Seismic shake-up places Cal Poly second at international competition

Katelyn Sweigart
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Cal Poly’s Seismic Design team placed second out of 28 teams at the 2011 Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI)’s undergraduate Seismic Design competition last weekend.

The competition gives teams several months to come up with a 5-foot-tall balsa wood skyscraper. The structure is then placed on a shake table, which simulates the historical El Centro 1940 and Northridge 1994 earthquakes. The third earthquake is created by UC Davis graduate students, and is specifically made to topple the structures.

The goal of the competition is to present the best design and predict how it will fair in earthquakes, as well as give a presentation and create a poster.

Architectural engineering senior Yoni Sadka said he believes Cal Poly put in more work on the “Diadem” (the name of the structure) than any other school, when it “rocked” the presentation and had the closest prediction.

“We came in so cocky and confident that we were going to win the thing,” he said. “Then we see the accelerometer fall and the whole crowd was like ‘Awww!’”

The accelerometer is a palm-sized device, weighing 3.5 pounds, placed on the top of the structure. It measures the acceleration of motion during the simulated earthquakes. If it falls, it may result in disqualification.

Sadka said he left the competition early with some teammates, crushed over the loss. He got a text from one of the judges, who is a Cal Poly alumna, that read they placed second.

“I pulled the car over and we just looked at each other and we were like, ‘No, she’s just messing with us,’” Sadka said.

They called their teammates, but couldn’t reach anyone. Finally, a teammate sent them a picture of the trophy and realization hit them.

“It was cool; going from not placing at all to getting second was better than nothing,” he said.

Kevin Chen, an architectural engineering senior, partipated in the club as part of his senior project. He said he still cannot get over the shock of winning after expecting the worst.

“It’s one of the heaviest penalties in the competition,” Chen said. “It has the potential of reducing the score by half.”

James Myers, a civil engineering junior on the team, said the judges were able to overlook the rule involving the accelerometer.

“We didn’t fall over, so the building didn’t fall,” he said.

Once the structure proved it could
Religion
continued from page 1

Nasim said she sometimes sees evidence of ignorance in classroom discussions.
"I have noticed that a lot of people are not just uninformed but misinformed," Nasim said.
And misinformation can often reinforce false stereotypes, she said.
This was a common belief within the religious groups on campus.
Gurney said Christians are often stereotyped as being judgmental, hypocritical and unwilling to listen to different viewpoints.

"There are differing levels of legitimacy," he said. "But when I talk to people I want to know a person for who they are regardless of what they've done in their past. We all make mistakes, and we want to know any criticisms of us so that we don't have to be defined by them."
SLO Crusade students agreed, and said sometimes Christians' motives are questioned, especially when they are talking to others about Jesus Christ.
"As Christians, we know that (spreading the message of Jesus Christ) is not done well by a lot of other Christians in the world," Bible study leader and Cal Poly alumna Ali Miller said. "So it can be hard to approach people with the motive to just love them and show them the love that we know God has for them, when other people have done that wrongly."
This does not completely discourage them. SLO Crusade still gathers for "sharing" every Tuesday and Thursday morning, by attempting to start spiritual conversations with students on campus.

Liberal studies senior and SLO Crusade member Amanda Mervich said although some students do not want to talk, most are willing and leave the conversation encouraged.

