New projects on horizon for Poly pier

Joshua Ayers
MUSTANG DAILY

Compared to others in the county, the Cal Poly Pier is a monster.
A good monster though. One that has facilitated the marine experience for Cal Poly students and recently other regional schools as well as marine-related industry.

"The pier is administered through the College of Science and Math but it's really a campus-wide resource and even bigger," said pier facility manager Tom Moylan.

This pier dwarf all others on the Central Coast. Its one-kilometer length — about 3,280 feet — boats secure and private access, high-bandwidth Internet capabilities and electricity, which has played an important part in the university's joint-use arrangements.

The industry connections are usually in the marine related areas or marine engineering and they're looking for places to beta test instrumentation," Moylan said.

Institutions such as the Monterey Bay Research Center currently utilize the pier for marine projects. In addition, the pier is used for research by the Navy, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and NASA.

Moylan said that the university allows private companies to use the pier facility (Center for Coastal Marine Sciences), which helps expose students to the industry side of the marine field.

"They can come here and put an instrument in the water, plug it in, hard wire it back the pier and then monitor it from wherever they're at," Moylan said.

WET Labs, a company based in Philomath, Ore., specializes in ocean equipment designed to monitor sea life such as phytoplankton. WET Labs was able to test equipment on the Cal Poly pier, while monitoring results in Oregon.

Joint use projects like this encourage partnerships with the university and allow equipment sharing in addition to potential donations and possible student internships with the companies.

"With those partnerships, we involve students so the students get to see another angle of marine science," Moylan said. "On the industry side, they get to see what it's like for other career options, not just academia."

The pier sees about 1,500 students a year and is open to the public two times a year according to Moylan.

Throughout the regular school year, the nearest use of the pier is during the middle of quarters, Moylan said. The summers have also been picking up since Cuesta College has secured joint use of the pier for its biology, classics and marine science.

"It's really year-round with some lulls during the breaks," Moylan said. "That gives me a chance to catch up on some maintenance things."

Students are also big beneficiaries from the pier.

It is home to a live laboratory that is used for a variety of projects ranging from biological sciences to manufacturing engineering students.

The lab features access to raw and filtered seawater that comes from directly underneath the pier. Two large industrial pumps drive seawater upward from the north side of the pier and some of the water is filtered through four large cylinders filled with sand.

One project last Friday employed the filtered water resource to monitor the effects of a particular type of parasite on sand crabs.

Across the lab, four trays of a composite material were subjected to fire tests.

Despite intense fire season, Cal Poly well-protected

Brechan Yohe-Mellor
MUSTANG DAILY

While most were riveted to their television sets watching the Southern California fires rage two weeks ago, firefighters were called to San Luis Obispo to fend off yet another potentially devastating fire.

Dubbed the El Corrillo fire, it burned 60 acres, harming no structures or people. Residents in homes at the edge of suburban development were ordered to evacuate as the fire came within a few hundred feet of their homes, but the order was called off by 1 p.m.

Chris Dicus, associate professor of fire and fish management at Cal Poly, said that arching power lines have also caused fires on campus.

"Occasionally (with) the electricity that is flowing through these high voltage power lines, there will be for whatever reason, some type of connection established between the ground and the power line," Dicus said. "So the power lines will actually take their electricity and arch down to the ground and ignite the fluff that are there."

Dicus added that this fire was problematic because of the combination of drought-like conditions and the wind that kept shifting in different directions.

"We've seen this trend across the Western United States where there is a drying trend as well as a temperature increase trend," Dicus said. "This is causing longer fire seasons; fires are able to start breaking out earlier in the year and they last longer into the typical fire season."

Although some of San Luis Obispo's fire suppression equipment was down in Montecito, Jane Schmitz, fire captain for Cal Fire, said this was not a cause for concern. It is a common occurrence to have fire crews scattered throughout the state when fires hit.

"We actually grabbed a strike team of engines from Northern California that was headed to the Montecito fire (and) then we had (firefighters from) Grover Beach, Arroyo Grande, Cayucos, Santa Margarita and San Luis city all help to put out the fire."

In the end, over 200 firefighters and one air tanker came to the city and Cal Fire's aid.

Power lines often present another fire hazard at Cal Poly when combined with the buzzards actually sunning themselves on power lines," Dicus said. "Stretching themselves and making the connection and you have this flaming buzzard that hits the ground."

Although Cal Poly has seen four fires on campus in the last three years, it is well protected from a suppression standpoint, Schmitz said.

She said that the school has a contract with the city firefighters, who protect the buildings from being burned. Cal Fire is responsible for putting out brush fires, the most common type at Cal Poly, which usually has fires up Horse Canyon and Poly Canyon.

