Unruly gathering ordinance passed

Jessica Barba

The San Luis Obispo City Council voted overwhelmingly in favor of the "unruly gathering" ordinance after meeting little opposition from those present at Tuesday night's meeting. The ordinance would allow police who deem parties an "unruly gathering" to issue fines to underaged drinkers. Police Chief Deborah Linden said multiple complaints, interference with traffic flow and overflowing crowds are all factors police will take into account when deeming a party an "unruly gathering." She also said attendees who are urinating in public, vandalism, property littering, causing fights or are drunk in public are all subject to additional fines. Linden pointed out that the Student Neighborhood Assistance Program (SNAP) would not be allowed to issue fines, and noise violations would not be issued on top of an unruly gathering fine. She also said if the host calls the police when a party is becoming overcrowded, they could avoid fines. "Noise violations are contended for smaller gatherings and the larger for substantial disturbances," said Police Lieutenant Tom DeWeer, who presented alongside Linden.

Some differences between the "noise ordinance" and the "unruly gathering" ordinance are that no warnings will be given to the rowdy crowds of more than 20 people, the fines are twice the amount of those of the "noise ordinance" and a community service option will not be offered.

see Luso, page 2

Hurlbutt death shocks campus

Jessica Barba

Friends and family of Cal Poly industrial engineering junior Matthew Hurlbutt are mourning his death after he was killed by a truck early Sunday morning.

Hurlbutt was walking on the 101 Highway near the Santa Rosa Street exit when he was struck by a driver in a Toyota Tacoma. In a press release, CHP Investigating Officer Victor Sanchez said the driver was going about 65 mph and could not avoid hitting Hurlbutt. He was pronounced dead on the scene.

Hurlbutt's neighbor, who wishes to remain anonymous, said Hurlbutt had been drinking in a downtown San Luis Obispo bar before the collision.

"Matt was downtown with his roommates at Native. He was pretty drunk and disappeared," he said.

One of Hurlbutt's co-workers from the grocery store Albertson's, Wes Bracken, 22, said the last time he saw Hurlbutt was during their shift late Saturday night. Hurlbutt had invited him to go to several bars downtown with him that night, but Bracken declined.

"Later that night, I got a text from him asking if I wanted to go downtown with him, and I told him I couldn't really afford going to the bars again, so these last few weeks have been hitting me hard in the bank," Bracken said. "It's rather difficult knowing that I could have been with him that night. I understand it's not my fault, but at the same time, you can't help wondering, 'What if?'

Bracken said he was shocked when he heard the next day that Hurlbutt had been killed. He had known Hurlbutt for two years and has found it difficult to return to work.

"It is very hard to put such an event in the back of one's mind, but it still try to do as much as possible. In such a small town as this, and given the fact that we worked together, it is hard not to come across someone who knew him or something that reminds you of him," Bracken said. "I have yet to return to work since the incident, but I have a shift tomorrow and I know it's going to be difficult because everyone's emotions are running high right now as all of us at Albertsons knew Matt. I just know it'll be nice to go through this experience with my co-workers.

see Hurlbutt, page 2

Floatopia canceled

Santa Barbara beach party shut down

Santa Barbara beach party shut down

12,000 people attended Floatopia 2008
33 were taken to the hospital
78 were cited
13 were arrested

Floatopia, the beach float and alcohol-free-for all that first appeared in 2004, attracts thousands of college students, including many from Cal Poly, to the beaches of Isla Vista each year. But the event won't be happening this time, at least on the beach. Santa Barbara County Parks Director Dan Hernandez said he has the authority to close the beach to avoid another "disaster." The decision was made by the Santa Barbara County Parks and Recreation Department, which has the authority to close the beach for environmental concerns, public safety and public nuisance.

County officials decided to close the beach just below Isla Vista to deter massive crowds from gathering this year.

The decision was made by the Santa Barbara County Parks and Recreation Department, which has the authority to close the beach for environmental concerns, public safety and public nuisance. County Parks director Dan Hernandez said the county has a process in place by which a group can come forward and submit a legitimate application for a permit for an event. He said the permit covers issues of liability, sanitation and public safety, and no adequate permit was ever submitted for the event this year. Therefore, Hernandez said, the county decided to close the beach to avoid another "disaster."

"Last year was the worst I've ever seen," Hernandez said. "I've been in parks and recreation for more than 20 years, and I've never seen more environmentally destructive behavior than what took place last year."

"I've been in Parks and Recreation for more than 20 years, and I've never seen more environmentally-destructive behavior than what took place last year."

—Dan Hernandez County Parks Director

see Beach, page 2
Lindem's explanation of the situation is clear and straightforward. She believes that the assembly needs to be more proactive in addressing the issue of unruly gatherings. She also mentions the need for more effective measures and strategies to prevent such incidents from happening. Lindem's perspective is shared by many students who have expressed their concerns about the increasing number of incidents involving unruly behavior. The need for a more comprehensive approach to addressing this issue is highlighted, and the council is expected to take action to prevent similar incidents in the future.
Public confused over implementation of health care overhaul

Margaret Talev

WASHINGTON — Two weeks af- ter President Barack Obama signed the big health care overhaul into law, Americans are struggling to understand how — and whether — the sweeping measure will affect them.

Questions reflecting confusion have flooded insurance companies, doctors' offices, human resources departments and business groups.

"They're saying, 'Where do we get the free Obama care, and how do I sign up for that?"' said Carrie McLean, a licensed agent for eHealthInsurance.com. The Cali- fornia-based company sells coverage from 185 health insurance car- riers in 50 states.

