MGMT comes to Avila Friday.

IN ARTS, P. 11

Baseball gears up for final series of the season.

IN SPORTS, P. 16

CAL POLY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

DR. SISHA KARENZ ANDREWS

Current Title: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Boise State University

Education: • Geography B.A. from Worcester State College • Geography M.A. • Ph.D. from Arizona State University

Honors: • ACS Sloan Award for Faculty Career Flexibility • $200,000 Grant Received • 2007 Tahoe Women Making History Award

Scholarly Specialization: Cartography and geographic information systems.

KEVIN BLACK MUSTANG DAILY

DR. STEVEN ROGER ANGLE

Current Title: Provost, Wright State University

Education: • Chemistry B.A. from University of California, Irvine • Organic Chemistry M.S. from University of California, Los Angeles • Organic Chemistry Ph.D. from University of California, Irvine

Postdoctoral Research Associate from University of Wisconsin-Madison


Scholarly Specialization: Organic synthesis, development of new synthesis methodologies and strategies, biogenic chemistry and biomimetic synthesis.

DR. CARLO MONTEMAGNO

Current Title: Dean of the College of Engineering, University of Cincinnati

Education: • Agricultural and Biological Engineering B.S. from Cornell University • Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering M.S. from Penn State University • Environmental Engineering M.S. from University of California, Irvine

Postdoctoral Research Associate from University of Wisconsin-Madison

Honors: • Fellow of the American Academy of Nanomedicine • Recipient of the Feynman Prize for Experimental Work in Nanotechnology (2003)

Scholarly Specialization: His research has focused on "building a blood-cell-size 'submarine' intended for critical medical maneuvers inside the human body," according to the U.S. Lifeboat Foundation.

KEVIN BLACK MUSTANG DAILY

Architecture seniors to showcase work

Alexandria Scott alexandriascott.ms@gmail.com

Graduating architecture students will put their hard work on display this weekend at the seventh annual Fifth Year Architecture Thesis Show in Chumash Auditorium.

The show begins with an opening reception at 5 p.m. on Friday and continues Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Each of the 157 students will have their own design station with displays of drawings, 3D models and rendered images they created in the studio during their Senior Architecture Design Thesis class.

The three-quarter long course is required for all architecture seniors and is the first time the graduating students could create their own design projects.

"Students would identify a problem in architecture, find the full complexities and create a thesis statement on how to fix it," said architecture professor and event coordinator Barry Williams.

The thesis project is the capstone project of the students' experience at Cal Poly and the center pieces of a portfolio, Tracee de Hahn, assistant director of advancement, said. The thesis project lets students figure out if they have picked a problem too big to solve or if they need to expand an idea, she said.

"Any studio project is learning by doing," she said. "The thesis project is the students' own approach to a problem. It teaches them how to start projects they will pursue in the future."

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— Tracee de Hahn
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"Any studio project is learning by doing," she said. "The thesis project is the students' own approach to a problem. It teaches them how to start projects they will pursue in the future."

The thesis project has constantly been in the back of architecture students' minds since freshman or sophomore year, architecture senior Susan Lam said.

"I started to think about my project before fall quarter but my ideas changed once I started the class," she said. "I've created a project that incorporates art in all aspects of life."

see Architecture, page 2

Obama to send 1,200 National Guard troops to U.S.-Mexico border

Steven Thomma MCLAREN WRITER

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama will dispatch up to 1,200 National Guard troops to help secure the U.S.-Mexico border and will ask Congress for $500 million to shore up law enforcement in the Southwest and provide other border protection tools.

The additional troops will help fight narcotics trafficking across the border, provide intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance support, and help train border agents until the Customs and Border Protection service can recruit and train additional agents.

The money would pay for more agents, investigators and prosecutors along the border, beef up the Justice Department and Department of Homeland Security work there, and improve rapid sharing of information with state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies.

The White House called it "a multi-layered effort to target illicit activity."
Angle continued from page 1

Cal Poly has to offer and the fact that agriculture is part of that inter­
sted in me," Angle said. "I really enjoyed working with the ag industry and the problems and issues of ag­
beginning from page 1. It seemed to me that the university was going to excel." Angle said he sensed an
others California State Univers­
Architecture continued from page 1

living, working and playing." The event is open to the public. In the past, most attendees have been par­
Architecture students will be

Architecture alumni, Williams said. A lot of people outside the department come to enjoy the mol­
Architecture students will be

Architecture alumni, Williams said. A lot of people outside the department come to enjoy the mol­
Wildfire preparedness begins with a cool transition into summer

By Katie O. Grady

Those methods for controlling vegetation range from mechanical to prescribed burning. There's timber harvesting, hand crews that are soft on the environment, ("the surgery" as White said) and mastication, which involves excavators masticating vegetation "like a paper shredder." The purpose of this management in many plant communities is to decrease the density of understory to prevent the canopy from catching fire; it's essentially eliminating the ammunition for a wildfire under the right weather conditions.

"We shouldn't think about it simply as a natural phenomenon," White said about fire. "It's part of the soil we have for interacting with the natural environment. We need to have our tools open to us to use because the scale of the challenge is so great."

As for prescribed burns, Dicus explained that he's not sure what certain weather conditions, which are conducive to control. The purpose is to reduce hazard for local inhabitants by consuming fuels and to benefit the ecosystem or fire-dependent species via cycling of nutrients.

"Fire does a lot of natural processes, but you can't replicate what the long-term, mechanical approach," White said.

The concerns with prescribed burning are air pollution or carbon emissions and more practical concerns such as smoke and the danger of conditions going haywire. Dicus's research with his graduate students involves looking at what the long-term, mechanical approach will mean.