Dicus said that although local resources have always done a "phenomenal job" putting fires out on campus, he was quick to add that everyone needs to do their part to help the firefighters before a fire breaks out.

"I would say that we as a university and society in general can't rely on the fire service to take care of all our problems," he said. 
it's seen in first kind of maiden voyage in the ocean actually, picking up data that is usable," he said.

"As soon as we figured it all out, we brought it on the grant money doing the research," Rohan said.

"I graduated in 2006 and for my senior project, was the beginning design of this project," Rohan said. "I graduated, left for a year or so and came back and the professor I worked with offered me a job just working on the grant money doing the research."

The project, which is funded by the National Science Foundation, is attempting to create a device to shine a blue laser through the water to excite phytoplankton, causing them to fluoresce.

A camera records the quantity of the phytoplankton all the way to the ocean floor.

The unique part of this is that the device can make measurements for different depths without having to go to those depths to take the measurements.

"We work here and on campus — in the boat house that's where we did all the preliminary testing so we don't have to be out in the elements," Rohan said. "As soon as we figured it all out, we brought it out here and we're testing right now."

Rohan works on the project 40 hours a week and was also involved in the conceptual design of the project three years ago when he was completing his senior project.

"It's been three years since we initially got the grant money for this project and in the last three days, we don't have to be out in the elements," Rohan said. "It's not so much keeping fire from happening because fire is a natural process and consistent here in SLO county," Dicus said. "But trying to protect the human infrastructure (and helping) the firefighters by preparing the battlefield."
Astronauts step out for final spacewalk of mission

Marcia Dunn

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Astronauts successfully carried out one last spacewalk Monday, finishing an unprecedented clean and lubed job that they began a week ago at the international space station.

Spacewalker Stephen Bowen wrapped up work on a jammed solar-wing rotary joint as his partner, Shane Kimbrough, touted some extra grease as a precaution on another joint that is working fine.

When the repairs to the gummed-up joint were deemed officially complete, Mission Control radioed up its applause.


Just before Monday's spacewalk began, NASA added a 16th day to space shuttle Endeavour's mission. Managers wanted to give the astronauts more time to fix a machine that's supposed to turn urine into drinking water; additional repairs were performed Monday for the fifth day in a row.

The $154 million recycling equipment was delivered by Endeavour, along with other home makeover items needed to expand the space station crew to six next year.

Monday's spacewalk was the fourth for Endeavour's astronauts. Grease repair work on the clogged joint consumed most of their time.

The rotary joint on the right side of the space station hasn't worked properly for more than a year, preventing the solar wings on that side from pointing automatically toward the sun. Grubbing parts left the joint full of metal shavings.

Almost all the gritty mess was cleaned up during the first three spacewalks and new bearings were put in. Bowen finished the job Monday, paving the way for the fifth day in a row.

As they have before, the spacewalkers had to share grease guns 223 miles up. There was one less tool kit and final spacewalk of Endeavour’s nearly two-week visit to the orbital outpost.

The dialogue between the spacewalkers and the astronauts inside was technical and full of numbers denoting the various panels on the joints. "Too many numbers," one of the spacewalkers grumbled.

When the repairs to the gummed-up joint were fully carried out one last spacewalk Monday, finishing a test of the newly repaired joint Tuesday. Regardless of the outcome, more spacewalks are planned on later missions for a better, longer-term fix.

An identical joint on the left side of the orbiting complex has worked perfectly, but NASA wanted the spacewalkers to grease it up to ensure its longevity. Once they opened up this joint, the astronauts noticed wear on some parts.

The辩论 between the spacewalkers and the astronauts inside was technical and full of numbers denoting the various panels on the joints. "Too many numbers," one of the spacewalkers grumbled. As they have before, the spacewalkers had to share grease guns 225 miles up. There was one less tool kit after a sack full of grease guns and other items floated away on the first spacewalk last Tuesday.

Inside the space station, meanwhile, skipper Mike Kimbrough, squirted some extra grease as a precaution on another joint that is working fine.

"I drive to the store more often because when the gas prices were high, I'd hitch rides with other people." - Sean Hauser, biomedical engineering junior

"Yeah, definitely. I have an SUV so I'm a lot happier now. I've been driving back home to see my parents quite a bit now. They're happier now too."

John Gardiner, fruit sciences senior

"I have to do the same amount of driving so I'm not really driving more and I'm not really driving less. I should be riding my bike though."

-Laura Akin, social sciences senior

"Not really, I just do the same routine. Go home and come back. It's a good thing that it's cheaper now though because I live six and a half hours away in Chico."

-Rocio Cruz, industrial engineering sophomore

"Are you driving more again with gas prices back down?"

