Students honor Chavez's life, activism

By Genevieve Loggins

Students marched to celebrate Mexican-American labor activist Cesar Chavez in the University Union Plaza yesterday as the band Los Coyotes de Cal Poly performed. M.E.X.A., a club promoting Xicano cultural identity, sponsored the event. Students met on Dexter lawn where a priest from the Newman Catholic Center said a prayer before the student march, said professor and event organizer Gloria Velasquez.

"Social justice has always been very important for the Chicano movement," Velasquez said. "This day is very important to the honor our hero and to also discuss issues such as the Dream Act and a Cesar Chavez petition to make it a national holiday."

After the march, students gathered in the plaza chanting phrases including "Viva Chavez" and held signs that read "Cal Poly for immigrants," "Si se puede," "Chavez be a man of your word, pass Dream Act now.

Llanty Gorner, civil engineering major and vice president of M.E.X.A., addressed the crowd with a prayer for the farm worker struggle by Cesar Chavez, who she said "read every time he

Chavez, born in Yuma, Arizona, was a farm worker famous for his leadership in promoting better labor conditions in California. He dedicated his life to Latino civil rights groups, coordinated voter registration drives and conducted campaigns against racial and economic discrimination.

The Dream Act is bipartisan legislation that would enable young students to further their education after high school despite their parents' status as non-U.S. citizens.

Luis Magallon, president of M.E.X.A., and civil engineering senior, asked students in the University Union to sign the act.

"This event holds personal significance to myself especially since both my parents are field workers, and we need to raise awareness around campus to inform more students of people like Cesar Chavez," Magallon said.

This year, Los Coyotes de Cal Poly performed songs to promote "cultural diversity," and it was the first time Associated Students, Inc. had the stage available for the event.

The band ended in performance with "De Colores," meaning of "color," to signify the importance of diversity, Velasquez said.

"Songs were an important vehicle of social protest, and music was an important component of Cesar Chavez's farm workers struggle," she said. "It was very important for me to have music being played today.

"I think it's important that we reach out to other groups of individuals from other cultures and promote diversity among everyone," said Hayley Maynard, lead singer of Los Coyotes.

Maynard, an agricultural business senior, writes and performs her own music primarily promoting cultural diversity.

M.E.X.A. is a political and cultural club on campus that holds a lot of events, including the Xicano youth conference; its main goals are empowering the younger generation to higher education, Magallon said.

"It's very important to raise awareness on issues about diversity on our campus which is something that we have been concerned about. (This event) is also about creating a social consciousness, and using critical thinking in our actions," Velasquez said.

I think it's important that we reach out to other groups of individuals from other cultures and promote diversity among everyone.

—Hayley Maynard

Lead singer of Los Coyotes

IN SPORTS

US warship watches Somali pirates with US hostage

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Somali pirates and their hostage American sea captains were adrift in a lifeboat Thursday off the Horn of Africa, shadowed by a U.S. destroyer with more warships within sight of the USS Bainbridge, the naval destroyer that arrived on the scene earlier Thursday.

The Alabama began sailing toward the Kenyan port of Mombasa — its original destination — and was expected to arrive Saturday night, said Joseph Murphy, a professor at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy whose son, Shane Murphy, is second in command of the vessel. The elder Murphy said he was briefed by the shipping company.

A U.S. official, who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the situation, said a Navy team of armed guards was aboard the Alabama.

The Bainbridge had arrived earlier in the day near the Alabama and the lifeboat. Maersk shipping company spokesman Kevin Spors told AP Radio the lifeboat was out of fuel and "dead in the water."

The U.S. Navy sent up P-3 Orion surveillance aircraft and had video of the scene.

Gen. David Petraeus, head of the U.S. Central Command, said more see Pirates, page 2

PHOTO COURTESY OF MAERSK LINE LTD.

This undated photo provided by Maersk Line Ltd. shows the Maersk Alabama. Somali pirates are holding the captain of the ship hostage, a day after bandits hijacked the U.S.-flagged vessel for several hours before 20 crew members overpowered them. The hijacking took place Wednesday several hundred miles off the coast of Somalia.
Pirates

continued from page 1

ships would be sent to the area because "we want to ensure that we have all the capability that might be needed over the course of the coming days."

