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said it was a mistake to keep the photos secret.

"The whole purpose of sending our soldiers into the compound, rather than an aerial bombardment, was to obtain indisputable proof of bin Laden's death," he said. "I'm afraid the decision made today by President Obama will unnecessarily prolong this debate."

Obama said that he listened to arguments on both sides, then decided Wednesday, "Keep in mind that we are absolutely certain that this is him. We've done DNA sampling and testing. And so there is no doubt that we killed Osama bin Laden," he said.

"It is important for us to make sure that very graphic photos of somebody with a gunshot in the head are not floating around as an incremen to additional violence or as a propaganda tool."

Moreover, he said, releasing the photos would appear as gloating, suggesting that while that would be emotionally satisfying, it would be un-American. "We don't need to spike the football," he said.

Obama said there's "no doubt among al-Qaida members that he is dead," and photos would never convince nonbelievers anyway. "We don't think a photograph, in and of itself, is going to make any difference. There are going to be folks who deny it. The fact of the matter is, you will not see bin Laden walking on this Earth again."

White House press secretary Jay Carney brushed aside questions about the internal debate and earlier comments from CIA director Leon Panetta suggesting that it was likely photos of bin Laden's corpse would be released.

"There was a discussion to be had about the pros and cons. And the president engaged in that discussion and made a decision," Carney said. "The final decision was not made until today."

Carney defended the decision to give bin Laden a Muslim burial service at sea, suggesting that said more about Americans than bin Laden.

"The respect that was shown to him and his body was far greater than the respect that Osama bin Laden showed to the victims of 9-11 or any of his other victims," Carney said. "That's who we are."

Carney also rejected any question of whether the U.S. acted legally in launching the raid to kill bin Laden. "There is simply no question that this operation was legal. Bin Laden was the head of al-Qaida, the organization that conducted the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001," he said. "We acted in the nation's self-defense."

He was vague when asked whether the harsh interrogation of suspected terrorists, including waterboarding, helped lead the U.S. to bin Laden.

"I can say with certainty that no single piece of information, with the exception of the address of the compound, was vital to this," he said. "The fact is, it is that information was gathered from detainees. We have multiple ways of gathering information from detainees, from different methods that we have of getting information."

Obama will travel to New York Thursday, meet with some of the families of bin Laden's victims in the 2001 terrorist attacks and lay a wreath at the site of the World Trade Center.

There are going to be folks who deny it. The fact of the matter is, you will not see bin Laden walking on this Earth again.

— President Barack Obama

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State
SACRAMENTO (MCT) — California lawmakers Wednesday took a step toward possibly licensing and taxing medical marijuana sales in the state, despite some objections that such sales are not sanctioned by federal law.

A bill that would have the state Board of Equalization study ways to tax and license the sale of medical marijuana was approved by the state Senate Governance and Finance Committee on a 5-2 vote.

Democratic state Sen. Ron Calderon, author of SB 626, said the cash-strapped state was missing out on potentially tens of millions of dollars from the sales.

Republican state Sen. Doug La Malfa opposed the legislation, which next goes to a committee on financial issues for consideration. Some supporters of medical marijuana sales like the Calderon bill, though there was grumbling over the light-hearted tone of a report by the committee's analyst examining the issue.

SAN DIEGO (MCT) — Rescue crews from the U.S. Coast Guard suspended their search Wednesday for a 63-year-old woman reported missing from a cruise ship after it docked in San Diego.

Officials said they combed the search area but never found the woman, who was last seen aboard the Celebrity Millennium on Monday night as it sailed to Mexico.

A review of onboard camera footage showed the woman climbed over the ship's railing and let go about 9:15 p.m. Monday, said Cynthia Martinez, a spokeswoman for Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.

The ship's security staff learned the woman was missing Tuesday after she failed to disembark as scheduled, Martinez said.

Ship operators determined the location of the woman's jump and alerted Coast Guard and FBI authorities.

Briefs
WASHINGTON D.C. (MCT) — Former U.S. president George W. Bush declined an invitation by President Barack Obama to visit New York's Ground Zero on Thursday to mark the death of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, the New York Times reported.