Spiritual conversation has the potential to guide those who are non-religious or confused, or to help strengthen religious beliefs that a person may already have, according to SLO Crusade members.
But sometimes this does not apply, as general truths of most religious organizations are seen as superstition to the Cal Poly Brights.
The Brights is a club for nontheist (those who do not believe in a personal god), nonreligious students and their allies.
"Nonreligious people are often viewed as hateful and untrustworthy," Brights president Austin Mello said. "Our goal is to show that people without superstition such as faith can be good, moral people."
Mello said the Brights are always looking for ways to work together with students of different spiritual beliefs, but he often finds that other groups are not receptive.
In addition, the Brights said campus events aimed at including every diverse group and belief system were often the ones they felt most uncomfortable.
For example, Week of Welcome (WOW), which is supposed to cater to every possible interest incoming freshmen might have, whether it is in a religious group, professional organization or other special interest clubs, was a time when most Brights members said they felt left out.
"WOW had a religious panel speak to us, and they said they had representatives from all religions," computer science sophomore Kelly Daniels said. "But there was no one representing anything close to this point of view."
The Brights were not the only ones who reported feeling discrimination or discomfort because of their beliefs. SLO Crusade students said there were times when they also felt this way:
"In class one time, they were using the Bible as an example of how Christianity promotes man-dominated society; it was really misinterpreted," social sciences senior Sarah Wurtzbrock said. "The whole class jumped on it. It was a situation where I felt that if I would've said I was a Christian, it would've been looked down upon."
But SLO Crusade is the largest religious organization on campus and part of America's religious majority (77.8 percent of American adults identify as Christians), according to the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life.
On the other hand, only 0.6 percent of Americans identify as Muslim, according to the Pew Forum, which might translate into Muslim students at Cal Poly being a minority as well. And according to a Time Magazine poll, more than four out of 10 Americans said they have an unfavorable view of Islam.
Yes, Maryam Nasim said she has never felt directly discriminated against at Cal Poly and neither has freshman MSA member Amr Mabrouk.
Mabrouk said since she arrived at Cal Poly at the beginning of this year, she has always felt accepted.
"I pray five times a day, so I have no other choice but to pray in my dorm," Mabrouk said. "People have asked me what I'm doing, but I've never felt offended or stereotyped in any way."
Through these students said prejudice is not affecting them, Cal Poly and the San Luis Obispo community still have room to grow in the areas of knowledge and religious education.
These ideas are the guiding principles behind "A Taste of Islam: A 6-week Introduction to the Faith of Muslims," a lecture hosted by five San Luis Obispo religious organizations open to all members of the community.

When I hear what people say about Islam, it's a mixture of fear and ignorance.

— Stephen Lloyd-Moffett
Religious studies professor

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get a clue

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President Barack Obama on Monday proposed a federal budget for fiscal 2012 that would pare back recent budget deficits, but still add nearly $7 trillion to the nation's debt over the next decade.

Obama stressed that his plan would slash the federal budget deficit by $544 billion in one year, from $1.6 trillion this year to $1.1 trillion in the fiscal year starting Oct. 1.

He also emphasized that his budget for fiscal 2012 and the following decade would cut the red ink by $1.1 trillion from what it would total if current policies were left unchanged. He'd do it with a combination of spending cuts and tax increases.

But that falls far short of the recommendations from his own bipartisan budget deficit commission, which in November urged cutting deficits over the coming decade by $4 trillion.

Republicans won't even wait for the next fiscal year to start before cutting spending. They plan to start cutting current year spending, with votes in the GOP-led House of Representatives this week, though final terms must be set through negotiations with the Democratic-led Senate and Obama.

"He's going to present a budget ... that will continue to destroy jobs by spending too much, borrowing too much and raising too much," House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

"It looks to me that it is going to be very small on spending discipline and a lot of new spending on so-called investments," said House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis. "Borrowing and spending is not the way to prosperity. Today's deficits mean tomorrow's tax increases, and that costs jobs," Ryan said on "Fox News Sunday."

Obama aides said the budget would set up a clash of ideas with the Republican-controlled House over how best to rein in the government's soaring deficits and skyrocketing national debt.

Obama proposed that the government spend $3.7 trillion next year, down $100 billion from this year's $3.8 trillion.

One factor that would keep spending in check: a freeze on the domestic part of the budget that doesn't include Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security or security spending such as the FBI.

Also, national defense spending would drop 5 percent next year as troops are withdrawn from Afghanistan and Iraq.

As spending would stay roughly the same, tax collections would jump by $353 billion, or 21 percent, helping to slash the deficit.