McLean said the call center had been inundated by uninsured consumers who were hoping that the overhaul would translate into instant, affordable coverage. That widespread misconception may have originated in part from dis- tended rhetoric about the legislation bubbling up from the hyper-parti- san debate about it in Washington and some media outlets, such as "60 Minutes," whichponents denounced it as socialism.

"We tell them it's not free, that there are going to be things in place that help people who are low-in- come, but that ultimately most of them is not going to be taking place until 2014," McLean said.

Adults with pre-existing condi- tions who want to learn that insurers won't have to cover them until 2014 (though those under 18 will be protected in late Sep- tember); then they become both hopeful and confused upon learning that a federal high-risk pool for them will be established in the next few months. "Health insurance is so confusing. You add this on top of it and it makes even more confusion," McLean said.

The Obama administration is embarking on a years-long pub- lic education campaign about the overhaul, including a Web compo- nent. However, much of the guid- ance will depend on Department of Health and Human Services regu- lations that are still being developed. Parents of young adults, includ- ing those who are preparing to graduate from college this spring, have heard that the overhaul will let them keep them children on their insurance plans until they reach age 26. That starts in September, how- ever; they have to determine how to cover them until then.

A new wave of inquiries could come next month as federal CO- RSA subsidies for laid-off workers dry up.

Ann Wooten of Austin, Texas, a breast cancer survivor, said she didn't understand whether the health insurance overhaul law meant that she should try to access private coverage again someday. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2009, after she lost her insurance in a divorce, and soon after she lost her job at a convenience store as a result of the economic crisis. Medicaid has covered her treat- ment and is seeking a good-pay- ing job with benefits. She doesn't know how the health overhaul will affect her options, and hasn't yet found the time or energy to inves- tigate.

Americans who already have good coverage aren't so worried about the immediate implications, but some admit that they're plenty confused.

"Why does it take so long for certain health care things to take effect?" said Sandra Preston, a state employee in Paterson, N.J.

Ben Wiesen, a software engineer who works for a small company in Tarrytown, N.Y., said he'd read up on the overhaul but remained con- cerned about the unknowns.

"The timelines have been pretty clearly stated," he said. "It's the ex- ecution and the details. How are they really going to roll out the changes, and who ultimately will be the arbiter and decision-maker?"

Actor Sam Rockwell, the son of Lauren Bacall and the late Jason Robards, was visiting Washington last week with his children and Danish-born wife. Chating in front of the White House gate, he said he tried to follow news cover- age of the overhaul but conceded that "I'm not really clear" on the details. He said he was glad that he got good coverage through the Screen Actors Guild so he didn't have to worry about it.

The couple previously lived in Denmark, which has universal health coverage. They applauded the overhaul's aim of extending coverage to nearly all Americans.

Many small-business owners are nervous about requirements being phased in.

"Members are still trying to wrap their head around everything that's in this law," said Michelle Dimarob, the manager of legisla- tive affairs for the National Federa- tion of Independent Business, the small-business lobby.

Dimarob said the lobby's prima- ry concern was that its costs would rise the next four years as a result of the taxes and coverage mandates related to the overhaul.

"The next question that comes out of their mouths is: 'What do I have to do right now?' They need to start talking with their accountant, depending on how they're orga- nized, what industry they're in and whether they're offering insurance now and what kind they're offering. We're suggesting they talk to their agent or broker."

Tanning salons face a new excise tax starting in July as part of the overhaul. Other business owners are trying to understand new Inter- nal Revenue Service reporting re- quirements related to business-to- business transactions that will kick in as a result of the new law. Others are looking ahead to coverage man- dates for 2014 and calculating how many part-time versus full-time employees they should have to keep bound costs.

While Obama has been touting a tax credit for small businesses that offer employees health coverage, Dimarob said many small-businesses wouldn't be able to participate. First they must do research to see whether they qualify. "It requires them to understand the intricacies," she said.

The president has begun travel- ing the country to talk about the new law to ordinary Americans. In Maine last week, he explained many highlights of the four-year phase-in. However, Obama's re- marks were laced with enough po- litical rhetoric to dilute his policy message.

Many organizations have pro- duced timelines explaining when provisions are to be phased in. Still, it's confusing for businesses that offer employees health coverage, Dimarob said many small-businesses couldn't be able to participate. First they must do research to see whether they qualify. "It requires them to understand the intricacies," she said.

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**U.S.-Russia summit leads to Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty**

Margaret Talev and Jonathan S. Landay

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's meeting Thursday in Prague with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, where they'll sign a new nuclear arms reduction pact, will highlight a thaw in relations between the former Cold War enemies that's occurred since the U.S. called for the two countries to hit the "reset button" just over a year ago.

The new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty is the most visible measure that's occurred since the U.S. called for a new nuclear arms reduction pact, the move is part of a broader policy shift that also includes a further reduction in strategic warheads.

The U.S. announced it will not use nuclear weapons on non-nuclear countries in good standing with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The move is part of a broader policy shift that also includes a further reduction in strategic warheads.

Nuclear warheads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic</th>
<th>Tactical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In reserve</td>
<td>be dismantled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Estimated stockpile as of Jan. 12**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Russia</th>
<th>2,126</th>
<th>2,050</th>
<th>7,350</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>9,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

| 12,000 |

**Non-nuclear countries in good standing with treaty**

- Official nuclear countries
- Countries not in good standing with treaty

**NOTE:** U.S, Britain and France are precluded from deploying any nuclear weapons on non-nuclear states.

**FRESH NUCLEAR PERSPECTIVE FOR U.S.**

The U.S. announced it will not use nuclear weapons on non-nuclear countries in good standing with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The move is part of a broader policy shift that also includes a further reduction in strategic warheads.