Word on the Street

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China maintains hold on Tibet

Charles Hutzler

XIAHE, China — Chinese para-
military police with riot shields and
batons abruptly took up posts Mon-
day on the main street of this Tibet-
town, disrupting the hostile of Bud-
dhist pilgrims in a reminder of Chi-
na's determined control of the region.

With some Tibetans pushing harder
against Chinese rule in nearly 50 years, the authoritarian gov-
ernment is adjusting tactics. Police
checkpoints and guard posts in place
for months are suddenly dismantled,
only to reappear without warning
days later.

Helmeted police with truncheons
and six-foot-long poles stood out-
side the courthouse and government
buildings on Monday.

At a checkpoint with sandbags
chest high on a bridge, uniformed of-
ciples studied identification papers and
stopped all but a few dozen vehicles
from entering the one-street tow-

A monk makes a reverential ges-
ture on a spare altar in his small
room where a framed portrait of
the Dalai Lama stands at the
Labrang Monastery in Xiahe, China.
"We are in the grip of the
Communist Party. Tibet is occu-

The Dalai Lama has fled to
India. My heart is sad," he said.

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Tuesday, November 25, 2008

State

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A
prominent Hollywood attorney was
sentenced Monday to three years in
prison in a wiretapping scheme that
involved the former wife of MGM
chairman Kirk Kerkorian.

Pellicano and Christensen were
accused of recording phone conser-

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davour now means that the two
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Sonnenberg memoir
an addicting read

Chelsea Bieker
MONDAY DAILY

In Susanna Sonnenberg's honest and riveting memoir, "Her Last Death," she displays her vexing childhood in crisp, fresh prose painting a vivid picture of what was like growing up with a drug-addicted mother. This was no cliché addiction story however, and although the typical oversharing, binging and disasters all find their home in Sonnenberg's book, they are accompanied by a glamorous, exciting whirlwind of personality. Enter Sonnenberg's mother, Daphne. Growing up in New York City, Daphne was not one to introduce Sonnenberg to chaos, removing her from her classroom as a young child to embark on a spontaneous trip to "see your country," after receiving a questionable fake diagnosis of cancer. With little sister, Penelope in tow, Susanna Sonnenberg that absorbed most of Daphne's attention as well as cleaning up after most of her messes.

Daphne is beautiful, she is told and having divorced Sonnenberg's father when she was young, makes her mission to seduce anyone who she sees fit. Hiding no detail of her sexual conquests from Sonnenberg as a child, the tables turn when Sonnenberg is caught reading a Penthouse magazine as a 10-year-old. So much so that she buys her the latest copy and makes her read the letters out loud. Teaching her daughter of the power of her sexuality at such a young age did not go without scathing Sonnenberg's future, as there is a chapter of the book appropriately titled, "Sex With Everybody," where she documents her own recklessness.

Introducing her daughter to the effects of cocaine at age 12, she carefully explains good dealers from bad, as well as cut numbers. Sonnenberg knows her life is not normal by any standards, although there remain moments with Daphne that feel secure enough to look the other way. Her mother keeps up the tireless façade of sexual seductress, enterpreneur and privileged traveler while dwindling behind closed doors. Resting on the money of wealthy grandparents, Sonnenberg is constantly in contact with posh restaurants in Manhattan, stores, and a slew of casually mentioned men of great prominence that pass through her mother's bedroom.

China state media blast new Guns N' Roses album

Christopher Bodeen
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — A newspaper published by China's ruling Communist Party is blasting the latest Guns N' Roses album as an attack on the Chinese nation. Delayed since recording began in 1994, "Chinese Democracy" hit stores in the U.S. on Sunday, although it is unlikely to be sold legally in China, where censors maintain tight control over films, music and publications. In an article Monday headlined "American band releases album venomously attacking China," the Global Times said unidentified Chinese Internet users had described the album as part of a plot by some in the West to "grab and control the world using democracy as a pawn."

The album "turns its spear point on China," the article said.

China's Foreign Ministry did not respond to fazed questions about the article, although a spokesman speaking on routine condition of anonymity said: "We don't need to comment on that."

Spokesman for the Culture Ministry and State Administration of Radio, Film and Television, government bodies that regulate album releases and performances, could not be reached for comment.

The Global Times article referred only to the title of the album and not to specific song lyrics. The record's title track makes a reference to the Fabian Gong meditation movement that was banned by China as an "evil cult" and warns "if your Great Wall rocks blame yourself," in an apparent message to the country's authoritarian government.

Songs from the album could be heard on Internet sites such as YouTube and the band's MySpace page on Monday and it was not immediately possible to tell whether China's Internet monitors were seeking to block access to it.