"Research has shown that a greater number of species prefer moderately burned communities," Dicus said.

The Cotton Fire in San Luis Obispo county was the first large fire on the California landscape so far this year. Igniting at Highway 166 and Cottonwood Canyon, it burned 2,046 acres almost two weeks ago. The fire was started on the morning of May 15 and was put out on May 18.

Alan Peters, unit forester in the California Department of Forestry (CDF) for the last two years showed that 1,663 acres burned from Jan. 1 to Apr. 17, 2009, whereas only 276 acres burned from that same time frame this year. A five-year average of that same interval showed 2,389,3 acres burned in California.

Dicus's work revolves around how to put out fires, how to start fires (prescribed burning) and how to develop a fire-resistant community. This involves urban planning by designing homes and deciding where to place them to create a safer environment before a fire comes along.

Russell White, a graduate student working under Dicus in the Natural Resource Management department, said the way a fire burns depends on multiple factors such as immediate weather behavior, yearly climate patterns and types of fuels present. Grass fires will burn quicker whereas chaparral with a greater total biomass will burn for much longer and at hotter temperatures. He said the large fires are usually a situation where all factors fall into place perfectly.

"The most controlled we have is over here," White said. "There's so many acres out there that need to be treated. It's this huge task."

The problem comes when we put our homes in an ecosystem that's designed to burn. With more moisture, there will be an un-tamable disaster.

"There's so many acres out there that need to be treated. It's this huge task."

The Zaca fire burns in Santa Barbara County in October 2007. The fire ranked second among the worst wildland fires in California by acreage burned.

It's considered an unattended campfire, the whole area was evacuated for over a week before the fire was contained. White said another graduate working at the ranch at the time explained August 12 as the strangest, warm, dry and windy evening.

A little bit closer to home, the Cal Poly campus has also seen four fires in the last four years, according to Dicus.

"We are certainly not immune here on campus to wildfires," Dicus said.

Two of the fires were sparked at the same power pole. A vulture brushed the power line falling to the ground in one incident, Dicus said.

According to CDF, equipment use and vehicles ranked as the leading causes of wildfires in a statewide average from 2000-2005. The worst wildfires in California history was the Cedar Fire in San Diego County in 2003. It burned 273,246 acres destroying 2,320 structures and resulted in 15 deaths.

The Central Coast is also not immune to damaging wildfires. In August 1996, the Highway 58 fire in San Luis Obispo County burned 4,667 acres. As of Tuesday, the 20 largest California wildland fires by acreage burned. Caused by a vehicle igniting dry grass near the road, the Highway 58 fire engulfed 13 structures, but caused no deaths. With wind and moisture, acres burned but a memorable event in the local community, the Highway 41 fire in 1994 burned at a rate of two acres per second at its peak, destroying 42 homes, causing massive power outages and shutting down two major highways. Fourteen firefighters have also died in San Luis Obispo County since 1946 while fighting wildland fires.

Fire experts are sharing information and trying to learn from the past to better prepare for future fires from vegetation management to urban planning.

Dicus is heading to Australia next month to work with the Bushfire Cooperative Research Center on how to deal with similar fire problems in similar landscapes. Dicus was in Australia last year in February for the devastating Black Saturday bushfires where more than one million acres was burned, entire towns were destroyed and 173 people died.

"Being there with the survivors, crying with them and hugging them impacted me in a significant way," Dicus said. "It was life-altering."
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  English senior

"Daydream about being in Word on the Street."
- Brian Leung,
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"Go to Metro and meet with friends."
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Compiled and photographed by Jessica Barba

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Obama plans a rare news conference to address oil spill

Peter Nicholas
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Republicans won’t deal with him. Blame for the historic Gulf Coast oil spill is heading his way. The left is mad at him, and so is the right.

President Barack Obama is confronting pressures that are testing his hallmark unflappability. He was abrupt with Republican senators in a closed-door meeting Tuesday. "Thin-skin," one Republican senator scribbled in his notebook during the session with Obama.

Later that night, the president complained publicly about droppping poll numbers, hateful attacks from right-wing foes — even his graying hair.

Hoping to reset the debate, Obama will hold a midday news conference from the East Room of the White House on Thursday, the first such formal exchange in 10 months. Before a national audience, he’ll try to calm fears about the growing environmental catastrophe in the Gulf of Mexico.

But in recent days, it is Obama who has seemed strained. Talking to donors at a fundraising reception in San Francisco Tuesday, the president took a self-reflective tone:

"I know it’s been 18 tough months," he said. "And I know I’ve got more gray hair. I know some folks say, ‘Well, he’s not as cool as he was.’"

"I just look like he’s not involved in this, and I’m in accounts of the meeting Tuesday take control of this," said the official, who was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity so as to avoid giving "an arrogant," said the senator, who spoke him wistful about his 2008 campaign.

"There is not a more direct role to play here," said the official, who was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

But criticism persists. A CBS News poll conducted over the week showed 45 percent disapproved of the Obama administration's handling of the oil spill, compared with 35 percent who approved.

Sen. Bill Nelson, a Florida Democrat, said on Wednesday that "everybody is frustrated because the oil keeps gushing." Nelson added in a televised interview that "the president has got to take charge now."

James Carville, a longtime Democratic operative and Louisiana native, said in a separate televised interview: "These people are crying, they’re begging for something down here. And it just looks like he’s not involved in this, man. You’ve got to get down here and take control of this.

Obama is on his way. He’ll make his second trip to the Gulf Coast on Friday, interrupting a long weekend at his home in Chicago.