One big factor in the increased tax collections: an increase in the Social Security tax paid by all American workers regardless of income, starting next January. Obama and the Congress in December agreed to lower the tax for a year to help spark the economy. Obama proposes to let the wage tax return to its usual level after Dec. 31.

Longer term, Obama's blueprint would keep government spending flat in fiscal 2013 as well. One key reduction: Pentagon spending would drop by $78 billion over five years, much of it from weapons programs such as a Marine landing craft and a new engine for the Joint Strike Fighter.

Overall, though, Obama proposes to let federal spending start rising again each year starting in fiscal 2014, from a minimum of $201 billion a year to a maximum of $278 billion.

Obama also proposed raising select taxes beyond the Medicare and Social Security payroll tax that would increase next Jan. 1.

He asked Congress to limit deductions for the wealthy, and proposed higher taxes on oil and gas producers totaling $46 billion over 10 years.

Taxes and other government revenues would never match spending, though. The annual national deficit would drop to a low of $607 billion in fiscal 2015, and then start rising again. It would reach $774 billion in fiscal 2021.

Government debt held by the public would rise by $6.7 trillion, from $10.9 trillion this year to $17.6 trillion in fiscal 2021, according to White House figures.

Obama largely ignored the recommendations of the bipartisan budget commission, which in November urged more than $4 trillion in cuts to projected deficits over the next decade. He didn't propose any changes in the biggest domestic spending programs — entitlements including Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid — which the commission said must be revised if the debt is ever to be tamed.

He faces a Republican House determined not only to cut more, but also to start immediately.

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Steven Thomma
MLCATHY NEWSPAPERS

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Obama's budget will add trillions in debt

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The classes are led by Rev. Rashdi Abdul Cader, a practicing Muslim, religious studies professor Stephen Lloyd-Moffett and Rev. Jane Voigts of the San Luis Obispo United Methodist Church.

"We wanted to have an opportunity for the community to come together to learn about Islam with no agenda other than to help people understand," Lloyd-Moffett said.

He said unbiased education about the faith of Islam is something everybody, including the Cal Poly community, needs.

"I have a fundamental belief that most people are well-intentioned," Lloyd-Moffett said. "Yet when I hear what people say about Islam, it's a mixture of fear and ignorance."

Lloyd-Moffett said he felt those with the knowledge to teach Islam, like Voigts, Abdul Cader and himself had a responsibility to eradicate this ignorance.

The classes are being taught with a combination of lecture and study of "No god but God" by Reza Aslan, a book about the origins, evolution and future of Islam.

In addition to learning about Islam, Voigts said there is also a firm emphasis on fun and friendship. The classes take place Thursdays right before Farmers' Market, which Voigts said is the perfect place to go hang out with new friends after the lectures.

"It's as much about learning Islam as it is about building community," Voigts said. "Hopefully, we will be building community across religious lines."

Valerie Gibson wrote the best-selling book, 'Cougar.' She's the one who became famous until 2001 when the term 'cougar' was invented. Gosse said his company, cougarevents.com, hosts one "Cougar Convention" a month in a different city around the globe.

Jan. 12 when they went under. A policy change issued Friday resolves that conflict.

COSTA MESA (MCT) — About 75 people turned out for the Orange County Cougar Convention on Saturday, hosted by Rich Gosse, executive producer of The Society of Single Professionals. Gosse said his company, cougarevents.com, hosts one "Cougar Convention" a month in a different city around the globe.

"We had been doing parties around the world before the term 'cougar' was invented," Gosse said.

"Cougaring has been going on for thousands of years," Gosse said. "The term 'cougar' didn't become famous until 2001 when Valerie Gibson wrote the best-selling book, 'Cougar.' She's the one who kind of popularized the term 'cougar' around the world."
Cal Poly CLA hosts Liberal Arts Week

CLA Ambassadors have worked to put together the 2011 Liberal Arts Week.CLA Ambassadors vice president Lauren Duffy said this year they want to "draw in all majors that might not typically see it in their best interest to attend CLA-related activities."