**U.S. secretary to meet Chinese vice premier**

William L. Watts

WASHINGTON — U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner will meet with a Chinese vice premier on Thursday, amid mounting speculation that Beijing will soon alter the controversial "peg" between its currency and the U.S. dollar.

Geithner has come under renewed pressure by some U.S. lawmakers, business leaders and union officials to label China a currency manipulator.

Kong to meet top officials, including Chief Executive Donald Tsang.

The Financial Times reported Wednesday that a senior Chinese government economist told reporters in Beijing that China could widen the daily trading band for the currency, known as the yuan, and allow it to resume its gradual appreciation.

A similar rise in the value of the yuan versus the dollar was brought to a halt in July 2008 as China moved to protect its exports as the global financial crisis deepened.

One dollar is roughly worth 6.8 yuan.

Geithner has come under renewed pressure by some U.S. lawmakers, business leaders and union officials to label China a currency manipulator in its semi-annual currency report.

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Public records
continued from page 6

to a confidentiality term in her con-
tract. State law, however, specifically
prohibits a state or local agency from
allowing an outside entity to control
the disclosure of information that is
otherwise subject to the California
Public Records Act (CPRA).
The law (SB 1696), which was
authorized by Yee in 2008, states that
regardless of any contract term to the
contrary, a contract between a private
ty and a state or local agency is
subject to the same disclosure re-
quirements as other public records.
F if the university's administrator has
documentation of the Palin contract
- which would be logical consider-
ing the foundation is fully staffed by
public employees within the adminis-
tration - then state law would require
the release of such information at the
request of a member of the public.
The university expects us to trust
dem that Palin's visit is going to bring
money for students, yet CSU has a
poor track record with the public's
trust, said Yee. "Students and tax-
Fayers cannot afford another scandal
within our public university system.
Several recent examples demonstra-
tes the need for increased public
oversight and accountability at pub-
lc college and university foundations
and auxiliary organizations:
• At Sonoma State, a $1.25 mil-
ion loan issued to a former founda-
tion board member two days after he
resigned. He has since defaulted on
that loan, which leaves less money
in the foundation's endowment for
students and other important
causes.
• At San Francisco City College,
a campus executive has been indicted
for using money from the San Fran-
sisco City College Foundation for
personal and political purposes.
• At San Jose Evergreen Commu-
Ity College, the chancellor recently
resigned after it was found she engaged
in several financial improprieties at
the foundation's expense, including
lavish travel, purchasing expensive art
pieces, and even buying coffee and
snacks on her work credit card.
Sacramento State recently an-
nowledged their campus is being in-
vestigated by the Attorney General in
relation to inappropriate expenditures
of campus auxiliary money, including
$200,000 to remodel the school presi-
dent's kitchen in 2007. Additionally
at Sacramento State, $6.3 million of
public funds was transferred to Uni-
versity Enterprises Inc., a campus aux-
iliary, to bucklick losses from a prop-
erty acquisition.
"CSU Stanislaus officials sought
out Sarah Palin, negotiated her con-
tract behind closed doors, and are
now welcoming her to our public uni-
versity, yet they think they are above
the law in disclosing to the public
the cost of her appearance," said Yee.
"State law is explicitly clear that such
confidential contracts hold no legal
bearing. If the CSU administration
has documentation of this compensa-
tion contract, then they need to im-
mediately disclose it. Students and
members of the public deserve and
have a right to view this contract.
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dem that Palin's visit is going to bring
money for students, yet CSU has a
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trust," said Yee. "Students and tax-
Fayers cannot afford another scandal
within our public university system.
According to the CSU Chancellor's
Office, 20 percent of its $6.7 billion
budget, or $1.34 billion, is held in
their 87 auxiliaries and foundations.
"It is time for CSU and UC ad-
ministrators to stop acting like they
are running private country clubs,"
said Yee. "These are public institu-
tions that should embrace transpar-
ency and accountability, and not be
finding creative ways to do the pub-
lic's business behind closed doors.
This session, Yee is authoring SB
330 to clarify that campus founda-
tions and auxiliary must adhere to the
CPRA.
Legarì's letter to Yee and Califor-
nians Aware stated that she was also re-
ferring the requests to the foundation.
Yesterday, when Californians Aware
e-mailed Legarì to clarify on the re-
quest whether she was saying that uni-
versity officials or employers had not
exchanged any communications with
the foundation concerning the Palin
appearance, an e-mail auto-responder
replied that a "mandatory furlough
day" would keep her out of the office
until the following Monday.
"More information about the matter
is expected to be released."

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CSU administration accused of violating public records act

Adam J. Keigwin

SACRAMENTO — California State University-Stanislaus Office of the President recently denied public records requests made by Senator Lilia Vit (D-San Francisco) and California Aware to disclose how much former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin is getting paid for an upcoming speaking engagement as well as documents and correspondence regarding the university’s 50th Anniversary Gala. The responses from Campus Compliance Officer Gina Legarza state, “The University has no documents that are responsive to your request.”

E-mail correspondence acquired by Vit’s office, however, document Vice President for University Advancement Susan Galić-Brunet attempting to justify the Palin event to other campus administrators and faculty members on March 29.

“...the university’s claim of no documentation was incomprehensible and now there is smoking gun,” said Vit. “What other documents and correspondence are they hiding? I am immediately requesting the Attorney General to investigate this violation of the public trust.”

CSU officials have often declared foundations as separate private entities even though the CSU Stanislaus Foundation is entirely located within the public university;

- the chair of the foundation, the executive officer, the treasurer, and the secretary of the board are all employees of CSU Stanislaus;
- every staff member except one is listed on the foundation website as CSU Stanislaus employees;
- the foundation’s website and the Palin Gall website are located at the taxpayer-funded www.csustan.edu;
- the Palin fundraiser solicitation and information line is a university telephone number at the university advancement office;
- the foundation’s offices are housed within the campus administration’s building and fully staffed by university employees;
- the foundation board meetings are held at the campus using public resources;
- the work of the foundation is conducted using CSU Stanislaus e-mail accounts, telephones, computers, and other taxpayer-funded resources.