Bush would not be in attendance, the New York Times late Tuesday quoted the former president's spokesman, David Sherrer, as saying. After leaving office, Bush had chosen to stay largely out of the spotlight, Sherrer said.

The White House did not confirm the invitation or comment on Bush's decision.

WYOMING (MCT) — Following Congress' unprecedented move to excise wolves from endangered species protections in Idaho and Montana, the U.S. Interior Department on Wednesday declared wolves fully recovered in most of the Northern Rockies, opening the door for hunting in the fall.

The announcement means that wolves will no longer be protected under federal law in much of the region and will be managed like other wildlife species by state game managers. They will remain classified as an endangered species in Wyoming pending additional discussions with the state, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said.

The department also said it is proposing to soon remove similar endangered species protections for western Great Lakes region wolves in Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin.

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JAPAN (MCT) — Experts fear a mental health crisis is looming because fewer than 20 psychotherapists specializing in post-traumatic stress disorder are available to practice in the disaster-hit Tohoku region, The Yomiuri Shimbun has learned.

It is estimated that between 5 and 10 percent of people faced with traumatic near-death experiences will suffer from PTSD, the symptoms of which include having terrifying flashbacks over a long period of time.

Survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, as well as people involved in rescue and relief operations such as searching for bodies, are likely to suffer from PTSDs.

Psychiatric expert and National Defense Medical College lecturer Jun Shimogori said the number of PTSD patients resulting from the events of March 11 could possibly reach several thousand.

International
GERMANY (MCT) — The trial of two Rwandan rebel leaders accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity in the Democratic Republic of Congo opened Wednesday in Germany.

Igrane Mwinwabiyeka, 47, president of the Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda, or FDLR, and his deputy Steaton Musoni, 50, were arrested in November 2009 in Germany, where they have lived for several years.

Prosecution allege that Mwinwabiyeka and Musoni engineered acts of murder, torture and rape by issuing commands to associates in Congo, where the FDLR is based, from Germany, using their laptops and mobile phones.

The trial was briefly halted soon after it opened, when the defense complained that the accused would not receive a fair hearing at the trial was politically motivated.

The court rejected the complaint.

The men are charged with 26 counts of crimes against humanity and 39 war crimes. The prosecution says militiam under their command killed more than 200 civilians in Congo, in order to secure their position of power.

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The state is responsible for financing those activities, though they are delivered by local governments.

The Legislative Counsel's memo said the state cannot force local governments to send that money to the state. The redevelopment bill does establish trust funds in each country that serve as a local collector of the redevelopment tax revenues before sending them to the state, but legislative lawyers said that mechanism is "not sufficient" to comply with the constitution.

Department of Finance spokesman H.D. Palmer dismissed that interpretation, saying the counsel's office was "finding intent that cannot be found in the constitution."

"The administration's opinion remains unchanged," Palmer said. "We think this proposal (was) crafted in such a way we think it will withstand any legal challenge."

The opinion was made available Tuesday by the California League of Cities, which has vigorously opposed Brown's redevelopment plan.

The League of Cities' executive director, Chris McKenzie, said his group was pleased with the opinion and was anticipating another legal review on whether the governor's plan violates Proposition 22, a local government measure approved by voters in 2010.
BP fined millions for 2006 Alaska oil spill

Craig Welch
THE SEATTLE TIMES

The British corporation at the center of last year's Gulf of Mexico spill will pay a $25 million penalty for the largest oil spill ever on Alaska's North Slope and spend an additional $60 million upgrading its oversight of corroded pipelines in Alaska.

The U.S. Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency on Tuesday reached a settlement agreement with BP Alaska, a subsidiary of BP America, for two back-to-back spills in 2006. The largest of the spills, in March of that year, dumped 212,000 gallons of oil onto the tundra from a worn-out section of pipe that hadn't been properly inspected in years.

"I think this is very significant," said Karen Loeffler, U.S. attorney for the state of Alaska. "The settlement makes clear that those companies that transport hazardous materials have to put in the money and put up the plans to maintain the integrity of their systems so that we don't have oil spills."

BP Alaska spokesman Steve Rinehart said in an email, "We believe the terms of the agreement are fair."