CLA students bring to the Cal Poly campus.

"Really, Liberal Arts Week is a chance to develop an awareness of all the (CLA) has to offer to the university," said Pacey Bennett, special assistant to the dean for student success in the CLA. Liberal Arts Week was a staple at the university for many years, but it took a small hiatus when Susan Currier, former CLA associate dean, died in 2006. Currier had been the advisor to Liberal Arts Week, and after her passing there was a "transition period" for the college, Bennett said.

"Liberal Arts Week was a big deal for a long time, but after Susan passed away it lost direction for a bit," Bennett said. "Since I began in my current position three years ago, I have seen a steady rise in the quality of the events."

Part of what enabled Liberal Arts Week to gain momentum has been student involvement, Bennett said. A major student contributor to this year's event is political science junior Lauren Duffy, who is vice president of the CLA Ambassadors and co-chair of Liberal Arts Week.

"I participated in last year's Liberal Arts Week and I knew it wasn't meeting its full potential," Duffy said. "I saw that improvement needed to be made, and I know that I wanted to be a part of that."

This year CLA has made an effort to include all majors in the week's events. Liberal Arts Week is a way for the college to show non-CLA majors that they can be involved with the college too, whether through clubs or taking on a minor, Duffy said.

"I believe the college has a lot to offer students, CLA-major or not, and we're just not reaching out to them," Bennett said. "CLA has a lot to offer majors that are outside of our college." Duffy said she hopes students from all over campus will attend not only the club and minor showcase but all of the events during the week.

"At the end of the day, we really just want CLA and non-CLA students to understand the diversity of our college," Duffy said. "We have fun; we're creative. We want people to appreciate all of the hard work we do every day."

Victoria Zabel

The Cal Poly College of Liberal Arts (CLA), in conjunction with CLA Ambassadors and CLA Student Council, will host Liberal Arts Week from Feb. 15 to 17. Liberal Arts Week is an annual event held to showcase the CLA, and to promote the unique skills CLA students bring to the Cal Poly campus.

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Celebrate Single’s Awareness Day with the grapefruit

Heather Rockwood is a food science junior and Mustang Daily food columnist.

Yesterday, half the population rejoiced for a day dedicated to the joy and recognition of being in a relationship, and thousands of couples celebrated by taking their special someone out to eat or buying him or her chocolates.

Today is a special day as well. Today is a day in which the other half of the population gets a day to celebrate and be recognized: Happy Single’s Awareness Day (SAD). Although some celebrate on Feb. 14, having SAD today allows the celebration to have its own day, uninterrupted by Valentine’s festivities.

At first many of you might cringe at the thought of celebrating this seemingly awful fact, but don’t be fooled — being single has its perks and is worth celebrating. Don’t believe me? Well, take a few moments to learn how to celebrate this controversial day with a fruit that is familiar with loneliness. Grapefruit, the national representative of the Lone Star State, reminds us there is still joy in celebrating singleness.

Even from the beginning of its existence, the grapefruit has made its way confidently in solitude and individualism — it is the only member of the citrus family to originate in the New World. Although this fruit gets its name from the clusters it grows in (much like those seen in grapes), it still ventures off the tree and is sold in stores as an individual fruit.

When purchasing a grapefruit from the market, be sure to pick one that is glossy, smooth, round and heavy for its size. With many other fruits you need to avoid uneven skin color or scratches, but with grapefruit, these are only aesthetically undesirable — they have no direct affect on flavor or texture quality. Grapefruits should be purchased as far into the ripening stages as possible — the riper the fruit the higher level of antioxidants present.

High levels of lycopene, a carotenoid phytonutrient antioxidant that gives the grapefruit flesh with vibrant pink and red hues, are linked to many health benefits. Some of which include: reducing cancer risks due to lycopene’s ability to destroy harmful free-radicals, lowering LDL (“bad”) cholesterol levels and limiting skin damage due to sun exposure — highly necessary when considering how Cal Poly is within 30 minutes of six different beaches.