There is not a fine line or even a blurry line between the foundation and the public university; there is absolutely no line,” said Vit.

Prior to today, CSU Stanislaus officials had stated that they could not release Palin’s compensation, which may be in excess of $100,000, due to other issues, such as the Palin fundraiser solicitation and information line located at the campus using public resources.

Major progress in the field of disarmament will raise the level of trust and predictability and open a possibility for the solution of various complicated problems through constructive cooperation,” Prikhodko said in a statement distributed by the U.S. embassy.

The atmosphere is markedly different from the one at the end of the Bush administration, when revelations were widely seen as hitting their lowest point since the Cold War ended in 1991.

The relationship began well, with Russia supporting the 2001 U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan and signing a 2002 arms reduction pact known as the Treaty of Moscow. It soured as Russia became an outspoken critic of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.

Tensions rose over the Bush administration’s aggressive promotion of NATO expansion, which saw the admission of the former Soviet Union’s Baltic republics, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and Eastern European satellites such as Poland, the Czech Republic and Bulgaria.

Relations worsened as the Russian government became more authoritarian. The Bush administration decided in 2007 to deplore the U.S. missile defenses in the Czech Republic and Poland, and the Kremlin responded by implement of a key conventional arms treaty.

Italy’s new government announced on Friday that it will begin a new round of talks with fellow European Union member states on launching a new round of nuclear arms reduction talks, which restores a system each side uses to monitor the other’s nuclear forces that his predecessor had allowed to lapse.

With Obama placing a higher priority on the war in Afghanistan, the U.S. has also sought increased help from Russia. Both share an interest in containing the spread of Islamic extremism, with Russia fears stemming from the insurgency in the southern Caucasus region.

Russia agreed to allow nonlethal supplies for the U.S.-led international force in Afghanistan to flow across its territory in an alternative to routes through Pakistan that have been attacked by the Taliban. About one-third of those international supplies now go through Russia.

More recently, armed U.S. forces also have been allowed through Russia and the Obama administration has begun working with Moscow to stem drug trafficking from Afghanistan into Russia.

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State

SAN LUIS OBISPO (MCT) — Prosecutors reduced a criminal charge Tuesday of annoying a child under 18 against a Templeton man after verifying the details of a sex charge Tuesday of annoying a child.

A 59-year-old Billy Gene Mannon was convicted of forced oral copulation in Las Vegas, said his wife, at Summerlin Hospital Medical Center near Templeton High School.

Morris "Dick" Jeppson, a weapons specialist who was mid-flight when he completed casting the first atomic bomb, which the Enola Gay B-29 Superfortress dropped on Hiroshima in World War II, has died.

He was 87. Jeppson, a retired scientist and businessman, died March 10 of complications related to old age. (According to the District of Columbia, he had an average season, with 15 named storms, including eight hurricanes, two major.

National

WEST VIRGINIA (MCT) — Emergency teams stepped up a frantic rescue effort Wednesday night after discovering four missing miners two days after a devastating explosion killed 25 men in the Upper Big Branch mine. Crews began digging a fifth bore hole deep into the rocky mountainside in an effort to ventilate the deadly buildup of highly combustible methane gas, carbon monoxide and coal dust that forced rescue crews to retreat early Tuesday.

Gov. Joe Manchin III admitted he was not in favor because of the horrendous blast that forced rescue crews to retreat. The odds are not in our favor. We had," he told reporters who gathered at a nearby elementary school.

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Avoid Burnout

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We've got plenty of distractions.

Vice premier continued from page 4

They contend the peg has left the yuan significantly undervalued to the detriment of U.S. exporters. For their part, Chinese officials have denied that the yuan is underrevalued.

Geithner announced over the weekend that he would delay the publication of the currency report, which had been due to be presented to Congress on April 15. Meanwhile, a Chinese news report said the nation's central bank could raise interest rates in the current quarter against a backdrop in which free-quarter economic growth has been forecast as potentially exceeding 11 percent.

The report, by China Securities News, said Beijing may regard an inflation rate of 3 percent as the threshold that would trigger rate increases regardless of whatever moves the United States makes on interest rates. Rising inflation could nudge Chinese officials to consider allowing the yuan to rise. A higher yuan would put pressure on import prices.

Separately, other reports said the People's Bank of China may resume issuance of thee-year bills for the first time since June 2008 in an effort to absorb excess liquidity.

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San Luis Obispo Little Theatre production of “Taking Leave” raises Alzheimer’s awareness

Rhiannon Montgomery
SAN LUIS OBISPO LITTLE THEATRE’S PRODUCTION OF “TAKING LEAVE,” a play about the effects of Alzheimer’s on a family begins Friday.

Kevin Harris, managing artistic director at the theater, said the play is a dramatic comedy about a retired professor named Elliot Pryne losing his mind. The story focuses on Pryne, a retired professor, and his three daughters, who have to decide whether or not to send him to a home for the elderly.

Pryne taught Shakespeare and was an expert on the playwright’s “King Lear” before being diagnosed with Alzheimer’s.

“It’s an inspiring, uplifting show that raises universal questions about what to do when your parents get old,” Harris said.

Harris said Pryne is caught between reality and fiction, and the play closely mirrors the story of "King Lear." Harris said they decided to do a full run of the show after a one-night stage reading done two years ago that received great feedback from the audience. He said they wanted to bring it to a wider audience, those who provide care see the effect of the disease up close, not only on those afflicted, but on their families and friends as well.