Some Republicans who sparred with him this week suggested he might need more rest. While no Republican senator is apt to be charitable toward Obama, there was a consistent theme in accounts of the meeting Tuesday night that Obama was edgy and impatient. He asked for help in passing an immigration overhaul that would provide a path to legal status for the estimated 11 million living here illegaly. No offers came in.

One Republican senator who was in the meeting said he stood up to speak, and after three sentences, Obama jumped in with a peremptory, "What’s your question?"

"I said, ‘Mr. President, my prologue is not long, and you will show me respect and listen to it.’ "He’s just arrogant," said the senator, who spoke on condition of anonymity so as to comment more candidly about the back-and-forth.

But not even Obama seemed willing to push that message. In his San Francisco appearance later Tuesday, he said with evident sarcasm, "It was a warm and early meeting."

All the frustrations seem to make him wishful about his 2008 campaign.

Then, a campaign poster included an iconic portrait of Obama above the word, "Hope." Now, posters that have shown up at anti-Obama rallies depict him with the Hitler mustache.

"Remember hope?" Obama told the audience.

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Long Island man gets 25 years for killing immigrant

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. — Jeffrey Conroy was sentenced to the maximum 25 years in prison Wednesday for the fatal stabbing of Ecuadoran immigrant Mireelo Lucero. Just over a month after a Long Island jury convicted him of first-degree manslaughter as a hate crime, the former high school football and lacrosse player was sentenced by State Supreme Court Justice Robert W. Doyle in a Riverhead courtroom.

Conroy, 19, of Medford, N.Y., was sentenced to 25 years in prison for both first-degree manslaughter as a hate crime and gang assault. The sentences will run concurrently.

Conroy will be eligible for parole after serving about 21 years and six months of his sentence, said a spokeswoman for the state correctional services department.

"I'm really sorry for what happened," Jeffrey Conroy said before Doyle announced the sentence. "Every day, I wish it didn't happen.

He was the first person convicted of a hate crime in Suffolk County in a case in which a person died, according to District Attorney Thomas Spota's office.

As Doyle pronounced the sentence, Conroy's father, Robert Conroy, stormed out of the courtroom in a profanity-filled rage.

He was sentenced to 25 years in prison after his attorney, William Keahon, asked Doyle to dismiss Conroy's conviction and the judge and attorneys went into Doyle's chambers to discuss the motion.

Keahan later read letters from Conroy's girlfriend, former classmates and teammates, and parents of friends. They said Conroy helped his father raise a half-million dollars to restore sports when the Patchogue-Medford School District was in crisis and said Conroy defended minority students and learning-disabled classmates.

Conroy's parents did not speak in court.

O'Donnell said school disciplinary records show Conroy was involved in 24 incidents and had been suspended or held in detention for infractions ranging from tardiness to insubordination.

She said Conroy admitted being drunk when he was "verbally abusive" toward an opposing coach and a security guard at a football game.

Of the attack on Lucero, O'Donnell said, "Hate crimes intimidate and destroy entire communities."

Lucero's brother, Joselo, told Doyle that he could send a strong message about crimes against Latino families. "I think the change, it has to start today," Lucero said. "I don't want this hate to continue.

He said after the sentencing that he shaved his head to look more like his brother when he spoke in court.

Outside the courtroom, Spota called the sentence fair and said he was pleased Doyle followed the recommendation of prosecutors.

"We see how tragedies such as this befall both families, the deceased family and the defendant's family," Spota said.

"I was 17! I can't cry for him now!"

Outside the courtroom, Spota echoed Lucero's sentiments, saying Lucero will be eligible for parole after serving about 21 years and six months of his sentence.

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"I was 17! I can't cry for him now!"
Atlantis has a perfect final landing at Kennedy Space Center

Robert Block
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — It was a beautiful, bittersweet homecoming. Right on time, at 8:48 a.m. EDT Wednesday, the space shuttle Atlantis cut through a clear spring sky, banked hard to the right, and made a picture-perfect landing on runway 33 at Kennedy Space Center.

All six astronauts on board — mission commander Ken Ham, pilot Dominick "Tony" Antonelli and mission specialists Garrett Reisman, Piers Sellers, Stephen Bowen and Michael Good — were safe and sound and glad to be back home. It was their last shuttle flight. Some will likely get trips back to the International Space Station, or maybe a new generation of U.S. commercial rockets that NASA might hire as space taxis.

But for Atlantis, the second oldest of NASA's surviving orbiter fleet, the prospect of further trips into orbit, circling the Earth, is unlikely. Unless the space shuttle program gets some kind of political reprise in coming months from Congress or the White House, the touchdown marks the last time that Atlantis will ever descend from the heavens back to Earth.

Wednesday's landing marked the true beginning of the end of three decades of the space shuttle flight. With Atlantis back on the ground only two more missions remain before NASA wraps up the program and doles out the shuttles to museums. Next up is Discovery in September and Endeavour later in the Fall or early next year.

President Barack Obama's proposal for NASA's future post-shuttle era to focus more on development of launch vehicles aimed at sending astronauts to an asteroid or Mars.

While the launch of Atlantis 12 days ago set the first of the final three shuttle flights in motion, the fact that the beloved program is heading toward the finish line was driven home by the landing. It is the breakout of a career; the end of Atlantis' 25-year adventure of 32 launches, 300 days in space and 120 million miles traveled.

Its trip to the Hubble Space Telescope in May last year is widely considered the last of the great space shuttle missions. Atlantis carried out the fifth and final servicing mission to the telescope, giving it years more life to search the mysteries of the universe.

For NASA and Atlantis' crew, Wednesday's touchdown capped a perfect mission to the station, when Atlantis undocked from the orbiting complex on Sunday, they left behind a new 20-foot Russian compartment loaded with supplies and six fresh batteries that were installed during those three marathon spacewalks.