The additional ships are a show of force in response to a rise in the number of attacks and the first one on a U.S.-flagged ship, according to a senior U.S. defense official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss operational matters. He said they would give the U.S. military more eyes on the threatened area and make the pirates think twice before trying to seize another ship, but it was not enough to mount a blockade.

"These people are nothing more than criminals and we are bringing to bear a number of our assets, including naval and FBI, in order to resolve the hostage situation and bring the pirates to justice," said Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. President Barack Obama was getting regular updates on the situation, said spokesman Robert Gibbs. Attorney General Eric Holder says the United States will take whatever steps are needed to protect U.S. shipping interests against pirates.

FBI spokesman Richard Kolko described the bureau's hostage negotiation team as "fully engaged" with the military on ways to retrieve Phillips.

The pirates were holding talks with the Navy about a peaceful resolution, said a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak on the record.

Weather in the area was expected to be sunny with calm winds over the next few days, said Jodi Newland, a meteorologist with AccuWeather.com, a global weather service. Waves were expected to average between 2 and 4 feet, which is relatively calm, he said.

"Though officials declined to say how close the Bainbridge is to the pirates, one official said of the bandit, "They can see it with their eyes." He spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of talking about a military operation in progress.

The Bainbridge was among several U.S. ships that had been patrolling the region when the 17,000-ton Alabama, carrying U.N. food aid for East Africa, was attacked. It was the sixth vessel to be hit by pirates in a week.

"We said the pirates were desperate," said Ziya Quinn of Bradenton, Fla., who spoke to her husband via phone and e-mail. "They were going all over the stars, back and forth, trying to find them and they couldn't find them."

Quinn and the crew held one of the pirates for about 12 hours before releasing him in hopes of winning Phillips' freedom, she said, adding that the crew communicated with the bandits with hand signals until they left with the captives.

"They said he dressed an injured pirate's cut with bandages "because he was bleeding all over the ship," she said, adding it was unclear how he was hurt.

Joseph Murphy said most of the lifeboats are about 28 feet long and carry water and food for 34 people for 10 days. The lifeboats are covered with outboard engines, working with larger ships that tow them far out to sea. They use satellite navigational and communication equipment, and have an intimate knowledge of local waters, clambering aboard commercial vessels with ladders and grappling hooks.

"Any ship on a ship's radar screen is likely to be mobbed for fishing trawlers or any number of smaller, non-threatening ships that take to sea every day. By the time anyone notices, pirates will have grabbed their way onto the ship and boarding AK-47s."

"I'll guarantee you that if they get all the ports closed, which they probably do, I'll tell you it's probably 100 degrees in there, so air, there's no toilet," he said.

Phillips family in Vermont said he surrendered himself to the pirates to secure the safety of the crew.

"What I understand is that he offered himself as the hostage," said Gina Coggio, 29, half sister of Phillips' wife, Andrea. Coggio said she believed there were negotiations under way, although she didn't specify between whom.

"We are on pins and needles," said Coggio, speaking from the family's Vermont farmhouse.

Steve Romans, a retired head of the FBI hostage negotiation team, said he doesn't recall the FBI ever negotiating with pirates before, but he said this situation is similar to other stand-offs. The difficulty will be negotiating with people who clearly have no way out, he said.

"There's always a potential for tragedy here, and when people feel their options are limited, they sometimes react in more unpredictable and violent ways," Romans said.

Somali Foreign Minister Mohamed Omaar said the pirates "have gotten themselves into a situation where they have to extricate themselves because there is no way they can win."

With one warship nearby and more on the way, piracy expert Roger Miller of the London-based think tank Chatham House said the pirates were in "a very, very tight corner."

"They've got only one guy, they've got nowhere to hide him, they've got no way to defend themselves effectively against the military who are on the way and they are hundreds of miles from Somalia," he said.

Other analysts on the U.S. will be reluctant to use force as long as one of its citizens remains hostage. French commandos, for example, have mounted two military operations against pirates once the ransom had been paid and its citizens were safe.