Monitors use content filters that highlight and sometimes block messages containing words such as democracy. That prompted some Internet users to combine English
Musical at Iowa college acts out scary Bible tales

Melanie S. Weite
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES, Iowa — Don’t expect to hear these Bible stories at church.

Cannibalism, rape, a bear that mauls children — this is the Bible.

They’re among six stories from the Old Testament acted out in “Terror Texts,” a musical at Northwestern College in Orange City.

Adding to the shocking nature of the stories are the theatrics, with actors decked out in Goth attire, a rock band and a mosh pit.

Theater professor Jeff Barker said the obscurity of the stories belies their value.

“We believe we have discovered something that has been lying dormant for many, many centuries,” said Barker, who created and directs “Terror Texts.”

The musical was first performed at the 1,200-student Christian college in Northeast Iowa in February and came back for an encore this weekend.

Barker used the King James version of the Bible, and actors speak each verse word-by-word. It is not an interpretation or adaptation, like “Godspell” or “Jesus Christ Superstar.”

“There’s tremendous power waiting when you simply speak and act these stories aloud with faithfulness to the text, not trying to adapt them or add a lot of this, but just simply play what’s written there,” Barker said.

Barker views the Bible as a “repository of ancient plays,” and actors speak Bible stories at church.

He called “Terror Text” a creative variation of that idea.

“This is obviously a very Protestant approach where you’re attempting to understand this story so that you can see the way the Bible applies to your life,” he said. “You carry it on in your life. You become part of the story.”

Student Hannah McBride has several roles in the performance, including as a virgin who gets kidnapped at the end of a story of rape, murder and war. McBride said it has shown her something about herself.

“I was looking for term papers, stories I can say are the best way to understand the Bible is in terms of it being a great dramatic performance,” she said. “That’s part of what we’re saying with this whole project that life and God himself are mysterious.”

Williams拿下，一位教授的哲学和文化是 fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., specializes in visual arts in relation to religious tradition.

Barker views the Bible as a “repository of ancient plays,” and actors speak Bible stories at church.

The Bible in many ways shows emotions — grief, anger, bitterness and spite and hate. We are cannibalism, rape and a bear that mauls children.

It has that image of what could have been great, I ruined,” she said.

In a world in which religion often is practiced privately or individually, Barker said if people will understand the Bible better through his performance.

“These are the stories of our Old Testament, they bring us hope. And I think as we embrace that we’re going to carry it on in our life. We become part of the story.”

“Terror Texts,” a musical at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa. The play is made up of six stories from the Old Testament, including some concerning cannibalism, rape and a bear that mauls children.

New Releases

New DVDs:

“Fred Claus”
starin Vincent Vaughn, Paul Giamatti, John Michael Higgins, Miranda Richardson, Rachel Weisz and Kathy Bates

“Hancock”
Will Smith, Jason Bateman, Elizabeth Denenberg and Eddie Fernandez

New Books:


“Your Heart Belongs to Me”
by Dean Koontz


“The Pagan Stone: The Sign of Seven Trilogy”
by Nora Roberts

New Music:

“Chinese Democracy”
by Guns n’ Roses

“808s & Heartbreak”
by Kanye West

“Reminder” (Deluxe Version)
by FOB

“Day & Age”
by The Killers

“Electric Arguments”
by Paul McCartney (The Fireman)

“Road to Revolution”
by Linkin Park

“24 Hours”
by Tom Jones

“Prospekt’s March EP”
by Coldplay

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Instead, the Nazis confiscated it. Kurt Gernstein, an officer in the Nazi's munitions Waffen SS, got the Matisse, either as a bribe or because he bought it, Glyn said.

An expert in deconditioning techniques, Gernstein was assigned to the Higgsen Institute of the SS, according to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. On its Web site, it says he was responsible for delivering Zyklon B — poison used in the gas chambers — to Auschwitz and other camps.

Gernstein surrendered to French authorities in April 1945, as the Nazi regime was crumbling, and was held at Paris' Cherche-Midi prison, the museum says. It says he wrote a report there recounting his service with the SS and hanged himself in July 1945.

French gendarmes recovered the painting three years later from a cache near Gerstein's home in Turinberg, Germany, said Didier Schulmann, curator at the Pompeoii Center National Museum of Modern Art in Paris. It has part of the museum's collection since 1949.

Matisse painted the landscape, showing a building behind a wall, in 1898. The colors are vivid, the perspective a little unsettling as it leans left toward the viewer.

"It is not an absolomely masterpiece but it is surprising," said Schulman in an interview. While looted artworks often have complex stories, "this one is particularly amazing," he added.

Harry Ful Jr. died in 1963 and for reasons unknown willed his estate to Giids Marit, a woman who has remained something of a mystery in this saga. She in turn left her estate to the British charity when she died in Switzerland in 1992, which explains why Magen David Adom UK is now getting the Matisse.