As a single fruit, the grapefruit wears many colors to keep things new and exciting. Grapefruits come in white (blond), pink or even ruby. These color variations refer to the flesh of the fruit, and the skins of all varieties are a fairly similar yellow-pink color.

Shining brightly by its lonesome, the grapefruit offers well over 100 percent of your recommended vitamin C levels and a high amount of fiber with a very low calorie count.

This fruit is extremely powerful and potent on its own, and sometimes it doesn’t play well with others. It is important to keep in mind that the consumption of this little fireball along with pharmaceutical medicines often does not end well.

There is an enzyme found in the intestine that controls the natural breakdown and absorption of medications, and grapefruit juice is known to inhibit this enzyme and affect absorption. So always be careful with what you pair your grapefruit with; it is not a particular fan of blind dates with outdated cough drops.

Whether you are celebrating Single’s Awareness Day or not, know that the grapefruit sure is, and it is quite happy doing so — why not join the fun? Chocolates are a Valentine’s Day treat — today, sneak away and treat yourself to the sweet, tart, tantalizing taste that stands for singles.

Hint: George Washington was our first president, but did you know he was also a grapefruit farmer?

The grapefruit offers well over 100 percent of your recommended vitamin C levels and a high amount of fiber.

— Heather Rockwood
Food columnist
The Expendables return Saturday to rock SLO Brew

Amber Kiwan
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Santa Cruz-based "surf rock" band The Expendables have played multiple times in San Luis Obispo, and the vibes of the Central Coast keep them coming back for more.

The Expendables will play at SLO Brewing Co. on Feb. 19 — a one-night stop on its way down the coast for their Winter Blackout Tour 2011.

Expendables bassist Ryan DeMars said certain aspects of San Luis Obispo, from the people to the weather, remind the band of their hometown in Santa Cruz, Calif.

"We've made it our second home," DeMars said. "That's why we like coming back."

During last year's Winter Blackout Tour, the group played three consecutive shows at SLO Brew, some of which were sold out.

This time around, the band embarked on their 2011 tour with new set lists to rock on stage.

DeMars said they're digging up older songs to play — songs they haven't played live in many years, while also playing newer songs that have not yet been released.

"We have a couple songs in our set that we had to bring out of The Expendables coffins, so to speak," DeMars said. "We're also working on a new song that we've been playing live that is getting a really good response."

DeMars said the band has high expectations for the crowd for the upcoming SLO Brew show.

"The crowds are a little better than expected going into this tour," he said. "Everyone is super rowdy and really stoked. And I would expect the same from SLO."

Animal science senior Kevin McEvilly said he saw The Expendables live a few years ago and thought the band's upbeat energy was terrific.

"They've got a sound that appeals to the college crowd," McEvilly said. "It's mellow, chillin' music."

Los Angeles-based surf rock band and main support act The B Foundation has a similar sound that draws in big crowds on the Central Coast as well.

"We've played SLO Brew a number of times — I love that club," B Foundation drummer Ian McGrath said. "I really look forward to the show. I think it's going to be big."

The B Foundation will also be headlining at SLO Brew in April. McGrath said touring California with The Expendables has been like a vacation.

"The weather has been nice," he said. "There are no snow storms, so we aren't worrying about dying everyday. We're playing with people we like to hang out with and the crowds are big. It's been really nice."

The seasoned rockers are touring with The Holdup, a newer addition to the reggae-rock scene. The San Jose-based band formed in 2008 and have been gaining momentum ever since.

"I think they're going to be one of the newer bands in the reggae-rock genre and it offers formal learning, experiences and coaching so you can jump right in. Find a mentor. And discover future opportunities. It's everything you need to grow and succeed."

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opinion/editorial

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Education vital in passing on American dream

Maritza Perez-Stable is a Miami Herald columnist.

Is the United States in decline? Twenty-five years ago Americans feared Japan would make us No. 2, but then in the '90s our economy boomed and Japan's stagnated. Now the fears have returned.