After undocking, the crew made a customary fly around the station to check for any anomalies or damage to the orbiter. Then on Monday, the crew did a final inspection of the shuttle's heat shields, using cameras mounted on the robotic arm of Atlantis.

Standing with his crew after landing, Ham said, "Atlantis is an incredible ship. She was absolutely perfect throughout the entire mission. And probably our main object besides getting our mission down was to bring her back in great shape and in one piece. So we are happy to be home and we are going to go enjoy some time with our families."

Astronaut families and visiting dignitaries gathered at the shuttle landing strip waiting for Atlantis' arrival. Among the crowd: Astronaut Reisman's mother, Sheila Reisman of Boynton Beach, Fla.; wearing a New York Yankees jersey complete with her son's name printed on the back along with the Atlantis mission patch.

The VIP crowd clapped excitedly as Atlantis touched down. Reisman's mother eyes were glued to the runway until the very last white of Atlantis' tail could be seen and the orbiter lurched to a complete stop.

There were cheers, tears and handshakes all around. Some pulled tissue from their pockets to dry their eyes.

Atlantis will now be rolled back to its hangar at the space center — the Orbiter Processing Facility — to be prepped for a potential rescue mission for the very last shuttle flight, to be conducted by Endeavour no earlier than November.

Assuming no emergencies arise, NASA would like to fly Atlantis one more time. In June 2011, NASA and some lawmakers have been lobbying to take that rescue mission and turn it into a full-fledged extra shuttle flight.

But time for that possibility is running out. NASA officials said they need to know from the White House by July whether that's going to be possible. That's how much lead time would be needed to train a crew and flight control team, and prepare the payloads. So far there's no sign that Atlantis will get the green light.

"Atlantic is just a fabulous ship," said pilot Antonelli during a pre landing news conference. "If this ends up being space shuttle Atlantis' last flight, we've got an American flag here that we're honored to fly."

President Barack Obama "what's the condition of the vehicle?" asked Colbert. "Is like the 'check off' light on the whole thing?"

"Yeah, every once in a while we have to take it to the service department," replied Ham.
Kelly Cooper
KELLY.COOPER.MD@GMAIL.COM

Three of Cal Poly's musical forces — the University Singers, PolyPhonics and the Cal Poly symphony — will team up for an end-of-the-year spring concert, "An American Tapestry" held in the Christopher Cohen Performing Arts Center this Saturday. Headed by Director of Choral Activities Tom Davies and Symphony Director David Arrivée, the collaboration will feature pieces by Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein, two classic American composers.

Because the symphony has performed several American-themed pieces throughout the year, Arrivée wanted to wrap up the season on the same idea.

"This year, the symphony has had an overarching theme where everything is kind of like, trying to find an American style of composition. We thought we should end the year that people recognize now as, 'That's American,'" Arrivée said. "I said, 'Could we possibly make this concert fit into our theme for the whole year?' And Tom said, 'Absolutely!' We just kind of brainstormed things that would kind of represent music that sounds uniquely American."

The two stumbled upon Copland and Bernstein, both regarded as staples in 20th century American music. Although the two composers have contrasting styles — classic hymn tunes to musical theater — they seemed to fit together to create an eclectic blend that embodies the American style.

"Leonard Bernstein has written an awful lot of music that is in the musical theater genre. So we came up with the idea of maybe something from 'West Side Story,' so we found a suite of pieces from 'West Side Story' that are for voices and orchestra. And then we also thought, who else besides Leonard Bernstein can we have in this program? Will Aaron Copland be probably the dean of American composers — he's probably one of the most important composers and influences on American composers," Davies said.

The concert will feature a variety of pieces from each composer. The "West Side Story" selections and two folk pieces from Copland's opera "The Tenderland." The choir will also sing James Agee's poem "Sure On This Tenderland." The choir will also sing James Agee's poem "Sure On This Shining Night" in the compositions by Samuel Barber & Morton Lauridsen. Davies said this piece also adds to the American theme.

"We're able to have Dr. Arrivée come and work with us more often — we get to work with Dr. Arrivée for half the concert. It's always a nice change when you go to perform with and for another conductor," Fratkin said.

"This concert features more soloists than we've done before. We're actually featuring about 20 students as soloists, which, frankly, said, is a high number. "This concert features more soloists than we've done before. We're actually featuring about 20 students as soloists, which, frankly, said, is a high number.

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The 1776 Porter project

Dear beer drinkers, brewers and appreciators,

The history of beer follows a unique and interesting path, which parallels world history through all its turmoil, peace, conquest, loss and development. The Germanic people loved it, adding wild rosemary and anything they could find. The Romans, at the height of their power, wine goblets in hand, looked down upon it. And today, we love it again, and it's not going anywhere.

In exploring the annals of beer history, we will look at a style of beer that has its origins in 18th century England: the porter. Porter was, in a way, the beginning of modern beer. In 1722, Bell Brewery owner Ralph Harwood brewed batches of beer using equal parts pale, roasted and brown malts (the grain), according to Randy Mosher, author of “Radical Brewing.” Brown malt was the newcomer of the three malts. It was found in the Hertfordshire region of England and could not be brought to London consistently before certain canals were built in the 17th century. The brew quickly caught on and was a regional favorite of the porters, the men responsible for moving goods about the town. Thirsty from a day of heavy lifting, they could go to a pub and enjoy this style. It was eventually named after them.

Before the 18th century, brewers in England used the malt grains more than once, making weaker beers as the batches went on (there were usually two or even three batches done). The first running would be the most alcoholic and would be stored to gather enhancement. It also preserved better with higher alcohol volume. On the second run through, the malt would be cooked immediately, when fresh, and was weaker and less potent. The third run would be even weaker, if it was even done.