Many of the pirates have shifted their operations down the Somali coast from the Gulf of Aden to escape naval warship patrols, which had some success in preventing attacks last year.

Ship owners often do not arm their crews, in many cases because of the cargo. A Saudi super tanker hijacked last year carried 2 million barrels of oil, and a gambler could have triggered an explosion because of the cargo's highly flammable vapor.

There is also the problem of keeping the pirates off the ships once they're on board, they will likely fight back. Pirates travel in open skiffs with outboard engines, working with larger ships that tow them far out to sea. They use satellite navigational and communication equipment, and have an intimate knowledge of local waters, clambering aboard commercial vessels with ladders and grappling hooks.

News editor: Rachel Glas; News designer: Omar Sanchez

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Obama seeks $83.4 billion in war money

Andrew Taylor

President Barack Obama asked Congress on Thursday for $83.4 billion for U.S. military and diplomatic operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, presenting for special troop funding that he opposed two years ago when he was senator and George W. Bush was president.

Obama’s request, including money to send thousands more troops to Afghanistan, would push the costs of the two wars to almost $1 trillion since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, according to the Congressional Research Service. The additional money would cover operations into the next fiscal year.

Obama is also requesting $350 million in new funding to upgrade security along the U.S.-Mexico border and to combat narcotics, along with another $400 million in counterinsurgency aid to Pakistan.

Nearly 95 percent of these funds would be used to support our men and women in uniform as they help the people of Iraq to take responsibility for their own future — and work to disrupt, dismantle and defeat al-Qaeda in Pakistan and Afghanistan,” Obama wrote in a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Robert Gibbs, the White House press secretary, acknowledged that Obama has been critical of Bush’s use of similar special legislation to pay for the wars. He said it was needed this time because the money would be required by summer, before Congress is likely to complete its normal appropriations process.

“This will be the last supplemental for Iraq and Afghanistan. The process by which this has been funded over the course of the past many years, the president has dis­cussed and will change,” Gibbs said.

In a statement, Pelosi said Congress would carefully review Obama’s request and “engage in a dialogue with the administration on appropriate benchmarks to measure the success of our investments.”

Last June, Congress approved $86 billion in advance 2009 funding for military operations. All told, the Pentagon would receive $142 billion in war funding for the budget year ending on Sept. 30.

The request is likely to win easy approval from the Democratic-con­trolled Congress, despite frustration over spending, see Obama, page 4.
Obama
continued from page 3
among some liberals over the pace of troop withdrawals, and Obama's plans for a large residual force of up to 50,000 troops — about one-third of the force now there — who will train Iraqis, protect U.S. assets and personnel and conduct anti-terror operations.

The official request was sent ear­th Thursday evening.

The request would fund an av­erage force level in Iraq of 140,000 U.S. troops. It would also finance Obama's initiative to boost troop levels in Afghanistan to more than 30,000 from the current 9,800. And it would provide $2.2 billion to accelerate the Pentagon's plans to increase the overall size of the U.S. military, including a 547,400-person active-duty Army.

Some Democrats were not pleased. “This funding will do two things — it will prolong our occupation of Iraq through at least the end of 2011, and it will deepen and expand our military presence in Afghan­istan indelibly,” said anti-war Rep. Lynn Woolsey, D-Calif. “Instead of attempting to find military solutions to the problems we face in Iraq and Afghanistan, President Obama must fundamentally change the mission in both countries to focus on pro­moting reconciliation, economic development, humanitarian aid and regional diplomatic efforts.”

But House GOP leader John Boehner of Ohio predicted that Republicans would overwhel­mingly support the request, provided congressional Democrats don't seek to “micromanage” the war by adding a timeline or other restrictions on the ability of military officials to carry on the fight.

State

PASO ROBLES, Calif. (AP) — Residents and businesses in Paso Robles face strict water rationing mandates this month, including a rule limiting lawns watering to three days a week. The conserva­tion effort began April 2.

Besides limiting lawn water­ing days, irrigation can only occur before sunrise or runoff on side­walks and streets is prohibited.