China, India, Brazil and other emerging economies are roaring ahead. China, our closest competitor, holds more than 20 percent of the $4.3 trillion in U.S. Treasury securities purchased by foreigners. Deficit reduction, strategic investments (yes, spending), and comprehensive tax reform are not either/or propositions. All — and then some — are needed.

Yet, when the White House's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform issued its sobering, sensible report, no one but a majority of its members embraced its recommendations.

Last December, the U.S. Census Bureau released the population count as of April 1, 2010. Since 1790, the decennial census has been the basis for the reapportionment of congressional seats and, thus, a linchpin of our democracy. States that gained seats, such as Texas and Florida, have largely grown thanks to Hispanics. Latinos also helped to stem losses in states like New York and New Jersey. That much we already knew.

What's striking, though hardly surprising, is the most recent data: since 2000, racial minorities accounted for 85 percent of our population growth. Latinos alone constituted 40 percent of the increase among 18-and-older adults; altogether minorities represented 70 percent. That's the story regarding today's electorate.

But it's 3-year-olds that should give us all pause as we confront the nation's fiscal straits: For the first time, minorities constitute 50.1 percent of this cohort. Whites still hold a slight majority among 4-year-olds with higher shares in the older age groups. All the same, the Census Bureau estimates point to a decline in white children nationally and in some 40 states. About 50 percent of the states will likely register gains in their child populations, most or all coming from minorities.

Declining fertility among whites and rising minority births explain these trends. Hispanic population growth is especially sensitive due to the rage over immigration. Yet, children born in the United States account for most of the Latino growth. Under current immigration patterns, by 2023, a majority of American children would be from racial minorities. Should immigration slow down considerably, that threshold wouldn't be crossed until 2050. Let's strike a middle ground and say that by the 2030s minority kids may well be a majority of our children.

Compared to non-Hispanic whites, minorities have lower rates of K-through-12 enrollment and drop out of school at higher rates. Even if high school graduates, minority students tend to underperform academically vis-à-vis non-Hispanic whites.

We don't need a weatherman to know which way these winds are blowing. Unless we do better — substantially better — at educating our children, the United States will decline.

We are already living in the midst of a "cultural generation gap." William Frey at the Brookings Institution coined the phrase to depict the tensions created by large gaps between the white percentages among under-18 populations and the 65-and-over group.

In Arizona, for example, whites comprise 43 percent of all children but a whopping 83 percent of all seniors, a 40-point breach that is the nation's highest. Nevada, California, Texas, New Mexico and Florida follow with gaps ranging from 34 to 29. Given demographic trends, large cultural generational gaps will spread to other states.

If we lower corporate tax rates, our exports would be more competitive and more American jobs would be created. Sensible spending cuts and targeted tax increases would rein in our deficits and help us avert a crisis in the bond market. Even under this rosy scenario, however, only if we build upon our singular strength — our human capital, the creativity, entrepreneurship and generosity of our people — would we pass the venerable American dream to the next generations.

If we meet these challenges, we will have cast an even wider net around E pluribus unum. Our founders certainly wouldn't recognize us today, but they could still marvel at the American people's energies and at how well their experiment had held up in spite of it all.

Unless we do better — substantially better — at educating our children, the United States will decline.

— Maritza Perez-Stable

Miami Herald columnist
**A C R O S S**

1. Map of bible
2. Sedan
3. Make happy
4. 4 of Clubs
5. Left
6. 15 of Clubs
7. 13 of Spades
8. 10 of Hearts
9. 5 of Spades
10. 2 of Clubs
11. 6 of Diamonds
12. 2 of Clubs
13. 5 of Clubs
14. 10 of Hearts
15. 7 of Diamonds
16. 9 of Diamonds
17. 10 of Diamonds
18. 10 of Hearts
19. 5 of Clubs
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21. 3 of Clubs
22. 2 of Clubs
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26. 10 of Diamonds
27. 5 of Diamonds
28. 5 of Diamonds
29. 10 of Diamonds
30. 2 of Clubs
31. 3 of Spades
32. 5 of Clubs
33. 2 of Diamonds
34. 4 of Clubs
35. 10 of Clubs
36. 5 of Clubs
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Wrestling

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18 Cole Dallera in a Pac-10 semi-final.