Alzheimer’s destroys brain cells, ravaging memory and hindering the ability to perform everyday functions people take for granted. Michelle Taylor, a local registered nurse-practitioner, said people with the disease can be easily agitated, lose inhibitions and have verbal outbursts.

“They can say really inappropriate comments and be very paranoid," Taylor said.

Taylor said some symptoms can be made worse by the cycle of medications used to treat the disease and their side-effects. Alzheimer’s is listed as the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States, recently passing diabetes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site. The Alzheimer’s Association estimates that 5.3 million Americans have the disease. There is no cure for Alzheimer’s.

San Luis Obispo’s local branch of the association will host a booth at each performance to provide information and resources. Cindy Wittmeyer, community relations and events coordinator for the local chapter, said the play will bring the issue to people in a way they can relate to.

“It’s a fascinating look at a disease that has a huge impact on society," Wittmeyer said.

Wittmeyer said she wants to raise awareness more among younger people who may be dealing with their parents, and some day themselves, without a cure.

The Alzheimer’s Association raises funds for a better understanding and cure for the disease. Services provided by the association are free of charge. Harris said the cure can’t come soon enough, since baby boomers are starting to hit retirement age. He said the expectations for diagnosed cases predict a rapid increase over the next several years.

Wittmeyer said the local branch is excited to be involved with the project. Sarah Borrell, the association’s area director, will lead a question-and-answer session after the matinee performance April 24.

“The play doesn’t focus solely on the negative effects of the disease. Harris said it brings levity to the serious issue, and that the people will leave feeling good about life.

San Luis Obispo Little Theatre’s production of “Taking Leave,” begins Friday. The play is about the effects of Alzheimer’s disease on a family.

Titans
continued from page 9
flaws, and there are many aspects of it that could have easily been improved, most notably the writing.

Do I think paying the extra five dollars to view the 3-D version of the film is worth it? No. The movie wasn’t shot in 3-D like Avatar, but converted to 3-D in post-production, much like Tim Burton’s “Alice in Wonderland.” For this reason, the technique doesn’t have the same desired effect.

I saw the film without wearing the annoying glasses and can honestly say the final product is visually stunning, nonetheless.

Alex Peterson is a biological sciences sophomore and a Mustang Daily movie columnist.
The first encounter with Greek gods and mythology I vividly remember was coincidentally a Saturday morning viewing of the original 1981 version of "Clash of the Titans," starring Harry Hamlin and the legendary Sir Laurence Olivier. I remember admiring how entertaining the film was, despite even at such a young age noticing the technical flaws and overused cheap special effects that encompassed most of the story.

"Transporter 2" and "The Incredible Hulk" director Louis Leterrier has now produced a modern remake of the film that pretty much follows the same story line, although the technology the filmmakers used has improved in the past 30 years, to say the least.

The mortals are becoming fed up and frustrated with the needs and wishes of the gods. After deciding that humans shouldn't have to deal with the injustice that surrounds them, King Acrisius of Argos declares war on their former guardians, he enlists the aid of our protagonist and half-god hero, Perseus, played by "Avatar" and "Terminator Salvation" rising star Sam Worthington, of whom I am becoming a fan.

Worthington's role doesn't require any extensive acting skills, but his tough exterior and insubordinate attitude do enough to carry the film. This provides for some classic family melodrama, being that Perseus is the bastard son of Zeus. Zeus, the king of the gods, is portrayed fittingly by the magnificent Liam Neeson ("Schindler's List," "Taker"), a king among actors. Perseus can easily be viewed as the angry, rebellious teenager of this story. As a result of Poseidon drowning both his real mother and his adoptive father, he vows to never have anything to do with the gods, a vow he is obviously eventually forced to break.

The movie engages the audience more with its outstanding technological achievements than it does with its dramatic influence. Many of the actors spew cheesy dialogue that at some points evoked laughter in the movie theater. Most of the scenes involve impressive battles between actors and CGI, and at almost every moment there is either a giant scorpion or flying horse interacting with our protagonists.

Most of the time, I despise this type of movie. An unintentionally comical plot with bad acting across the board countered only by the performances of legends like Liam Neeson and Ralph Fiennes ("Constant Gardener," "Schindler's List") as the villainous Hades. However, in this case, the film was genuinely entertaining. The film definitely has a significant number of
Kelly Cooper
KELLYCOOPERSANLUGO.COM

Lambda Chi Alpha will host a concert at Downtown Brewing Company this Saturday featuring San Diego-based reggae rock group One Drop and Cal Poly’s Killa Gorilla. The event will benefit the Spencer Wood Memorial Scholarship Foundation and honor the life of Spencer Wood, a Cal Poly student and Lambda Chi Alpha member, who died in the summer of 2006.

After his death, friends and family wanted to remember him in a way that celebrated his life. A lover of music and the arts, Wood was a frequent concertgoer, musician and writer. This will be the third year the benefit concert has taken place.

The foundation was established by Wood’s father, Rich Wood, who will award three scholarships: one to a member of Lambda Chi Alpha and two to exceptional history graduate students who have completed their master’s degrees. All sales from the show help fund the scholarships.

Wood’s close friend and alumna Samara Pangratz, who came up with the idea of the concert, said it was an appropriate way to remember Wood.

“He loved music. He and a lot of Lambda Chi guys would go to concerts all the time,” Pangratz said.

Music was a common topic of conversation for Wood, alumnas and close friend Yasha Ledani. A few months before Wood because of an argument over Led Zeppelin, and the two soon became inseparable. As a fellow concertgoer, she recalls how much live music meant to him.

“It didn’t matter who was playing. He just loved being around music,” Arco said. “Concerts and music are something that represents Spencer. To be able to go to a concert and think of him is just really important.”