Tuesday's announcement comes as Alaska and federal officials are still trying to get a grip on the status of thousands of miles of aging oil pipelines on the North Slope, some of which are badly in need of repair.

A study last fall by the state showed that while the frequency of spills in Alaska's oil fields showed no trend up or down, the spills seemed to be getting more severe and the biggest of those spills were usually caused by corrosion.

And BP, which runs oil production on the North Slope for itself and several other companies, has a history of poor pipeline management. BP had been on probation in the early 2000s for illegally dumping toxic waste on a Prudhoe Bay island. Just as its probation was expiring in 2005, an explosion at a BP refinery in Texas City, Texas, killed 15 people.

When, a year later, BP had its two pipeline leaks, members of Congress from both parties expressed frustration and outrage. Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas — generally sympathetic to the oil industry — complained that "BP's policies are as rusty as its pipelines."

Investigators had discovered that BP, unlike other oil companies, hadn't regularly sent inspection "pigs" through its pipelines since 1998. Then, after the 2006 spills, federal pipeline-safety inspectors ordered repairs, but BP didn't fully comply. So the Justice Department filed criminal charges.

BP pleaded guilty in 2007, paid a $20 million fine and was put on criminal probation again. Tuesday's penalties come in addition to those fines.

The federal government claims the settlement amounts to the largest penalty per barrel of oil for a spill in history. And that doesn't count the $200 million BP already spent replacing the transit lines where the leaks occurred. But an internal BP maintenance report initially uncovered last fall by the investigative news organization ProPublica showed that roughly 150 other spots on BP Alaska's 1,660 miles of pipeline were in critically poor shape.

With the settlement, "The intention was to be as comprehensive as we can to address the pipelines of the type that gave rise to this kind of corrosion problem," said Cynthia Giles, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement. The settlement "also provides for an independent monitor to evaluate BP's compliance."

But BP's battles with the government in Alaska aren't over. Tuesday's settlement comes as BP awaits a court hearing in September, during which the Justice Department will ask a judge to punish BP even more: after a November 2009 North Slope spill of 46,000 gallons.

At that time, the Justice Department maintains, BP was still on criminal probation from the 2006 spills. If the court agrees, BP could face even more fines and penalties.

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Anti-abortion measures passed by House to block federal funding

Kathleen Hennessey
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

The House of Representatives on Wednesday approved a sweeping anti-abortion package to further distance federal funds from the procedure by solidifying existing measures and imposing new ones.

The measures stand little chance of approval by the Senate, but again demonstrated the key role social issues still play in unifying the Republican Party.

The anti-abortion measures passed by the House to block federal funding for abortion passed along party lines and endorsed by long-time abortion foes and the House Republican leadership, despite arguments that GOP lawmakers should keep a low profile on budget and spending issues.

But the bill also goes further to eliminate what supporters say are indirect federal subsidies for abortion providers.

Under the measure, businesses that offer health insurance policies covering abortion could not recoup tax credits under the new health care law. In addition, individuals could not deduct the cost of an abortion from their taxes, nor could they use tax-exempt savings accounts to pay for an abortion.

The bill includes exceptions for pregnancies that threaten the life of the mother, or result from rape or incest. Similar measures were introduced and defeated during the debate over the health care law in 2009.

As Democrats sought to portray these new provisions as part of an extreme social agenda, many Republicans argued the measure merely reflects the public's will. Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., the bill's sponsor and chief advocate, said he hoped the bill would limit access to abortion.

"There is no doubt whatsoever that ending all public funding for abortion saves lives," said Smith, a leading congressional abortion foe. "When public funding and facilitation isn't available for abortion, children have a greater chance for survival."

Democrats and abortion rights advocates argue the legislation amounted to a tax increase on small businesses. They claimed the tax deduction provision could force victims of rape or incest to have to show proof of the crime to an IRS agent.

"We should not use the tax code to force women to relive their ordeal to an IRS agent," said Rep. Jackie Speier, a California Democrat who recently revealed in an emotional floor speech that she once had an abortion.

An earlier version of the bill caused controversy by replacing the typical legal exception for rape with an exception for "forcible rape," a term that presumably would not have included cases involving statutory rape.

