What's Happening
Classical music with a comic twist comes to the PAC April 30
Composer, musician, author, and satirist Peter Schickele is internationally recognized as one of the most versatile and entertaining artists in the field of music. After 40 years of mischief, and with the help of his alter ego, P.D.Q. Bach, Schickele -- the maestro of musical mayhem -- has convinced millions of fans that classical music audiences do indeed have a sense of humor.

On Saturday, April 30, at 8 p.m. in the Christopher Cohan Center, Schickele joins the San Luis Obispo Symphony and San Luis Obispo Vocal Arts Ensemble in “PDQ BACH – The Vegas Years.” Tickets for the performance range from $32-$44, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. Order by phone at ext. 6-2787 or fax at ext. 6-6088. Order online at www.pacslpo.org.

Backstage Pizza performances
The following musicians are scheduled at BackStage Pizza, where there's never a cover charge, and under 21 are always welcome:
Wednesday, April 27, 11 a.m., Christopher Hawley
Wednesday, May 4, 11 a.m., Guy Budd
Friday, May 6, 7 p.m., The Sorrow Band & Reserved 16

Groundbreaking Ceremony
The Cal Poly Housing Corporation is holding a groundbreaking ceremony and press conference at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 28, to mark the beginning of construction of the “Bella Montaña” faculty and staff housing project. The event takes place at the project site on Highland Drive at Highway 1. Speakers will include President Baker, San Luis Obispo County Supervisors Shirley Bianchi and James R. Patterson and San Luis Obispo Mayor Dave Romero.

Lorraine Donegan earns faculty award
Graphic Communication Professor Lorraine Donegan has been named the recipient of the fourth annual Faculty Advisor Award. Donegan will be recognized before her peers at the university’s Fall Conference in September. She will also receive a $500 honorarium. At the request of the provost, the Academic Advising Council launched the Outstanding Faculty Advisor award in 2001 to recognize achievement by a faculty member in the area of student advising. Nominations are solicited from faculty, staff and students across campus.

Other faculty members nominated for this year’s advising award were:
Psychology Professor Shawn Burn, Business Marketing Professor Sharon Dobson, Business Management Professor Barry Floyd, Horticulture and Crop Science Professor David Hannings, Business Accounting Professor Kate Lancaster, Political Science Chair and Professor Dianne Long, Landscape Architecture Professor Astrid Reeves, Psychology Professor Donald Ryujin, Electrical Engineering Professor Taufik (who uses one name) and Natural Resources Management Professor Richard Thompson.

Students vote down fee increase
Students last week voted down the proposed ASI fee increase that would have paid to renovate, expand and build student facilities. Of the 5,302 votes cast — approximately 32 percent of the student population — there were 1,969 "yes" votes (37 percent) and 3,333 "no" votes (63 percent). The referendum asked students to approve an initial fee increase of $21 per quarter effective fall 2005, with incremental increases over the next six years that would have totaled $175 per quarter in 2011. "This is a huge disappointment to ASI Student Government and the future students of Cal Poly," said Blake Bolton, ASI president. "Students will not have an opportunity to make an impact like this again in the near future."

Golden Key honors five faculty, staff
The Cal Poly Chapter of Golden Key International Honour Society recently recognized five new honorary faculty and staff members. They were Assistant Director of Student Life and Leadership Andrene Kawai-Lenting, History Professor Manzar Foroohar, Journalism Professor Teresa Allen, BioResource and Agricultural Engineering Professor Douglas Williams, and Academic Records Analyst Patricia Warnick-Wait.

Students nominated the honorary members based on their service and contributions to the campus and community, explained chapter advisor Val Barboza. Golden Key in an internationally recognized academic honor society dedicated to excellence. The university chapter accepted 185 new student members, all juniors and seniors in the top 10 percent of their classes. Membership is by invitation. For more information about Golden Key, visit the club Web site at www.calpoly.edu/~gkeyclub.

Students market produce on campus
The Student Produce Market offers fresh fruits and vegetables Mondays, 5-7 p.m., at Cerro Vista Apartments. Carrots, radishes, citrus, chard, lettuce and avocados, along with other seasonal produce and products made on campus, are for sale outside the Community Center. Contact Ellen Whitehead at ext. 6-6791 for more information.
Lyceum series examines U.S. health policy

Richard E. Chard, a national health policy specialist, will discuss what's good and what's not about U.S. health policy in a free public presentation at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 5, in Philips Hall in the Performing Arts Center. His talk, titled “Public Opinion and Health Policy,” is presented as part of the university's Lyceum speaker series. Chard will look at various models of health policy change, including Medicare and the Health Security Act and related policy issues. He explains how a plan that was designed to help only a small segment of the population sailed through Congress, while a policy designed to produce a better health-care plan disappeared from the national government agenda. The event is sponsored by the Political Science Department and the College of Liberal Arts. For more information, contact Professor Dianne Long at ext. 6-2984.

Vanpool has openings for commuters

Gas prices got you down? Try the university vanpool and save on gas, insurance and wear and tear on your car. Vanpool has openings in Paso Robles, Santa Maria, Atascadero, Los Osos and Morro Bay. For more information, contact Susan Rains at ext. 6-6680 or strains@calpoly.edu. And commuters, watch for Bike Week coming up in May.

Bid on bikes at University Police auction

The University Police Department is auctioning off about 70 abandoned bicycles found on campus. The silent auction takes place today, Wednesday, April 27. Successful bidders may take home their bikes today after 3 p.m. The bikes are on display in the driveway in front of the University Police Department office. Police say it's a good opportunity to own a "great commuter or project bike." Contact University Police at ext. 6-6696 for more information.

Writing contest named for professor

The university has named the Al Landwehr Creative Writing Contest in recognition of the longtime English professor who inaugurated the student competition 35 years ago. Landwehr created the annual contest as a way to encourage and showcase the talents of not just English majors, but student writers all across campus. Little did he know that three-and-a-half decades later the contest would bear his own name, said English Professor Kevin Clark. The announcement was made during Open House at the annual reading by this year's student prize winners. Landwehr began teaching at Cal Poly in 1970 and retired last year. A teacher of fiction writing and literature, he won the university's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1998. He gave the contest extra zest by finding prize money for the winners in fiction and poetry.

Cat program announces spring raffle

The non-profit Cal Poly Cat Program will hold a spring raffle during the month of May, with tickets on sale for $1 each or six for $5. The drawing will be held on June 1. Prizes to be raffled are succulent gardens, a Poly Plant Shop gift certificate, hand-made scarves, garden sculpture, gift baskets and much more. All proceeds will go toward veterinary expenses and cat shelter supplies. Donations are tax deductible. Tickets may be purchased from Elizabeth Ball, ext. 6-2548; Karleyne Binford, ext. 6-2195; Geri Bolivar, ext. 6-2321; Jane Brechler, ext. 6-2553; Shéron Dobson, ext. 6-1606; Edie Griffin-Shaw, ext. 6-5220; Gerry Mueller, ext. 6-6094; Ellen Notermann, ext. 6-1625 and John Sullivan, ext. 6-1717. For more information, contact Griffin-Shaw at 6-5220.