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. (AP) — A registered sex offender has been sentenced to 137 years in prison for breaking into a San Luis Obispo apartment and hiding for hours before pouncing on two women when they went to bed.

A jury convicted 30-year-old Billy Dewayne Anderson on Feb. 4 for robber­y, burglary and assault with intent to commit rape.

A San Luis Obispo County judge sentenced him this week to 137 years to life, saying Anderson's prior residential burglar­ies and other crimes warranted the lengthy sentence.

Anderson is a registered sex of­fender who broke into the wom­an's apartment on Oct. 13, then hid in the home for hours until the women went to bed before at­tacking them. The women strug­gled with Anderson before one of them crawled out a window to call police.

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. (AP) — The body of a Marine killed in Afghanistan arrived at Dover Air Force Base on Thursday, marking the third time this week that the media were allowed to witness the return of a fallen U.S. serviceman from overseas.

A Northwest Airlines 747 cargo plane that left Ramstein, Germany, bearing the body of Marine Lance Cpl. Blane A. Oleski of Holland Patent, N.Y., arrived at 4:50 p.m. at the Delaware base, home to the nation's largest military mortuary.

Oleski, 22, was killed Wednesday in Baltimore by five Iraqi expatri­ates. He was making the third trip to Afghanistan when the vehicle he was driving in was ambushed.

Kurdish National Congress seeks reconciliation

L'AQUILA, Italy (AP) — Help started to arrive Thursday for the more than 2,000 cats and dogs believed to have been left homeless by the earthquake in Italy.

The national animal protection agency, ENPA, said seven tons of feed had been delivered to L'Aquila for both domestic and farm anim­als.

Many pets and farm animals are believed to have died in houses and barns that collapsed during the quake Monday. Those that survived are showing signs of trauma, rescue officials said.

When the earthquake hit, the first thing Maria Grazia Bobberi grabbed was her cat, Pallau.

LONDON (AP) — London Mayor Boris Johnson says he has accepted the resignation of the top counterterrorism officer in the Metropolitan Police.

The mayor says Bob Quick, who was the senior police counter­terrorism officer in Britain, stepped down Thursday after a security blunder forced police to move up the timing of an anti-terror oper­ation in northern England.

On Wednesday, Quick was photographed clutching confidential documents that could clearly show the timing of an anti-terror operation in northern England.

The complaint filed Tuesday in Baltimore by five Iraqi expatri­ates and the Nashville, Tenn.-based Knight National Congress seeks class certification for an estimated 100,000 Kurds.

International

SAN LUIS O B IS P O , Calif. (AP) — A registered sex offend­er, 30-year-old Billy Dewayne Anderson, was sentenced to 137 years in prison Thursday.

A San Luis Obispo County judge sentenced him to prison for breaking into an apartment and hiding for hours before pouncing on two women when they went to bed.

Anderson was convicted of first-degree robbery, burglary and assault with intent to commit rape.

The judge sentenced him to 137 years to life because he had prior residential burglaries and other crimes.

Residents and businesses in Paso Robles face strict water rationing mandates this month, including a rule limiting lawns watering to three days a week. The conserva­tion effort began April 2.

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How Berlin sounds

Music department to present songs of German composer Weill

Mikaela Akuna
Musical Notes

The Berlin-inspired music of composer Kurt Weill will fill Spomos Theater when the Cal Poly Music Department presents "Songs of Berlin — The 20th Century with Kurt Weill."

Weill's most famous and popular songs from the '20s and '30s will be performed Saturday night by six instrumentalists and more than 20 voice students from Cal Poly's music department. The concert will feature Weill's most famous works, including "The Threepenny Opera," "Mack the Knife" and "Pirate Jenny," as well as "Alabama Song" from "The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny," "Speak Low" and "One Touch of Venus."

The German composer was inspired by the city of Berlin to write his large collection of music and attended the Berlin School for Music. Music sophomore Patricia Rosas said that the majority of the songs will be performed in English, but the audience will hear some of the songs performed in their native tongue.