That language was later dropped from the bill, but a report issued by the committee states that the bill's drafters believe statutory rape cases should not be exempt.

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Coffee and Christianity come together at the Front Porch

Katelyn Sweigart
katelynsweigart.momail.com

Coffee and Wi-Fi, a game room, a Christian resources library and lots of lounge space — the Front Porch coffee house serves the college community with its newly built complex just behind the Health Center at 1468 Foothill Blvd.

Reverend Beau Tanner-Smith is a campus pastor and director of the Front Porch, which officially opened two weeks ago.

"We" opened it up to any and all of the university community, Cañada included, and just said 'Hey, come over, drink free coffee, use our Internet and hang out," Tanner-Smith said.

The Front Porch's goal, aside from serving the students, is to help answer the question, "How do I reconcile my faith with what's going on in my academic life?" Tanner-Smith said.

The Front Porch is a place to discuss Christian scriptures and teachings and apply it to their studies at Cal Poly. In the future, Tanner-Smith said he hopes to have student groups meet where he can introduce and discuss a topic, like gun control.

"There's a Christian perspective, maybe there's an atheist perspective, maybe there's a secularist's perspective," he said. "(Have) a group that's discussion-oriented and a little less formal than a Bible study."

The property was purchased by the Presbyterian Church in 1958. In 2004, the Front Porch was just see Front Porch, page 7.

Hey, come over, drink free coffee, use our Internet and hang out.

— Beau Tanner-Smith
Campus pastor
Front Porch

continued from page 8

converted garage. A new complex was built in 2008 but wasn't completed until this year, along with student housing called Casa Veranda. The new building's design helps conserve water and electricity.

"When we did the design, the dream was to have a completely green development that was a huge part of what we wanted to accomplish," Tanner-Smith said. "We didn't accomplish that because of a couple minor things."

In the interior design of the coffee shop, recycled materials were incorporated mostly by accident. The coffee bar and stage were partially made from scrap wood and reclaimed aluminum siding. The bulletin board and future chalkboard menus were from a 1950s Sunday school classroom from the First Presbyterian Church in San Luis Obispo. The church also donated 80-year-old, lantern-style ceiling lights, which had to be removed for earthquake-proof retrofitting a decade ago and were sitting in the attic.

"How we want people to feel when they come in here is an idea of warmth and comfort, maybe some cool thrown in there as well," Tanner-Smith said.

The walls are decorated with rotating artwork, the most current being photographs for sale by LifeWater International, a Christian nonprofit that helps African, Asian and Latin American communities receive clean water. Tanner-Smith said the art on the walls has a meaning, and he hopes the Front Porch can further serve college students by reaching out to the artist community.

"We want to invite student artists to have their work up here," he said. "Maybe have a showcasing type night, where we advertise it."

The Front Porch holds a fellowship night every Tuesday at 6 p.m., which includes food, Bible studies and music. The coffee shop also hosts guest speakers, such as LifeWater International's Uganda director Deleo Moses, as well as Cal Poly professors, including liberal studies professor Russell Swannon. Tanner-Smith said everybody, Christian or not, is welcome at the Front Porch.

"We want to honor and glorify God in everything that we do, so we want to be as welcoming to anybody who wants to come to the doors," Tanner-Smith said. "But we don't want to forsake our own identity and say, 'We're not about this,' we really are about Christ, we really are about bringing Jesus to this campus. We just believe that Jesus wants us to serve this campus and that's what we're to be about."

The Swanson Center is also a part of the Front Porch building, run by a Cal Poly religious group called Campus Crusade, which opened last Monday. The Swanson Center is a Christian resource library open to the public Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Recreation, parks and tourism administration freshman Amy Kelly is a Swanson Center librarian — or Swansonite, a pun on the biblical term "Samsonite."

"We want people to feel comfortable," Kelly said. "When they come in here is an idea of warmth and comfort, maybe some cool thrown in there as well."
Front Porch
continued from page 9

fortable to come here and discuss religion (and) just be able to ex-
perience truth, to come and ask questions, and if no one has the
answers, they can look them up,” Kelly said. “We’re a fully function-
ing library; we have a computer system and check out books.”
Business administration freshman Sharon Durant said she met
her Bible study group in the Swan-
son Center on its opening day.