Porter was the first successful style to do an “entire brewing, although it had been experimented with before. This meant that there were no second or third runs: the grain was mashed, (meaning the sugar was taken out), at the maximum level the first time, making a very dark and flavorful beer. According to Mosher: “This method offered huge advantages in industrial settings, and the brewers of 18th century London were quick to realize this.” The Industrial Revolution and demand of growing populations played largely in the spread of porter.

Interestingly, porter “died out completely in England,” according to Mosher. Part of this extinction was due to changing flavors, techniques and tastes. As time went on, the process was refined and beers that might have been considered porters before could now be classified as stouts or even brown ales.

Compared to a contemporary recipe, the 1776 porter (from Mosher’s book) included in this article is quite a bit different. Today, malt amounts vary and are not in equal parts as I did in this recipe. They might use ingredients such as pale malt, Munich malt, medium crystal and black patent malt as well as different hops at varying addition times. They also call for the option of American Ale yeast, which would not have worked in the 1776 porter.

This beer has an initial nutty and roasty flavor and finishes with a faint sweetness, thanks to 5 ounces of licorice root, ground and added to the boil. At the time of this writing, the beer has not had the proper bottle conditioning time and therefore lacks full carbonation. With a little more age, I can expect a slight bitterness, which I think will serve the beer well.

Until next time,

Will Taylor
Brew Crew publicist and Mustang Daily copy editor

### 1776 Porter Recipe

**Ingredients:**

- 4.5 lbs English Pale Malt
- 4.5 lbs Biscuit Malt
- 4.5 lbs Brown Malt

(There is no exact equivalent for this recipe)

**Hops & Spices:**

- 4 or Fuggle or Golding hops (treated as seen below)
- 0.5 or Licorice Root, ground (added @ 5 min)

**Brewing:**

Start boiling the hops in 160 F water. Mash malt up to 156 F for one hour, then sparge. Take a half-gallon of the first runnings and put into the boil kettle without any hops. Boil this half gallon vigorously until reduced to a thick syrup (get it as dark as possible before it starts to burn). Then run off the rest of the first runnings and spunge onto this dark goos, add the hop infusion and boil for 90 minutes.

**Heritage:**

Fermentation in the large breweries was traditionally done at very warm temperatures, up to 80 F or more. But I recommend fermenting this beer with your favorite English Ale yeast.
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picture of the day
"The High Point"

arts

"Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time"

Randy Myers
CONTRA COSTA TIMES

"Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time" is a satisfying, big-budget contradiction — a breath of retro fresh air — from a Hollywood gone nuts over 3-D and Roman numerals. That it's good, given its very unpromising trailer and that it's based on a video game, makes it all the more surprising.

Like the magical time-traveling dagger at the center of its plot, "Persia" cleverly transports us back to an innocent era of the action-adventure flick — a time in which stars such as Douglas Fairbanks Jr. and Errol Flynn swashed and buckled and did so with a dashin style and minimal bloodshed. If only Ridley Scott's dour "Robin Hood" had signed up for this same brand of merry moviemaking.

Yes, the special effects in "Persia" are bigger and more outlandish than in the past and, true, our hero — well-played by the immensely likable Jake Gyllenhaal ("Breakfast Mountain") — possesses a body more sculpted than that of his yesteryear counterparts, but the Jerry Bruckheimer production cares more about conjuring the jaunty spirit of Saturday matinee B movies than casting yet another massively numbing special-effects spell.

The spy and judiciously deployed action sequences clue us in that this isn't box-office business as usual with their focus on fancy wardrobeplay (appropriate) and aicky combo of martial arts and parkour (OK, not so appropriate but what the heck, it's a lot of fun to watch).

The story is a bit of a surprise, too, far more serpentine than the mush we've been served in previous videogame adaptations like "Doom" and the god-awful "Super Mario Brothers" movie. The dialogue is thick on the cheese and that, too, is part of its homey charm. What isn't charming is the lack of Middle Eastern actors in key roles. We love you, Gyllenhaal, but you're about as Persian as Glenn Beck. You, too, Alfred Molina.

Gyllenhaal puts his athleticism to work, as Dastan, an orphan adopted into the duplicitous fold of a 6th-century Persian royal family. All grown-up and buffed-out, the man's-man
Prince

continued from page 10

Prince and his brothers ransom the holy city of Alamut for alleged weapons of minor destruction (vain, wink) and come up empty-handed. Or so Dastan thinks, after swiping the aforementioned magical dagger.

After he’s blamed for his adoptive dad’s murder, Dastan and Princess Isha (Gemma Arterton) flee from the scene. The couple go from hate to like... (you get it. Since there’s an easygoing chemistry between the two and Arterton, you don’t mind the predictability of the romance.

Much of the movie is taken up with the duo racing through the desert so they can put the dagger in its rightful place. Along the way they encounter swarms of assassins — led by a creep with a pet viper up his sleeve (cool!) — and a gabby businessman (a humorous Molina, of “Spider-Man 2”) who races ostriches and whines about taxes. Throughout the journey, Bruckheimer and director Mike Newell (“Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire” and “Four Weddings and a Funeral”) temper any instincts to go overboard with the fast-and-furious edits and pumped-up action scenes. They carve out just as much time reveling in the film’s classy production values — interior shots of the palaces are visual stunners — and developing tension between C’lynnenhaal and Arterton. That more subtle approach will likely disappoint fans of loud and empty fare like “Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen.” But I’ll gladly kiss the ground for a popcorn movie like this — one that doesn’t bludgeon us for two hours and leave us with a huge headache from wearing those stupid 3-D glasses.