Finding the headliner for this year’s show was not too tough a task. Korie Newman, the booking and venue coordinator for Downtown Brew, knew that Spencer was a fan of reggae bands such as Slightly Stoopid and Pepper. Working with this year’s coordinators — Cal Poly alumni Mark Hudson and graphic communications senior Bev Jorgenson — the team was able to choose One Drop as the main act.

“I worked with One Drop at the West Beach Music Festival last year, and I know the audience really enjoyed their show, and backstage, the guys were a pleasure to work with, a very nice and hardworking band in the business,” Newman said.
Holocaust filming upsetting to all involved

Howard Reich

Slovenly, we were sinking into the muck.

On that raw November morning in Ukraine, a deep wind digging into our bones, we weren't sure we would be able to start filming, let alone finish.

This was a film that we had pitched to a group of talented non-Jews, including an old woman with a silver-haired Kittelson, who witnessed the ethnic cleansing of their Ukrainian village of Dubno, in easternmost Poland, in the winter of 1941—2004.

By making “Prisoner of Her Past,” we were putting flesh and blood on the ghosts that haunt my mother.

—Howard Reich  Chicago Tribune

In 2003, when I arrived at the nursing home with a Kertesquim film crew, I feared that the filmmaking equipment might not survive the presumed confrontation with my mother.

My mother, Sonia Reich, was supposed to have been one of them. But somehow, at age 10, she had escaped, and now we were telling her story on film — or trying to.

As the cameras rolled, and as the old woman tried to describe the unimaginable, the mud seemed to be giving way underneath us. Slowly, inch by inch, we dug deeper into earth that had devoured so many of our tics, we wicked Jews, and countless other survivors of World War II. And now we were telling her story on film — or trying to.

At this moment — as a frigid Ukrainian winter hovered in 2004 — I understood fully, for the first time, why we were making “Prisoner of Her Past.”

For we weren’t merely revisiting my 2003 Chicago Tribune article, which described my mother’s stunning, late-life belief that her Holocaust experiences were happening all over again.

By making “Prisoner of Her Past,” we were putting flesh and blood on the ghosts that haunt my mother — and countless other survivors of childhood trauma. If we could show on film the terrors my mother experienced as a child, then demonstrate how an otherwise alert woman became so profoundly delusional, it would illuminate a virtually unknown mental illness: late onset post-traumatic stress disorder.

We could show the doctors who originally misdiagnosed my mother that just because you’re old doesn’t mean you have Alzheimer’s or any other form of dementia. And we would establish, once and for all, that childhood traumas, left untreated, never disappear, and in my mother’s case, can unnerve a life.

Filmming my mother never was going to be easy. Less than 5 feet tall and ferocious to the core, she routinely threw doctors and orderlies out of her room in a suburban nursing home. If they got too close, she would scream and swing at them.

Believing that her life was in constant danger, the sheep every night for years in the nursing home sitting in a chair, fully clothed, her bag always packed in case she suddenly had to flee. This was an echo, no doubt, of the years she spent running and hiding during World War II near the massacre village of Dubno, in easternmost Poland (Borders were redrawn after the war, placing Dubno in Ukraine).

So in 2003, when I arrived at the nursing home with a Kertesquim film crew, I feared that the filmmaking equipment might not survive the presumed confrontation with my mother.

Not to worry. As soon as director Quinn and producer Joanna Radzick plugged in their gear, my mother launched into her performance:

“Welcome to my palace,” she said directly to the camera, draping with sarcasm, as she surveyed her dripping looking room.

“How do you like my beautiful view?” she asked, gesturing to the dilapidated parking lot outside her window.

Could this woman, so mentally acute, so lucid in her comments, also be so profoundly delusional? I knew she answered, and my mother often confirmed it.

Frequently she insisted that someone was trying to put a bullet in my head, and that yellow stars of David had been sewn onto her clothes. Two realities were unfolding in my mother’s psyche — the past and the present.

I understood fully, for the first time, why we were making “Prisoner of Her Past.”

There were many times when we wondered if we could complete this film.

Director Quinn, who had been diagnosed with lymphatic leukemia and would be undergoing treatment throughout the filmmaking process, collapsed in the lobby of our Ukrainian hotel after filming the scene at the massacre site. The rigor of the trip, the hours working in terrible weather and the toll of the story truthfully had overcome him.

Editor Jerry Blumenthal, who spent years transforming reels of raw footage into a cinematic narrative, was diagnosed with colon cancer in the midst of his work and had to stop for months on end to endure surgeries and radiation treatments.

Still, after all these struggles, no one was prepared for what happened in New Orleans.

After the andous show in Poland and Ukraine and all the sessions filming my story at home, I thought we were done with our location work.

I was wrong.

While covering the cultural devastation in post-Katrina New Orleans, I discovered a place that was an entire city in the grip of post-traumatic stress disorder. It was as if the story I had been trying to document in Eastern Europe had followed me back home to America, where the children of New Orleans were trying to cope with trauma of their own.

When I told director Quinn about the psychiatrists I encountered who were trying to help these kids — most notably doctors Joy and Howard Osinsky — Quinn said he was coming to meet me and bring a crew. In short order, we were filming the girls of Xavier Prep School as they described their post-Katrina horror stories.

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The White House should not cancel Karzai's May visit on the basis of inflammatory statements

This week, the White House seemed to turn the page from its focus on domestic concerns related to health insurance reform to foreign relations, specifically our decade-long war in the Middle East.