"It’s very nice and accommo-
dating for studying, pretty good
music,” she said.

Agricultural sciences freshman
Alexandra Danell volunteers as a
barista for the Front Porch. While
the coffee is mostly self-serve, she
works the espresso machine and
sometimes bakes cookies and muf-
fins for the coffee house. She said
she loves the atmosphere and likes

to play billiards in the game room.

“It doesn’t matter if you have
a religion, it doesn’t matter what
religion you are, you can come in
here and just hang out,” Danell
said.

The Front Porch is open Mon-
day through Friday from 9 a.m. to
noon and 8 p.m. to midnight and
Sundays from 8 p.m. to midnight.

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heading into the "upfronts," the annual selling season that begins later this month, when networks present their fall schedules to advertisers in New York. CBS is the most-watched network by far, although it's also the older-skewing, with an average viewer age of 55. Tuesday nights, for example, is rock-solid on CBS with the "NCIS" franchise, one of the most popular on TV.

Because it has the fewest holes in its lineup, CBS ordered just 16 drama and comedy pilots, compared with 22 for NBC and 24 for ABC. (Fox also ordered 16, but it programs just two hours on weeknights compared to three for its rivals.)

But the Sheen case has created a major strategic problem. This season the network moved its sitcom "The Big Bang Theory" to Thursdays, where it has helped the network establish a comedy base on that night for the first time in years. "We got the beachhead we wanted," said Kelly Kahl, CBS scheduling chief.

If the network has to move without "Two and a Half Men," executives might be forced to roll "Big Bang" back to Monday as well as delay a plan to try comedies on Wednesday. CBS officials have made it clear that they would not welcome such a retreat.

Another complication for CBS: The enduring strength of "Idol." Many observers expected Fox's singing contest to fall apart without the starkly presence of Cowell, the show's putative star, who left to develop "The X Factor" for Fox this fall. But with new judges Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez, "Idol" has remained a ratings powerhouse, even after its regular pattern was shifted from Tuesday-Wednesday to Wednesday-Thursday. Indeed, Fox is poised again to win the ratings race Wednesday-lhursday. Indeed, Fox is poised again to win the ratings race.

One of this season's biggest hits, "Idol" has been in a ratings free fall for the last few seasons. Bob Greenblatt, the former top Showtime programmer and "Idol" creator, has been in the post less than a year, can engineer a turnaround this coming season.

"They really need hits," Adgate said. "Their franchise shows continue to show some audience erosion." And there's NBC, which has been in a ratings free fall for the last few seasons. Bob Greenblatt, the former top Showtime programmer brought in by new owner Comcast, faces a steep hill in trying to make the network competitive again.

The one bright spot for NBC? Strong ratings for the premiere of "The Voice," the singing competition with star judges Christina Aguilera, Adam Levine, Cee Lo Green and Blake Shelton. Many insiders consider it likely that the show will be retained for the fall schedule and likely be kept on Tuesdays, to avoid a conflict with "X Factor." (Off course, it's still early, and much will depend on what happens in those dark screening rooms the next few days.)

The good news for the networks is this pilot season is looking a lot stronger than last year. Looking over the list of 88 scripted pilots, Adgate said: "It seems like the networks are focusing more on the untraditional, are getting away from the typical dramas and comedies you get year in, year out."
Moving forward in the war on terror

The killing of bin Laden makes clear to Pakistani officials that if they won’t go after top Islamist leaders themselves — whether al-Qaida or Afghan Taliban — we will. It also opens up new opportunities for a political solution to the Afghan war.

How so? Now that the United States has proven it can and will find extremists who kill Americans — Afghan Taliban leaders may feel more vulnerable, and more willing to negotiate for a peace settlement under terms that Afghans find acceptable. And the operation may jolt the Pakistanis into finally realizing that they can’t maneuver their Taliban proteges back into power in Kabul.

Perhaps this is too much to hope for. Yet bin Laden’s death clears the air for more realistic thinking, about terrorism, Afghanistan — and our ability to cope with our security problems. Bin Laden is dead and America is finally free of his shadow.

Time to move on.

The GOT (global war on terror) is over, as we knew it. The problem has been cut down to size.