Glyn said they have not been able to determine the nature of the relationship between Ful and Martin, why he left her his estate or why Martin in turn made Magen David Adom the beneficiary of her will.

The Matisse is worth a "a good six-figure sum," but will first be displayed in a museum, said Glyn. He said he's in discussions with museums in Germany and Israel.

The charity is also trying to recover other parts of the Fuld collection, which included 12th-century Buddhas statues, 16th-century Italian masters, furniture and other art, Glyn said.

"There are pieces in the Hermitage (museum in Russia), there are pieces in museums in Germany, there are pieces before it or not in Israel," he said. "Our representatives in France, in discussions and negotiations with a whole raft of people, including national museums and governments, to see whether some of this stuff can come back. Some of the stuff is far more important than the Matisse."

But trying to prove ownership, he added, "is a long, slow and expensive process."

Roses

and Chinese characters in their postings about the album to skirt such monitoring.

China approves only limited numbers of foreign films and records for distribution each year, partly due to political concerns but also to protect domestic producers. Live performances are also closely regulated, with bands forced to submit set lists beforehand. The Rolling Stones were asked not to play several songs with suggestive lyrics during their 2006 China debut, including "Brown Sugar," "Honky Tonk Woman," "Beat of the 767 Higuera Street
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"Let's Spend the Night Together."
Climate change summit calls for thinking globally, acting locally

Last week, Governor Schwarzenegger held an International Summit on Climate Change. Governors from Kansas, Illinois, Florida, Wisconsin and international representatives from China, Indonesia, Brazil, Mexico, Canada, India, European Commission and the United Nations participated in a symbolic signing of a declaration to stop rainforest cutting in Indonesia and the Amazon. This gathering was intended to prepare a roadmap for a global treaty on climate change in Copenhagen, Denmark in Dec, 2009.

Of the 400 participants from around the world, 40 students attended, and two represented Cal Poly. I was invited as a representative of the Empower Poly Coalition, a group of sustainability clubs on campus that work to green campus curriculum, facilities operations and campus procurements. The privilege of participating in this influential summit was met with feelings of excitement and concern by what these global decision makers envision the future of capping carbon emissions to look like.

President-elect Barack Obama gave a surprise address to the Summit via Webcast, pledging to vigorously participate in discussions at the global treaty. What we can expect from his national policy, as stated in the address is: 1) a National cap and trade program, 2) creation of 5 million new green jobs, and 3) Fifteen billion dollars in annual investments to solar, wind and biofuel. Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom also addressed the delegation, noting that an international treaty was critical in dealing with an issue like climate change.

As our governor and our president-elect agree that establishing a cap-and-trade system that controls pollution by providing economic incentives to reduce emissions is the best solution, my fellow constituents and I question that notion. The challenge with this policy is that cap-and-trade does not make emitters pay, it just gives them incentive to pollute less. Other systems, such as carbon taxing that establishes a price on emissions, are straightforward mechanisms for greenhouse gas reduction.

Unfortunately, my qualms are only in vain, the global regulatory community seems to be in consensus that cap and trade is the best system, so there is no point in complaining. Further, some greenhouse gas legislation is better than none at all. Whatever shape next year’s global treaty takes it is certain that local communities will be the ones to take action and actually start cutting back on emissions. As it turns out the whole “think global and act locally” idea is really true. So, as a global citizen, a student, and as a member of the San Luis Obispo community I encourage you to get educated and involved in solving the climate crisis right here in San Luis Obispo. We wish our city’s greenhouse gas inventory near completion we are at the next step of identifying which paths we can take to change San Luis Obispo’s energy future.

On Dec 3 at 7 p.m. at the Steynberg Gallery, students and community members will hear from newly elected city council members Jan Marx and John Ashbough about their plans to make San Luis Obispo a leader in the renewable energy economy in an Energy Town Hall meeting. You are all invited to participate and make your voice heard here in San Luis Obispo and maybe even across the pond in Copenhagen.

Nancy Cole is a Mustang Daily columnist, a city and regional planning senior and the former vice-president of the Empower Poly Coalition.

Write a letter to the editor!

Please include your name, year and major!

Send your letter, in 250 words or less, to mustangdailypoinions@gmail.com. Or submit it at mustangdaily.com
Guzzlin’ gas at $1.99

Nick O’Malley

So, when’s the revolution? When you don’t remember? It was only a few months ago.

Back when they were lingering at about $4, everyone was concerned about the outrageous gas prices we were facing. Now, with prices going down, all of a sudden the coup d’etat over the gas giants seems to have vanished.