The events of the past week are a reminder to Americans that the United States is far from the day of liberation from the cultural and political turbulence in Afghanistan. The renewed tensions in relations between Afghanistan and the United States actually began over the summer, during Afghanistan's national elections. The United Nations uncovered over one million fraudulent ballots, a third of which were ballots cast for Hamid Karzai, who has continued to hold the position of President. When the United States proposed a second election, Karzai's opponent dropped from the race.

The U.N.'s embarrassing evi­
dence against Karzai, combined with the reality of his reliance on NATO and U.S. forces to sustain the stabil­ity of his government culminated in Karzai's inflammatory statements last Saturday before members of his parliament. Famous Matera, a re­presentative from Nangarhar, told re­porters, "He said that if I come un­der foreign pressure, I might join the Taliban." Other lawmakers said that Karzai repeated this claim twice dur­ing his statement, according to the Associated Press.

While the AP reports that Af­ghan lawmakers dismissed Karzai's statement as hyperbole, the White House's reaction has been frustra­tion. After the United States' years of investment and sacrifice in Af­ghanistan, Karzai's statement is seen as ungrateful and a possible sign of Karzai's instability. The White House has even gone so far as to consider cancelling Karzai's scheduled visit to the White House in May.

What is rather interesting about Karzai's statement is that he derives his power to govern from the security established by U.S. and NATO for­ces, which maintain order and fight the Taliban. The Taliban rule, which preceded Karzai's government, was a government in itself that mercilessly oppressed and murdered the people of Afghanistan.

If Karzai joins with the Taliban, he would effectively surrender his government to them. What, then, was the point of the election fraud? If he is considering surrendering his power to the Taliban anyway, why would he go through such trouble to keep it during last summer's elec­tions? His statement and his actions are inconsistencies.

Within this rather serious issue is the problem of misinformation. On "Morning Joe" Wednesday, Joe Scarborough indicated that this de­bate over whether to cancel Karzai's visit in May circled between Joe Biden and President Obama's mili­tary advisors. Biden suggested that President Obama accept Karzai in May, while the military advisers counseled him to cancel the visit.

One thing that drew me to Presi­dent Obama when he was running for office was that he conveyed a strong belief in the power of dis­course and reason. U.S. policies were really built on the idea that if conflicting parties come to the table willing to engage in a discussion, a compromise can be reached. In fact, our Constitution was made possible through compromise.

Especially concerning a nation whose culture, political ideas, social roles and religious con­cepts are different to ours is that we should not afford to Karzai a sense of power that is often associated with other countries gaining attention from the U.S. government. This is a chance for the White House to take control of an important situa­tion with power and force, two character­istics it has yet to display.
Pedophilia scandal deserves full Vatican disclosure

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

When faced with scandal and public scrutiny, the natural tendency of an organization is often to deny and deflect. The objective of spin control is to put the best possible face on a damaging revelation and work to change the public's focus until the controversy fades.

We would expect better of the Roman Catholic Church, especially when the issue at hand is sexual abuse and efforts by the church hierarchy to minimize damage from the scandal. The church has built a reputation on its ability to deny and deflect. The objective is to minimize the public's focus until the controversy has passed. The Vatican's spin-control efforts have only helped undermine the church's credibility.

On Sunday, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, dean of the College of Cardinals, denounced the church's critics before Pope Benedict XVI rose to deliver Easter Mass at St. Peter's Square. Sodano dismissed as "petty gossip" news reports that the pontiff, born Joseph Ratzinger, failed in previous positions to adequately protect children from abusive priests.

The reports question actions Ratzinger took decades ago as archbishop of Munich and later as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. In the latter post, Cardinal Ratzinger had earned praise for efforts to oust scandal-tainted priests and remove the time-consuming due-process protections afforded them under the canonical trial system previously favored by the church.

But extensive research by The New York Times and other investigators around the world has exposed lax follow-up procedures that allowed accused priests to resume activities giving them access to children. Ratzinger's actions in Munich involved at least one such case.

Sexually abusive priests have wrecked thousands of lives. To reduce these very serious, ongoing concerns to mere "gossip" is to deepen the pain suffered by the victims and their families. Worse, Sodano suggested that those who question the pope are not "people of God."

The National Catholic Reporter joined the chorus of questioners in a March 26 editorial demanding that the pope make a public accounting: "No longer can the Vatican simply issue (vague) papal messages ... that are passively 'received' by the faithful. No longer can secondary Vatican officials, those who serve the pope, issue statements and expect them to be accepted at face value."

Trust appears to be fading among many loyal Catholics. "What did he know? When did he know it?" — questions that revive ugly memories of Watergate — are now being applied to this scandal.

If Vatican officials think that they have adequately addressed this issue and that it's time to move on, they are sorely mistaken. The Catholic Church is not recovering, nor will it as long as its hierarchy deflects and denies rather than confronts this most painful of truths.

Check out yoga at the Rec Center Construction impedes on daily routine

Chelsea Vaughan
Anthropology and geography sophomore

Rec Center Construction impeded on daily routine

We would have to purchase a new textbook, but with the construction going on for the first two weeks of classes, it is hard to do anything. The Rec Center is closed during the day, so we all have to try to do our exercise routines at night. This is not the time for the Rec Center to be closed.
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Baseball

continued from page 16

to be at eight and nine in our lineup," Lee said. "But we thought we would be a lot better in one through seven, so we just haven't. Guys just haven't been able to step up for whatever reason. That's the frustrating part of it."

Struggles this season don't just reflect Cal Poly's performance at the plate; the Mustangs have also struggled to rally the arms on the mound.

"We just don't have enough pitching quality or depth to get us through three games on a weekend series. (Matt) Leonard and (DJ) Mauldin have supplied some good starts for us. Jeff Johnson has been throwing well out of the bullpen," Lee said.