— Trudy Rubin
Philadelphia Inquirer columnist
Rise in oil prices not the ‘speculators’ fault

E. Thomas McClanahan is a member of the Kansas City Star editorial board.

So now President Barack Obama has decided to go after the oil speculators. He wants to “root out any cases of fraud or manipulation.” He’s de­nounced the Justice Department. Metals and miner­als set up a task force. Yes, he’s deter­mined to get to the bottom of this.

Thus commences another revival of a familiar Washington perfor­mance, staged whenever the prices of oil and gasoline rise to discon­certing levels. In 1978, this form of political theater led to the farce of a windfall profits tax.

In response to “Cal Poly reacts to death of Osama bin Laden”

My frustration with this article knows no bounds!

The author and the students she chose to interview are clearly naive in their experience and understanding. My family and I are New Yorkers and lived in Manhattan on 9/11/2001. We were there to see, hear and smell the tragedy that happened that day. We saw signs of lost family mem­bers that never returned, knew peo­ple who died and those who made it out of the towers.

My children (one is a CP fresh­man) made sandwiches for local fire­fighters and sold their books to raise money for rescue workers. I worked

...at ground zero taking care of rescu­ees. No, killing bin Laden will not make us safer and I surely don’t revel in the killing of another human being, but bin Laden was NOT a hu­man being. He is EVIL. EVIL does not deserve to survive! I absolutely rejoiced the night he was killed. Just so many memories and emotions washed over me. Yes, we have a lot of problems in that region of the world and here at home, and will for a long time, but for one night, for one night, I rejoiced.

— Martin Luther King Jr.

...in response to “Call Poly reacts to death of Osama bin Laden”

Last I had read and heard, the unions in Wisconsin and other states gave in to the demands from their state govern­ments. The thing they didn’t want to give up is their bargaining rights. Even the governor from Wisconsin, when he visited Cal Poly for an appearance before the House Oversight Commit­tee, admitted that his bill against the unions had no fiscal benefit.

I’m pretty sure this would be a good enough reason to protest. I ad­mit that there are corrupt unions but I would think they are not the source of the country’s financial troubles but rather corporations too big to fail, bail outs from the government, and a bunch of wars going on in Iraq, Af­ghanistan, Yemen, Libya, etc.

— Walter

In response to “In response to ‘The egg of the Teachers’ Union”

My issue is not with the professors. It is with the administrators. If you look at the salary data for Cal Poly in 2009 from the Sacramento Bee and do a little math, you’ll find that 32.8 percent of the cost of salaries for Cal Poly is due to administrators.

As a side note, considering that professors work a fraction the amount of hours as someone in private in­dustry and have virtually no stress or responsibilities, I don’t think that pro­fessors are as underpaid as they claim. I’m not saying they aren’t, I just don’t think it’s as bad as some claim.

— Matt

In response to “In response to ‘The egg of the Teachers’ Union”

This is not fair. They promised that the gym would remain open during construction in some capacity. There is no good reason why it should ever be closed. For those of us that are graduating next year we will not be able to use the gym for most of our last year. If you are going to close the gym at least don’t make us pay the fee. Or make a contract with another gym where we can go for free.

SFI

In response to “Recreation Center closing until January 2012.”

Well, what you have is five people collectively making more than $1 million. And that doesn’t even begin to account for the many benefits packages that I am sure they all have (health, vision, dental, life insurance, etc.). Their combined salaries make up more than half the deficit.

— James

In response to “SLO official salaries”

We may have not forgotten, but did we learn anything? Genocide is still not fashionable to support fair trade in other countries, but maybe we should start by practicing fair trade in this country.

— Teo Serna

Journalism department administrative systems coordinator

I have to say that from the article, major wasn’t earned full; but I can say that I was a biochemical major for three years before I decided that money wasn’t all that I cared about. I switched to journalism because I love to write. So if engineers will love their job not for the money but for the sake of doing it, then the majors can be equal.

But altogether, being a liberal arts major does not make you any less cap­able of achieving something society will or will not care about. The ma­jors are difficult in their own way.