The Facebook groups to boycott pumping gas on a certain day or to put more effort into alternative fuels haven’t popped out since summertime. How strange.

Could it be that, now that gas is affordable, going to the pump isn’t the travesty it used to be?

Let’s face it: It’s much easier to be up in arms about the oil industry making record profits when we’re paying $4 a gallon. Exxon Mobil’s $40.6 billion earnings of earlier this year haven’t been mentioned for a while. But since we’re not paying what we used to, those profits don’t seem too bad.

According to American Automobile Association, the national gas price average has dropped to $2.62 per gallon. The average has dropped below the $2 mark in 23 states and in Missouri, the prices are set at $1.73 per gallon. Suddenly, a gallon of gas has dropped to near the price of a half-gallon of milk. The world isn’t necessarily heading toward a fate of raining sulfur or whatever that was in “The Day After Tomorrow,” but it’s not good.

Going beyond the financial, environmental, moral, international issues involved with the usage of fossil fuels for contemporary transportation is the fact that the issue of oil’s image being dictated almost solely on the prices at the pump.

High prices? We’re all looking at solar power. Low prices? I’m buying a Hummer, dude. America’s addiction to oil needs to be quelled. But nobody’s going to care until prices go up again.

Nick O’Malley is a columnist for the Massachusetts Daily Collegian.

Response to letter to the editor

By Murat Bulutberk

A possible for our historic abuses — and how we can prevent them from reoccurring.

Investigations. But the nation can’t wait to find out who was responsible period of national healing — without the disruption of criminal

corpus petitions President-elect Barack Obama will decide whether
forward with their own (now moot) accounts of the detention and

Some people haven’t noticed how fuel efficiency’s a pretty cool thing. Going longer between stops at the gas station helps out when a lot of people in this country are having problems making due financially. So what if your car looks sort of goofy?

It’s unfortunate, though. When gas was reaching ridiculous prices at the pump, people seemed ready to shun some of the prior tendencies of the American car industry. The Prius and Versace of the world were finally getting some legitimate recognition over F-35s and Hummers. Rumsfeld!

But now, it looks as though it’s time to head back to the Ford Explorer and stop carpooling, taking the bus or, dare I say, walk places.

So, was all of that banter about changing the oil industry’s grip on American culture legitimate or just complaints over the high gas prices?

Regardless of the motives, the resistance to gas dependence is a good thing for this country. The more effort that people put into alternative fuels and conservation of the ones that we have, the better.

Whether or not you believe in global warming, cooling, El Niño or the flying spaghetti monster, emissions from fossil fuels are not good for the environment. The world isn’t necessarily heading toward a fate of razing sulfur or whatever that was in “The Day After Tomorrow,” but it’s not good.

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Read and respond

by Murat Bulutberk

Thank you, Prior for your rebuttal to Balwin’s commentary. I had wished to sit down and write an ex- pression of my thoughts on this debate, and I find you have captured the issues eloquently. I wish we all could agree that this is a minor debate, with data from election day showing that it was a slim majority voting for F-8. This is still a huge choice for the rights of our fellow man and I am thankful we have the opportunity to fight for our beliefs.

— Lauren Bloember

Response to letter to the editor “Can a sell security a choice”

Despite being an elderly senior, Ryan Moriarty has yet to learn how to make a cogent objection, much less justify his objection.

Scan Response to letter to the editor “Ignoring excessive features is naive”

And what percentage of income do the top 10 percent earn? You left out this fact.

— Anonymous

Response to letter to the editor “Legal economic views fairly based”

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features what comments that are written to responses to articles posted online. Though not all the responses will be posted, the Mustang Daily will prioritize comments that are civil and foster intelligent discussions on a given subject.

Will Bush pardon officials who used coercive interrogation tactics?

Hannah Bloch-Webha

Recent reporting suggests that President George W. Bush, in an attempt to wrap up eight years of failed foreign-policy initiatives, may issue a blanket pardon to administration officials who participated in the formation and use of coercive interrogation tactics during the war on terrorism. Under the administration’s view of constitutional and international law, none of these acts were illegal. A presidential pardon would make it difficult to conduct domestic investigations and build official responsible for war crimes. Bush is just hoping that when the next administration crashes his party, it won’t notice the beer foaming up in the tulip bed.

In 2001, Bush administration officials determined that the Geneva Conventions did not apply to the conflict in Afghanistan and set about creating a new legal architecture for the war on terrorism. Since then, American prisons in Afghanistan, Iraq and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, have drawn international scrutiny for their treatment of prisoners. Although the administration has continually maintained that any violations of human rights were the work of “a few bad apples,” executive branch legal memoranda prove that this is untrue.