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MGMT COMES TO AVILA BEACH

Psychedelic-electro-rock group MGMT will perform at the Avila Beach Resort Friday, May 28. The group is comprised of Ben Goldwasser and Andrew VanWyngarden on lead vocals; Michael Ani, backing vocals and bass; James Richard, backing vocals, guitar, keyboard and percussion; and William Berman, drums and backing vocals. The group originally started out as a duo with Goldwasser and VanWyngarden when the duo met during their freshman year while attending Wesleyan University in Connecticut. The group signed to Columbia Records in 2006 and released their first full-length album, “Oracular Spectacular” in 2007. In 2010, MGMT was nominated for a Grammy award for Best New Artist and its track “Kids” off “Oracular Spectacular” was nominated for Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocals.

Leonard Bernstein
“Chichester Psalms”
“Balls from West Side Story”

Conductors:
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Spanish- and English-language group .MCi.M will perform at the Avila Beach Resort Friday, May 28. The group is comprised of Ben Goldwasser and Andrew VanWyngarden on lead vocals; Michael Ani, backing vocals and bass; Janies Richard, backing vocals, guitar, keyboards and percussion; and William Berman, drums and backing vocals. The group originally started out as a duo with Goldwasser and VanWyngarden when the duo met during their freshman year while attending Wesleyan University in Connecticut. The group signed to Columbia Records in 2006 and released their first full-length album, “Oracular Spectacular” in 2007. In 2010, MGMT was nominated for a Grammy award for Best New Artist and its track “Kids” off “Oracular Spectacular” was nominated for Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocals.

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We have reached the end of the Liberal Lens. This column began as a spontaneous decision in 2008 at the Alberston on Foothill Boulevard. I ran into one of my friends who worked at the Mustang Daily on the night of the first debate between Joe Biden and Sarah Palin. She called me into writing a guest column. I wrote that guest column entirely for fun, and it turned into this wonderful two-year discussion about politics and society.

I feel very grateful to the campus and the 2009 and 2010 staff at the Mustang Daily for allowing me to explore politics through this platform. I don’t know whether I had ideas worthy of discussion beyond the second-to-last page of the newspaper, or whether I made someone smile on a Thursday morning — I hope I achieved both of those things — but I believe I can claim that I contributed to the discussion on campus, whether it was regarding national politics or issues on campus.

I spent some time reminiscing in the archives of my columns this week, and as I sip coffee at Black Horse and write my last column, I feel at peace with the discussion we’ve had. I’ve advocated for thinking through your own beliefs, for not allowing society to dictate what you believe and for holding consistent beliefs. I rejected ideology, and I championed logic and reason.

This column can be described as an attempt to portray myself through my writing. By reading my columns, you have spent time reading about my political identity and my beliefs. And 59 articles later, I honestly can’t think of anything further that needs to be said to explain what I believe to be true about politics.

Our journey began during an election season — when the best ideas for America are put forth for consideration — and also during a dark time in our history when the government was secretive and favored the wealthiest and corrupt in our society over middle class and poor Americans. The wicks on the torches of freedom and justice in this country were damp with the dew of corruption, cynosm and deception. We are only now beginning to feel the effects from the wounds we suffered at the hands of the Bush administration.

The election of Barack Obama was one step in the direction of righting the wrongs of our racist past, and it renewed the warmth and glow of our country to the rest of the world. Which began to have faith in the strength of the American spirit again. As I wrote in one of my earlier columns, with Obama as president, we entered into the age of ideas, and I had hoped, intelligent, compassionate legislation.

This brought us to the debate over whether public option health care was right for our country. The voices of regression and stagnancy fought against legislation — and let’s be honest, some sell-outs — the government provided relief to families all over the United States who had lost or couldn’t afford health insurance. Through this legislation, we joined our steps with the progress of the other developed nations.

The end of the debate over how much government regulation should be allowed in our capitalist economy will extend far beyond the now-dying voice of my columns, just as its conception happened before any of us students were born. But the conversation will continue, and as long as that conversation is couched in the willingness to compromise, I am confident that the end is in sight.

However, the larger political discussion must go on here at Cal Poly as America faces new issues and challenges — and I would be deeply disappointed if mine was the last liberal voice on campus. Walt Whitman’s poem “To Poets to Come” nicely captures the spirit of the task that I’m passing on to the campus for next year.

Poets to come! orators, singers, musicians to come!
Not to-day is to justify me and answer what I am for.
But you, a new brood, native, athletic, continental, greater than before known.

Stephanie England
Liberal Lens editor

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Stephanie England is an English major. The Mustang Daily is a free newspaper; however, the removal of any material in publishing a daily newspaper for ten decisions without censorship or approval.

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The Mustang Daily is a free newspaper; however, the removal of any material in publishing a daily newspaper for ten decisions without censorship or approval.
I appreciate articles that delve into how to improve life on the Cal Poly Campus and choosing the right President is a first start, although with only three choices this is a bit forced.

SMILE & NOD — free speech can be offensive and no one has the right to not be offended... Here's FIRE's take on the matter and how poorly Cal Poly handled it. http://www.thefire.org/article/8681.html

BYU... Cal Poly has always had a Roman Catholic president, but does it always need to be so?

—Roger Freberg
In response to “New president should learn from Baker’s blunders”

...Warren Baker has seen Cal Poly climb to national recognition and subsequently plummet in overall “excellence”...