— Nicole

In response to “Makecretivism making students feel special”

I never understood the stubbornness of engineering students. I don’t really understand why there’s this attitude of being better than everyone else, and this isn’t only at the university level. What do students care about someone else’s choice of study? Do what makes you happy in life. It’s a public univer­sity, not strictly a tech school.

I’m in engineering and nothing ammously me more than this ridiculous attitude many students in my college have. Get over yourselves.

— B

In response to “Makecretivism making students feel special”

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features only those letters that are written in response to articles posted online. Though not all the responses are printed, the Mustang Daily posts comments that are coherent and fewer intelligent discussion on a given subject. No overcapitalization, please.
Pac-12 goes cutting edge with billion-dollar television deals

Bud Withers
The Seattle Times

SEATTLE — It was on last July's visit by Pac-10 football coaches of New York and ESPN headquarters that Larry Scott, the bold commissioner of the conference, issued a mission statement of sorts: "Our coming to New York," he said, "signals this isn't your grandfa­ther's conference."

The Pac-10 is no longer the conference of your brother or sister who happens to be a couple or three years older. Suddenly, the league is as cutting-edge as the trendiest app for your iPad.

Wednesday in Phoenix, where the conference has its annual spring meetings, Scott will announce the league's media-rights deal to take effect with the 2012-13 academic year. Whatever the adjective is between stunning and staggering, that's the one.

"It's pretty incredible," said AJ Maestas, a Chicago-based consultant whose company, Navigate Marketing, does media research and measurement. "It's truly impres­sive."

The New York Times reported that Scott will announce a 12-year deal for football and men's basket­ball worth $3 billion with Fox and ESPN, an average of $250 million a year, meaning perhaps $21 million annually per school. That would dwarf even the Southeastern Con­ference's $205-million-a-year agree­ments with CBS and ESPN.

"It definitely puts it ahead of everyone," said Maestas. That includes the Big Ten ($220 million annually), though Maestas adds the caveat that the creation and distri­bution of a separate Pac-12 net­work, something Scott intends for the league, puts some uncertainty on the margin.

For perspective, in the 2008-09 academic year (the latest available figures), Washington took in about $8.44 million in shared revenue from the Pac-10 — including TV, bowl payouts and NCAA men's bas­ketball tournament appearances by the league.

Now it stands to gain $21 mil­lion annually from TV alone, which pays for a lot of swimming programs (topped at UW in 2009) or rebur on the Husky Stadium renovation.

Not a year ago, it was regarded as a positive sign for the Pac-10, which had been paid about $53 million annually for its football and men's basketball rights, that the ACC had negotiated a $155 million contract with ESPN for the two sports. Now the ACC might be wondering why it's getting spare change and every­body else large bills.

Then in the fall came the divi­sion alignments for the new Pac-12, the announcement that the league would aggregate all broadcast rights of teams under its banner and im­plement an equal revenue-sharing plan whereby UCLA and USC would be compensated an extra $2 million annually until the league reached the $170 million mark in combined broadcast revenues.

There was considerable skepti­cism about whether, or when, the Pac-12 could hit that $170-million threshold.

In the big picture, the Pac-12's timing was exquisite. It was the last available major conference out there with rights available in the immediate future, and its negotia­tions came as the country was pull­ing out of a recession.

Meanwhile, in recent years, sports performed well in ratings while other content did not, and the value of cable increased because of a dual potential for both advertising and heightened subscribes fees. The competitive forces also fa­vored the Pac-12. Fox, the current Pac-10 rights-holder, saw Time-Warner grab the hometown Lakers for the next 20 years, and lost BCS football games through 2014 to ESPN, so it was primed for a fight.

Comcast, looking to buff up its Versus cable property, was heav­ily involved. And ESPN wasn't about to sit idly. So the bidding was contentious.

But to really appreciate the deal, you have to go beyond the num­bers. Remember, this is the Pac-10, the West Coast, where there's always been a choice between tailgating, the beach or the backpack.

It's a place where most schools can't simply schedule an easy win in football and expect fans to show up, or viewers to tune in. There isn't the fervor of the SEC.

"It's the Pac-10's natural order," said Maestas. "They've outkicked their coverage. When you look at the affin­ity, the fan passion, the ratings, it's not the No. 1 conference.