Philippo Sands, an international lawyer and scholar at University College London, addressed this issue at Monday’s newly named Human Rights and Justice Forum. Sands argued that a blanket pardon to administration officials who participated in the abuses of Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo. Instead, this fact-finding mission would be outsourced to someone else. Lawyers in Brussels and at the Hague might be tasked with charging our elected officials with war crimes they committed on our soil — offenses against U.S. citizens as well as against the victims of torture and indefinite detention.

I’ll let a leg that on Jan. 19, 2009, Bush will issue his blanket pardon and that two days later, ex-administration employees will come forward with their own (now moot) accounts of the detention and interrogation decisions. These have now been four Supreme Court cases on the war, dozens of federal cases and hundreds of habeas corpus petitions. President-elect Barack Obama will decide whether the nation needs a new preventive detention law and new national security courts. Justice still hasn’t been served. Maybe Obama’s message of change can successfully move the nation into the necessary period of national healing — without the disruption of criminal investigations. But the nation is out of time, and we are responsible for our historic abuses — and how we can prevent them from reoccurring.

Hannah Bloch-Webha is a columnist for the Daily Texan at the University of Texas.
Pop Culture Shock Therapy by Doug Bratton

STOP BEING SO JEALOUS, CYCLOPS! WHAT ON EARTH WOULD MAKE YOU THINK I‘VE BEEN HAVING AN AFFAIR WITH WOLVERINE?

Answers to Previous Puzzle

Across
1 Many fundraisers
6 Electrical coils
11 Seattle to Las Vegas
14 Overseeker's head
15 Parolees, e.g.
16 All day's work
17 P: "With a View"
20 "...With a View"
21 Warren of the Supreme Court
22 PO
26 Future L.D.'s
29 It may be remodeled or carved
30 Jazz singer Laine
32 Kind of tea
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36 POL
41 Crews of pain

Down
1 It's dispensary from a hose
2 Remodeled City
4 They may make you cry
5 "...hardly believe it!"
44 "...am, am, am, am!
45 Contract
46 POL
53 Marriage neighbor
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55 POLKA
62 Sugar Loaf Mountain site, briefly
65 Polo player
66 Impertinent
67 Space shuttle gasket
68 No time to waste
69 Online chuckle
70 "Wheels of Fortune" purchase
11 Instrument played by George Harrison
12 Bergen dummy
13 Jumping the gun
14 Sushi with praise
19 Eye drop
22 Boxer Graziano
23 Holiday visitor, maybe
24 #2's
25 "The Time Machine" race
26 The squares of "three squares"
27 Event for Cinderella
31 Making the dean's list, e.g.
32 Gift Morning
33 Sigma president
34 Big box
35 The four seasons, e.g.
36 Where Rita wine comes from
37 Doctrine
38 POLKA
39 Heavy volume
40 Like a game
41 Heading into extra innings
44 Reply to "Ave not!"
45 Champs-Elysees
46 Plant life
47 Jack of the Great Octobers
48 Helicopter part
49 City of Light
50 "...T. Firefly, McCoy"
51 Any Hatfield, to
52 MapOuest
53 Myanmar
54 Relatives of potato
55 POLKA
56 Jackson and a McCoy
57 Air quality org
58 Driveway topper
59 Subway machine gun
60 1200 pm denial
61 Work unit
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Sudoku

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Men's water polo falls in championship round

Jennifer Titcomb

The Cal Poly men's water polo club team came up short Nov. 16 at the National Collegiate Club Water Polo Championships in Athens, Ohio.

The Mustangs took second place, losing to Michigan State 15-13 in the final game.

"We scored 13 goals and that should always be enough to win," Mustangs junior driver Josh Mix said. "We just got some unlucky breaks and we just didn't play defense as well as we should have."

Last year, the Mustangs edged the Spartans for the title, 7-6 in overtime. This season, though, said. "We just got some unlucky shots that went in that too late," Mustangs senior driver Andrew Ross said. "If you can do it for 30 snaps, why can't you do it for 31 snaps? Because if you do, we win."

"This is not 'coach speak' — if we're just being honest about what we see when we turn on the tape, there are a bunch of us that just have to do what we did on the last 30 snaps," Ellison said. "It's a bunch of us that just have to do what we did on the last 30 snaps."

The Mustangs' other scores came courtesy of senior 2-meters Daniel Harris and Kevin Heinichen, and freshman utility Jake Muir.

Junior goalkeeper Casey Ryan made six saves in the loss. "We didn't really adjust to their game play until it was kind of too late," Mustangs senior driver Kurtis Wurster said. "They got a lot of lucky shots that went in that we couldn't compensate for."

Mix, Harris, Ross and Ryan all made the all-tournament team.