"The first couple of songs we do will be in German, but the rest will be in English, kind of following [Weill's] life pattern," Rosas said, referring to Weill's escape to the United States from Germany during World War II. "I think the audience will enjoy hearing something they've probably never heard before, and I think they'll enjoy it."

"I think the audience will enjoy hearing something they've probably never heard before. It's music of a different generation," Rosas said, referring to Weill's life pattern.

The voice coaches behind the production are part of its excellence, Rosas continued, noting the work of jacalyn Kreitzer and Katherine Arthur. Arthur coincidentally has spent much time in Germany and often performs in the language.

Other contributors to the performance include faculty member Ken Hostad and Keith Waibel, who will perform on bass and clarinet, respectively. The group has also called upon notable music department alumni Janice Hurburt and Jessica Reed, who will be a part of the show both on stage and behind the scenes.

The performance is set for Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale for $6 for students and senior citizens and $10 for general admission at the Performing Arts Box Office. They can also be purchased online at www.pacslo.org.

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Hypothetical husband, I’m not giving up my name

I didn’t practice my signature in the margins of my notebooks for nothing. If I get married, my husband will have to deal with the fact that I am and always will be Giana Magnoli.

This will not be another column denounced taking a man’s name because of the inequality of marriage, though that’s more than enough reason to keep one’s birth name. The tradition of patriarchal naming is as well as social, as shown by the difficulty many men face when trying to take their partner’s name.

Two years ago, a man had to pay more than $300 in court fees and advertise a public announcement in the newspaper to change his last name to his partner’s. California Assembly Bill 102 changed that, guaranteeing “equal name change options available to everyone, regardless of gender or sexual orientation who gets married or registers as a domestic partner,” according to the American Civil Liberties Union Web site. Even with the 2007 bill, California is one of only seven states that make it as easy for men as for women.

My reasons for keeping my birth name stem from individual motives. Professional identity, convenience and family history all play a part.

As a writer, I’m recognized and marketed myself based on my name. My resume, portfolio, business cards, signature, e-mail address and bylines are all consistent and changing my name would affect my career. The following people are also recognized by their names more than anything else. Academics, politicians, lawyers, teachers, writers and many more are recognized by their names more than anything else.

Now more than ever, women are choosing to have a career and family life, not one or the other.

Professionals remain hesitant to keep their last name. I’ve heard from teachers, writers and many more who have chosen to keep their last name and bylines are all consistent and changing my name would affect me.

My reasons for keeping my birth name are: What about the kids? Individual couples can create a new one. According to a USA Today article, more men are taking their wives’ last names than ever before. I am not completely against hyphenating my name, at least legally if not socially. For children, hyphenating or having a married last name is the most fair, or they can choose whichever parent they love more (just kidding).

This is the 21st century — I don’t have to choose between being a wife or an independent woman — I can be both.

Giana Magnoli is a journalism senior and the Mustang Daily managing editor.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Nobody’s perfect

In response to letter to the editor “Living by Bible’s word is easier said than done,”

David, the Bible is indeed immutable. However, a large portion of it was written specifically for the Hebrew inhabitants of theocratic Israel. For Gentile Christians, the Old Testament provides the context and prologue for Jesus’ ministry and the subsequent events of the New Testament — as well as the first half of the story concluded in the Book of Revelation.

Even if we were Hebrews, the law would not be binding, because the law and regulations were fulfilled in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. Of course, some of the law was an expression of universal moral truths and not simply racial and national requirements. Those truths still apply even outside their original legal context.

And yes, it is well-nigh impossible to live by all the regulations handed down to the ancient Israelites. According to Christianity this is the main point — to demonstrate the insufficiency of human effort to achieve perfection in the sight of God.

Eric Baldwin

electrical engineering senior

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Edited by Will Shortz No. 0306

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Perfect at home: Mustangs await tough test from 49ers

Scott Silvey

The Cal Poly softball teams didn’t react well to their first appearance in the Top 25 this year, losing two of three at Cal State Fullerton.

The Mustangs (25-9, 4-2 Big West Conference) hope that their second foray into the national spotlight brings better results.