Can you provide back up evidence for this position? If memory serves correctly:

— Cal Poly was just ranked the #1 public university in the Western United States for the 11th year running by U.S. News and World Report.
— In 2009, Forbes Magazine ranked Cal Poly grads as some of the highest paid in the NATION. Cal Poly tied with UCLA at #5 and was in front of USC, UCSD, UC Davis and many others.
— Cal Poly engineering is rated in the top 10 for undergrad universities.
— Cal Poly Architecture and Ag are both top 10 in the nation and the College of Business just a month ago was ranked #6.
— In 2009, 41,000 applications were received by Cal Poly for 3,800 freshmen openings. It seems this is far from the “plummet” being described in the article. What’s more, when Dr. Baker was hired Cal Poly was unranked in all areas. Today it’s a completely different story. At some point the guy at the top has to be given some credit.

It’s understood that the Mustang Daily is a student run paper allowing aspiring journalist to practice their craft but please do just a modicum of research before you draft such foolish and unsubstantiated nonsense.

—Robert
In response to “New president should learn from Baker’s blunders”

Please have the courage of placing your name with your comments ... you sound all too much like an administrative stooge.

Agreed that Warren Baker’s ‘achievements’ are debatable, but get your facts straight. You have many of the right disclaimers attached to your facts, but you weren’t always so forthcoming about Cal Poly. Smoke and mirrors doesn’t make it so, Robert.

I love how ‘PR’ folks spin their numbers ... here’s what is really happening: Cal Poly is ranked 96th among masters schools ... in the Western Region ... behind such powerhouse schools as Stanford, Texas, Loyola Marymount, Mills ... This isn’t really all that bad, but the truth is what it is. Read more: check it out. http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges/masters-universities-west-rankings

As for Warren Baker being non transparent and such, I would agree ... ask anyone.

—Roger Freberg
In response to “New president should learn from Baker’s blunders”

How very interesting. Your wife teaches at Cal Poly and yet you’ve started a website, a blog and posted on many sites with the focused objective of disparaging the school at every opportunity, isn’t that called biting the hand that feeds you? Of your many lunatic posts, perhaps my favorite was the one you presented about Baker’s wife spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to build a custom kitchen outside the President’s Suite at Spanos Stadium. That was beyond laughable.

Anybody that’s been to Spanos and walked by the president’s suite knows there’s no kitchen and that you completely fabricated the entire story but that didn’t stop you from posting pure fiction. You’ve clearly been blinded by your internal rage and it’s safe to say it very unhealthy.

Speaking of the U.S. News ranking which you mock despite the fact that your wife and you have apparently contributed via teaching to Cal Poly’s reputation, it can’t be denied that in terms of selectivity and SAT scores Cal Poly is equal to or superior to every private schools ranked above. Further, cross checking against the national universities, Cal Poly is also the peer or superior to nearly every UC and certainly superior to many Pac-10 schools. Please see admissions at Oregon, ASU, Arizona, WSU and OSU for detail. However, for clarification purposes it’s well known the rankings are actually manipulated because private schools have lobbied for and prevailed in having metrics such as alumni giving and student aid included into the assessment equation. Leading the pack for this was Notre Dame which ranked 56th for national universities in 1988 but moved to 16th in 1989. This is how lesser quality private schools jumped public powerhouses including the likes of Cal (with its multiple Noble Laureates), Michigan and UVa. The rankings also don’t take into consideration that private universities and colleges ranked above schools like Cal Poly do not adhere to nor are they held accountable to accommodate state and federal affirmative action mandates.

In summary, although I don’t work at Cal Poly I am a graduate and, while I respect your first amendment rights, I think I speak for many when I say I’d appreciate it if your stop bashing our university. A university you never attended but one that does put food on your table.

—Robert
In response to “New president should learn from Baker’s blunders”

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features select comments that are written in response to articles posted online. Though not all the responses are printed, the Mustang Daily prints comments that are coherent and foster intelligent discussion on a given subject. No overcapitalization, please.
Baseball continued from page 16

hory last year. With everything out of the picture, now the Mustangs only have one thing on their minds.

"I just think the way we compete is probably the biggest thing," Brayton said. "We want to go out there and show everybody this is how we are; this is how we should have been doing."

For Brayton, playing time in his final series is up in the air. He is the catcher who suffered a concussion in the Mustangs series against UC Davis and sat against Pacific and their midweek game against Loyola Marymount.

"I came in to catch on Friday (against UC Davis) in the ninth inning. A guy swung — and when he did, he hit me in the face, on my mask. It rung my bell pretty good," Brayton said. "I have to be cleared before I can play."

Brayton said, "I have to be cleared before I can play."

If Brayton makes it back onto the field, the .320 batter could serve as a shot of adrenaline to an offense already averaging eight runs in their last five games. If he doesn’t, he will be missing out on more than just the end of his career.

"It’s definitely just something that I will look back on and I will always cherish," Yoder said.

With a 10-7 win against Loyola Marymount Tuesday night, the Mustangs have won 11 of their last 15 games.

Raiders continued from page 16

look winded or inconvenienced when he scrambles out of the pocket. Running that offense in energetic fashion is Jackson. He constantly coaches up his players and enthusiastically taunts defenders, as he did to cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha after Campbell and Heyward-Bey backed up on a short pass Wednesday.

"He helps build us up," Henderson said. "Say if I’m blocking one play and I hear Hue talking smack to the defense, I think, ‘OK, let’s do this.’"

As for coach Tom Cable, he is supervising instead of micromanaging. Cable used to be attached at the hip with his offensive line, the unit he coached before replacing Lane Kiffin four games into 2008. But Cable is not forgotten by the kid he inserted at left tackle toward the end of that 2008 season.

Said Henderson: "Honestly, he was like a father figure to me. I’m sure he didn’t know it. He really took me on and challenged me. I never had a father, never knew my father or anything like that.

"In college (Florida State), I had a few different coaches. When I first came here, he took me under his wing. He was like a father figure and a coach. He would really get on my (butt) 1,000 times harder than anyone else."