"We were struggling to keep up with them," junior 2-meter Aaron Shilling said. "It's basically keeping us in the game." "I was basically keeping us in the game," added Shilling, who added two goals.

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Cal Poly looks to continue historic run

Fresh off its first NCAA Tournament win ever, the Cal Poly men’s soccer team will have an opportunity to advance its historic season tonight.

The Mustangs, who topped UCLA 1-0 in the first round Friday, will visit UC Irvine at 7 tonight.

On Oct. 22, Cal Poly battled then-No. 20 UC Irvine to a 1-1 tie. The Anteaters’ Matt Murphy scored on a penalty kick with 59 seconds left.

"It’s going to be even more contested and even more competitive — both teams realize it’s win-or-go-home," Mustangs head coach Paul Holocher said. "They’re full of confidence as well. It’s just going to be a fierce battle."

No. 7 UC Irvine (14-1-6), the Big West regular season and tournament champion, hasn’t lost in 10 matches but is also playing in its first NCAA Tournament.

Murphy leads the Anteaters with 30 points on 11 goals and eight assists. Spencer Thompson has added 21 points and Irving Garcia 16.

All three were All-Big West Conference First Team selections.

They’re all very good dribblers," Holocher said. "We have to do a very good job of containing those guys and knowing where they are at all times intelligently, we can beat anybody."

The winner of tonight’s match will advance to face either St. John’s or Boston on Saturday or Sunday.

Ellerson: Loss not just Gardner’s fault

Donovan Aird

Two days after his kicker drew national attention for missed kicks during a 36-35 loss to Wisconsin, Cal Poly football head coach Rich Ellerson stressed Monday that there’s enough blame for the loss to go around.

Mustangs junior Andrew Gardner missed three extra points Saturday. The last man came in overtime.

Wisconsin won by scoring a touchdown and adding an extra point on the next possession.

"If everybody wants to throw Andrew under the bus, we’re going to need a bigger bus," Ellerson said. "Because there are a lot of people that need to be under the bus."

With eight seconds left in regulation, sophomore Jake West, the Mustangs’ kickoff specialist who also handles long-range field goals, was wide short on a 46-yard field-goal try that would’ve broken the tie.

Ellerson said after the game, though, that the long snapper didn’t hear the snap count due to the noise of the Camp Randall Stadium crowd of 80,709, resulting in West approaching the kick off-balance and double-clutching.

Gardner made his only field-goal try of the game, a 35-yarder with 2:32 remaining in the third quarter.

"We have some other guys who are on, quote, ‘first team,’ and they’re going to have to demonstrate that they can do some things that they didn’t do the other night," Ellerson said. "That’s not just one position. It’s not quite as stark in folks’ ability.

="The guys are circling the wagons around him. He’ll be fine."

"We’re going to have to make it competitive," Ellerson said Monday, when Gardner was listed as the No. 1 placekicker, ahead of West, on the team’s official depth chart.

Gardner’s "hearing himself up," Ellerson said, but has the support of his teammates.

"He’s doing OK," Ellerson added. "The guys are circling the wagons around him. He’ll be fine."

"It’s a tough business," Ellerson said. "Everybody wants to be a kicker on Tuesday. Nobody wants to be out there when the wind’s blowing, it’s cold and there are a bunch of angry people after you."

The Mustangs (6-2), ranked third in the Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA), could soon find themselves in another close game.

They open the playoffs by host-getting Gardner, page 11

Cal Poly’s Mario Fernandez tries to gain position during a 2-0 win over UC Davis at Alex G. Spanos Stadium on Nov. 2.

"It was a confidence-booster to get such a big win on the road against such a storied program," Holocher said. "They know if we put together a good game plan, we can beat anybody."

The winner of tonight’s match will advance to face either St. John’s or Boston on Saturday or Sunday.

Men’s cross-country

Mustangs finish 23rd at NCAA Championships

With two runners finishing in the top 100, the Cal Poly men’s cross-country team took 23rd place with 1,313 points at the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind., Monday afternoon.

"I thought that the team had a solid effort today," Mustangs head coach Mark Conover said in a news release. "All in all, I think we ran a decent race."

The Mustangs were led by junior Daniel Garcia’s 73rd-place effort, as Cal Polys Julian Alvarez. (11) dribbles against Cal State Fullerton on Oct. 1.

Cal Poly’s Julian Alvarez (11) dribbles against Cal State Fullerton on Oct. 1.

Troy Swier (117th, 31:14) and Carl Dargitz (139th, 31:30).

Also scoring for Cal Poly were fellow Mustang Chase Pami, 23rd at 17:49; Justin Accordino 6-2.

The Mustangs were led by junior Evan Anderson, who finished in 81st at 30:56.

"Iona.

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"All in all, I think we ran a decent race."