Sophomore Mason Radeke was one of the few pitchers on staff with momentum, but a sore elbow has put him in the dugout for about three weeks. In his last start, Radeke (3-1) threw 6 innings, allowed three earned runs, six hits and recorded his first loss of the season.

"(In) pitching, we kind of know that we were a little light on this end. Then losing Radeke really, really hurts us hard," Lee said.

Struggles or not, the Mustangs are running out of time to get back on their feet. This weekend, Cal Poly will return to Baggett Stadium for a three-game conference series against Central Coast rival UC Santa Barbara.

"They're a quality ball club; they have enough returners from an offensive standpoint to be good," Lee said. "Pitching-wise, they have quite a few guys back with one of the better pitchers — probably on the West Coast — with (Mario) Hollands."

The Gauchos (12-11) returned through three games on a weekend series against Northern Illinois and were 9-5 before coughing up seven of their last 10 games.

Designated hitter Beck Wheeler leads the Gauchos with a .362 average, with just two other players hitting above .300. Transferring Matt Valdaka is hitting .312 and first baseman Trevor Whyte stands at .301.

On the mound, Santa Barbara's pitching staff consists of starters Hollands (2-2, 3.00 ERA), Nick Capito (4-2, 2.89 ERA) and righthander Jeste Meuxes (4-1, 4.69 ERA). The Gauchos are hitting .290 as a team while the UCSB pitching staff has a 4.59 ERA.

But regardless of the competition, each weekend presents a new challenge, Lee said.

"It is disappointing, discouraging, frustrating, but we are just going to keep trying to get better," he said.

Softball

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hold a 5.60 staff ERA. They will most likely send pitchers Lindsey Correa (3.58, 4.67 ERA), McLinda Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumoto (4-9, 4.82) and Krista Matsumo...
MUSTANG DAILY SPORTS

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MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Momentum is key to fueling baseball’s postseason hopes

Cal Poly head coach Larry Lee compared the game of baseball to a snowball rolling down a hill. In order to be successful on the diamond, you need momentum.

"In baseball, the whole game is kind of contagious," Lee said at Monday’s press conference. "If your pitching is dominant, it just leads over your offense. On offense, if your main guys are swinging the bat, everybody else seems to fall into place.

"There have been some pluses, but not enough to really think that we are going to take out game to the next level," Lee said.

They just need a push.

"If you look at a lot of our games, we don't do well in certain situations. A lot of times, we play just well enough to lose," Lee said. "It says a lot about what you have on your team."

The Mustangs did lose five fewer players heading into this season, including their two hitting leaders from 2009. Ryan Lee graduated from the program after leading the team with 87 hits. Adam Buschini, who also left the team, after he was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies in the fourth round of last year's MLB draft; hit .422 and fell right behind Lee with 78 hits.

Although the Mustangs returned five other batters to their 2010 roster who hit above .300 in 2009, Lee said the loss of two huge bats in the lineup hurt the team a lot more than just in terms of hits. It takes rhythm away from other batters.

"Some players — if they are surrounded by good players — they have real solid seasons," Lee said. "But now when those players are gone, and they have to be the guy that (becomes) a growing process. They don't get it right away."

Heading into this season, Lee knew where the weak spots in his lineup were. He said this offense could have been better than the Mustang's offense a year ago, but this season, the hitters expected to pick up the majority of the offense just haven't found their groove at the plate.

"We kind of knew we were going to struggle a little bit this year, but, there is still a chance to turn all of it around. Despite a six-game losing streak and offensive and defensive struggles, the Mustangs still have a chance to start over in conference play."

But Cal Poly's conference-opening series against UC Riverside doesn't look good. Last weekend, the Mustangs dropped two of three games to the Highlanders.

"We haven't had enough to quite get over the hump," Lee said.

If you look at a lot of our games, we don't do well in certain situations. A lot of times, we just play well enough to lose.

— Larry Lee
Baseball head coach

Anna Cahn and her teammates look to turn their season around

Reigning Big West Player of the Year Anna Cahn hit a slight road bump this past weekend. In two starts, Cahn pitched just over six innings and allowed eight earned runs.

"Cahn just wasn't making her pitches," head coach Jenny Condon said at Monday's press conference. "She probably just overthrew a little and she throws hard enough that when you do that, you leave it over the plate and they're going to hit it."

Cahn's struggles highlight a rough patch she and her teammates have hit this season. Heading into last weekend’s series against UC Riverside, the Mustangs held a seven-game losing streak. Against UC Riverside, it was no different: Cahn struggled and so did the Mustangs. Cal Poly lost two of three to the Highlanders.

"I think at this point it is just a mental thing, where we are just over-analyzing and pressing, and we're not having any success," Condon said.

"We've got to figure out how to really get them to relax and really get them to get to play to their capabilities because we've got some talent on this team — we just haven't really shown it yet."

The Mustangs will have a chance to reverse their fortunes this weekend when they travel to UC Santa Barbara (9-25) to take on the Gauchos in a three-game conference series.

Even with her performance this past weekend, Cahn (8-9) still leads the Big West in ERA (1.90). The senior may be in a cold streak, but her coach isn't worried. She knows what Cahn can do when she plays to her potential.

"We know what she is capable of doing — she can shut down any team. She is just going to have to get back out there and trust her training and trust her skills," Condon said.

Cahn has made up for her recent pitching outings behind the plate. She leads the team with a .352 batting average and has drawn 22 walks.

On the mound, the Matadors still have pitching worries. Cahn’s struggles highlight a rough patch she and her teammates have hit this season. Heading into last weekend’s series against UC Riverside, the Mustangs held a seven-game losing streak. Against UC Riverside, it was no different: Cahn struggled and so did the Mustangs. Cal Poly lost two of three to the Highlanders.

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