"They really had a lightning-in-a-bottle situation to pull this off. It's pretty incredible."
Mustangs doing their best to rekindle swagger

J.J. Jenkins
jjenkins.mdb@gmail.com

The Mustang baseball team's worst enemy this season has been themselves. Injuries and harsh conference competition were key factors in dropping two of three games to Long Beach State last weekend. But rather than worry about things such as RPI and post-season berths, the Mustangs have found at least one thing they can focus on to get back on track: their swagger.

"I don't even know what RPI is; I don't think half the team knows what RPI is," infielder J.J. Thompson said. "If we've boosted it then that's good. Our swagger has contributed to that." Their "swag," as Thompson described it, is an extreme amount of confidence the team has despite injuries and a direct result of a team that won seven games in a row. Yet, with the team in a mini-slump coming off this weekend, they are quick to remember how fickle the game of baseball can be.

"You're going to go on your hot streaks and you're going to go on your cold streaks, and you can't let yourself go down in the dumps just because of one game or one at-bat," sophomore right fielder Mitch Haniger said. "You gotta be able to go out there again, again and again."

It's been a tale of ups and downs for the Mustangs. The team defeated Fresno State twice and beat conference-leading Cal State Fullerton two out of three games, which moved them into a tie for first in the Big West. But injuries to starters like Mike Miller, Bobby Crocker, Denver Chavez and closer Jeff Johnson, have left the team in third place, two conference wins behind the Titans — before defeating St. Mary's 5-4 Tuesday — and put a significant damper on the Mustangs' chances of competing in the post-season.

Even Haniger, the team leader in games started, has nagging back pain stemming from last season. "If someone only has 90 percent because of their injury, everyone knows they are going to give 100 percent of that," Haniger said. "And if that 90 percent isn't good enough and someone is healthy on the bench, we have enough confidence to go to another person and get the job done."

The team said it is tired of the Titans' conference dominance and feel confident it could be the squad to unseat them.

"When the pitching staff goes up there and puts a zero on the scoreboard right away, it motivates us to help them out, battle at the plate and put runs on the board," Chavez said. "Since it's a do or die situation right now, the batters take personal responsibility to put runs across for this pitching staff."

That pitching staff, head coach Larry Lee said, is the backbone of this Mustang team. " Momentum is only as good as your starting pitching," Lee said after taking two games from Fullerton. "Mason Radeke, who pitches the first game of each weekend series, has won his last five starts, all in conference play, on his way to a 7-1 record with a 2.19 ERA. Chavez, who played high school ball with Radeke in Santa Barbara, has watched the Mustang ace through the years and is impressed with his dominance at every level of competition.

"I think the biggest thing is that (Radeke) has learned to battle out of pressure situations," Chavez said. "(At Cal Poly) he handles (pressure) really well. A number of times he gets in a hole and is able to battle out."

Starting pitcher Steven Fischback, who did not factor in the decision on Saturday against Long Beach, is 4-2 with a 3.67 ERA. Chavez said because the Mustangs do not get the respect that teams such as Cal State Fullerton or UC Irvine receive, the team will have to finish strong in order to garner an at-large bid to an NCAA regional.

"If someone only has 90 percent because of their injury, everyone knows they are going to give 100 percent of that," Haniger said. "And if that 90 percent isn't good enough and someone is healthy on the bench, we have enough confidence to go to another person and get the job done."

"Swag" this weekend when it hits the road to face UC Irvine, which holds RPI of 82, according to boydsworld.com, and would, most likely, need to move up in order to earn a bid, but the team leaves coach Lee to worry about that.

The team will look to pick up its "swag" this weekend when it hits the road to face UC Irvine, which holds RPI of 82, according to boydsworld.com, and would, most likely, need to move up in order to earn a bid, but the team leaves coach Lee to worry about that.

"There's nothing more we want than to go to regional and win regionals, then go to Super Regionals," Thompson said, who was on the 2009 team. "Going to a regional is not our main thought, it's going there, winning it and going to the next level. Our drive is there."

As of May 4, the Mustangs had an RPI of 82, according to boydsworld.com, and would, most likely, need to move up in order to earn a bid, but the team leaves coach Lee to worry about that.

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