Cable is still willing to do that. "(Henderson) is like the whole group. They’re progressed, but there is still more to go," said Cable, also agreeing that the quarterback switch has afforded the group a fresh start.

Everybody now has moved forward, and we’re trying to be a good offensive football team."

Henderson needs to be good for the Raiders to be good. And not just in May.
Baseball to host Cal State Bakersfield in final series

Brian De Los Santos

The numbers weren't there and the postseason was nowhere in sight. When chins started to get heavy, the Mustangs had no thoughts about giving up on a season prematurely.

"Perseverance," how senior Luke Yoder described this season.

"We could have thrown the towel in so many times and just given up, but we definitely never let that happen. We continued to fight, battle our ways through those ups and downs," Yoder said. "Just as long as you never throw in the towel, anything is possible."

After starting the season 10-27, the Mustangs are now 21-31. They have won 11 of their last 15 games and have doubled a single-digit win total they held for months in a matter of weeks.

"That's what you're going to remember," Yoder said. "Especially here as a senior, you're not going to remember. Oh, we sucked; we didn't do too hot. You're going to remember, Hey, we fought and never gave up."

The Mustangs will square off against Cal State Bakersfield in the final series of the season at Baggett Stadium this weekend. For seniors Adam Melker, Ross Brayton, David Van Ostrand, Mark DeVincenzi and Yoder it will be the final games they will play as Mustangs.

Their recent momentum will be the key.

"If we were playing as well as we are right now — even not the whole season, just the start of conference —

I definitely think we could have won our conference. Not with ease, but we could have been at the top," Yoder said.

Big West coaches predicted Cal Poly would finish third in the Big West at the start of the season. After threatening for first place a season ago, the Mustangs now find themselves sitting sixth.

"Obviously it's not the year we expected to have and it kind of sucks, our seniors are kind of going out from where we did last year on such a high note, to kind of this year on a low note. I mean, it's a part of the game," Brayton said. "But recently we have been playing to the capabilities that we've known we have been able to all year. It's just nice to see that our hard work in the offseason is finally paying off."

In their last 14 games, the Mustangs have hit .335 with 16 home runs. A big difference from the first 36 games of the year when Cal Poly hit just .277. In total, the Mustangs now boast eight players batting over .300. First baseman David Van Ostrand leads the team, hitting .342 with 33 RBIs.

"With the way that we are now, with our pitching, our hitting and our defense, we definitely would have a good record," Yoder said. "There is no doubt in my mind we would be at 30 plus win right now."

Yoder, who is on pace to be the first Mustang to hit .300 in all four years, has been a key element to his team's recent comeback. Yoder, who hit .301 a season ago, went 7-for-13 with five RBIs and a home run against Pacific last weekend. On the season, he is now hitting .335 with 19 doubles and 13 home runs — the only player on his team to have double digit in both those categories. Not to mention he holds a .665 slugging percentage.

"I'm just really seeing the ball well," Yoder said. "Even if this weekend doesn't go as well as I would like, I can still look back upon this year and my entire four years here at Cal Poly as a success. The hard work that I have put in, I have been definitely able to reap those rewards."

But he and the rest of the senior class are left with one last reward to play for this season — a Big West Championship. It's perhaps a bit of a sour note for a senior class that reached the NCAA regional tournament for the first time in school history.

see Baseball, page 15

Raiders left tackle protecting an unfamiliar blind side

Cam Inman

CONTRO CONTRO TIMES

Every Jason Campbell pass soared through the Alameda air as an on-target spiral, once a rarity on the Raiders' practice field.

Every Darrius Heyward-Bey catch looked alarmingly natural, knocking his drop-happy reputation off its axis.

Every Hue Jackson chip added spice, further endearing the new offensive coordinator to his troops and outliers.

All of which made it easy to overlook left tackle Mario Henderson in Wednesday's offseason training activities.

When an offense clicks like the Raiders did — whirring on a partly cloudy May morning or a bone-chilling December afternoon — the left tackle often goes unnoticed.

This new-look Raiders offense needs Henderson to give Campbell enough time to throw the ball to Heyward-Bey, as well as Darren McFadden.

Henderson's chief concern is where it needs to be — with Henderson.

"You know I've got a lot of stuff to prove, a lot of stuff," he said. "I'm really going to take that big challenge upon myself."

Henderson is entering his fourth NFL season, but this truly is a new beginning for him. He is not blocking anymore for JaMarcus Russell's monstrous backside.

Will Henderson be blocking for Campbell, who's becoming further entrenched as the starter a month after being acquired from the Washington Redskins?

 Rookie Jared Veldheer, a third-round draft pick out of Hillsdale College, is a leater option who will be afforded time to catch up to NFL-caliber competition.

So expect Henderson to enter the season as the starter at left tackle, a role he wants for the next "1,000 years" with the Raiders. As for last year, he struggled at times, but he was a junk-yard dog, asked to protect Russell.

The addition of Campbell as an accurate, efficient and mobile quarterback makes life easier for Henderson and his linemates.

"It's crazy, for him to be able to come here, be able to grasp the offense and take control of it as fast as he did, it's amazing," Henderson said of Campbell. "It just goes to show you the type of guy he is and the type of hard worker and leader he is."

If that sounds like the opposite of Russell, wait until you read the following Henderson quote:

"Now I can get adjusted as to where (Campbell) steps up in the pocket, (and) I know he's accurate, as far as if it's a seven-step drop, I know I'll take seven; if it's five (steps), I know he's going to take five. That's good to be accurate."

Russell's fumbling foibles in the pocket was among his many faults. Campbell is so smooth, and he doesn't see Raiders, page 15