For the second time this year, Cal Poly jumped into the polls, sitting at No. 25 this week as they prepare to take on conference-leading Long Beach State (24-14, 5-1) at noon today, kicking off a three-game series at Bob Janisse Field.

"Long Beach won the series against us last year," Cal Poly head coach Jenny Condon recalled. "They’ve got a good pitcher in Brooke Turner. They’ve got some good hitters. They’ve struggled a little bit more than they did last year but I think that makes them more hungry for wins."

Turner (13-7) has been dominant this season for the 49ers. She has a 2.86 ERA in 117.1 innings of work and has nearly four times as many strikeouts as walks. But the Mustangs have a force of their own on the mound.

Sophomore lefthander Anna Cahn (16-5) has held opposing batters to just a .217 batting average in 102.2 innings. She has a 6.94 strikeout-to-walk ratio in collecting 125 strikeouts to just 18 walks this year.

In Cahn’s last start she was forced to throw 178 pitches in a complete-game 11-inning effort.

But Condon said that would not keep her from the mound this weekend against the 49ers.

"Softball is a little bit different than baseball," she explained. "It’s not really their arm, it’s their legs. If they’re strong and they’re fit they can throw all day — and luckily she is.

While the Mustangs dropped the series 2-1 last year in Long Beach, this year the teams will meet in San Luis Obispo. Cal Poly has shown confidence in defending their home field, garnering an undefeated 13-0 mark at home.

Condon was pleased with the team’s play at Bob Janssen Field thus far.

“Our kids have done such a great job at home," she said. "We’ve really been focused and stayed comfortable. We know how the ball plays off the fence, how the wind plays. We’ve really been focused and stayed comfortable. We know how the ball plays off the fence, how the wind plays. We’ve really been focused and stayed comfortable."

While Condon was pleased with the team’s play at Bob Janssen Field thus far.

“Our kids have done such a great job at home," she said. "We’ve really been focused and stayed comfortable. We know how the ball plays off the fence, how the wind plays. We’ve really been focused and stayed comfortable."

After the game, “he was so elated... he felt like a major leager,” Boras said, weeping.

Adenhart struggled with a 9.00 ERA in three starts with the Angels last season, but Scioscia said last month the pitcher had worked hard over the winter and arrived at spring training with a purpose.

Adenhart is survived by his parents, Jim and Jean.

“He lived his dream and was blessed to be part of an organization comprised of the most caring, and compassionate people,” the family said in a statement issued through the team.

“The Angels were his extended family. Thanks to all of Nick’s loyal supporters and fans throughout his career. He will always be in everyone’s hearts forever.”

The Major League Baseball Players Association said its members have been shaken and saddened by the accident.

“Just hours before the accident, Nick demonstrated his passion for baseball and his prospects for a very bright future. He pitched six scoreless innings for the Angels in the exhibition season earlier this year and was to be a member of the club’s Opening Day roster,” the statement read.

The Major League Baseball Players Association said its members have been shaken and saddened by the accident.

“Just hours before the accident, Nick demonstrated his passion for baseball and his prospects for a very bright future. He pitched six scoreless innings for the Angels in the exhibition season earlier this year and was to be a member of the club’s Opening Day roster,” the statement read.

The pitcher made his major league debut May 1 of last year, also against Oakland. He made two other starts, getting his only decision in a victory over the Chicago White Sox on May 12. He was 37-28 in the minor leagues from 2005-08, including 9-13 last year at Triple-A Salt Lake.

Aaron Weilman was Adenhart’s athletic trainer in 2005 when he played for Utah’s Orem Owlz, a rookie league affiliate with the Angels.

"It was very obvious that he was going to be a successful professional pitcher," said Wells, now the team’s general manager. "Very humble, extremely good in the clubhouse. He was just such an unassuming guy, just went out and did his business.”

The Minnesota Twins held moment of silence before the game against the Seattle Mariners. Also, there was to be a moment of silence before the start of the Texas Rangers’ home game against the Cleveland Indians.

— Associated Press writer Eliza­beth White in Salt Lake City contributed to this report.