"I definitely want to wrestle people like (Chamberlain and Dallera) to see what I can do at 149 pounds," Filip Novachkov said.

"I want it more now than I did at 153-pounds to be honest. I just want to wrestle. I just want to show what I'm capable of."

While Filip looks to secure a spot in Philadelphia, his brother, 141-pounder junior Boris Novachkov, has back-to-back Pac-10 Championships in his sights, to catapult himself into an NCAA tournament appearance and more.

Boris has earned national rankings as high as No. 3, resulting from his 24-1 record with four pins. The only blemish on his record comes from a one-point defeat at the hands of No. 1 Kellen Russell of Michigan.

"He's definitely ready to go. I wrestle myself into an NCAA tournament appearance, and more."

Senior Barrett Abel is looking for a back-to-back championships as well, even though last year he won the title at UC Davis before transferring to Cal Poly.

Ryan DeRouches has put together another 30-plus win season, compiling a 30-5 record this year, while never losing to a Pac-10 opponent.

Perry said Boris, Abel, DeRouches and Smith appear to be well placed for NCAA bids no matter what happens in Corvallis.

Perry also noted that bringing two or three more guys to nationals, Filip, Articus Disney and Steven Vasquez could significantly boost their chances of cracking the top 10.

"It's pretty clear why Morales' return is so important to the Angels, who scored 202 fewer runs in 2010 than in 2009 and are coming off an 80-82 season."

"The long-range prognosis is very good," Scioscia said of Morales, who was examined last week by Dr. Philip Kwong, the team's foot and ankle specialist. "They did an X-ray, and the alignment in the joint looks good. "Short range, we're going to ease him into what he needs to do. He's not a guy who would need 80 at-bats and 25 games this spring to get ready."

Mike Scioscia will be hoping to get a potent Kendy Morales back in the lineup. He hit .290 with 11 home runs and 39 RBIs before getting injured.

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We're not here to play second fiddle. We have to make some improvements and do our best to knock (Boise State) off.

— Mark Perry
Wrestling co-head coach

We Are The Mustangs

THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS

WEDNESDAY

*Win an iPad*
Stop by the Big West tent on Mott Lawn between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Wednesday and win an iPad and a chance to be in next year's Conference Tournament Basketball TV comments.
Be sure to wear Cal Poly gear for your chance to win.
7:00 P.M.

CAL POLY
BASKETBALL
Men's Hoops Cal State Northridge

SATURDAY

7:00 P.M.

CAL POLY
BASKETBALL
Men's Hoops Northern Arizona

CAL POLY
TENNIS
Men's Tennis Sacramento State

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

Angels
continued from page 12

There would be a huge drop-off between Morales and any of those options, which Scioscia listed as second baseman Howie Kendrick, who has some experience at first; Brandon Wood, who hit .146 last season; prospect Mark Trumbo, who has 15 big league at-bats, and even 5-foot-8 utility infielder Alberto Callaspo.

It's pretty clear why Morales'
The Cal Poly wrestling team went 9-2 in dual meets this season.

Ryan Sidarto/Mustang Daily

With the Mustangs finishing their regular season Sunday, they now head to the Pac-10 Championships in Corvalis, Ore.

J.J. Jenkins
jjenkins.md@gmail.com

Wrestling co-head coach Mark Perry came to Cal Poly to help bring home championships, and in two weeks, the Mustangs will have their first opportunity in the Perry-era to do just that. Ten Mustangs will make their way to Corvalis, Ore., with the Pac-10 Championships on their minds.

"Our focus is just winning the title," 197-pounder Ryan Smith said. "The truth is Oregon State could take that away from us or Boise State could take that away from us ... It doesn't matter. It's about coming together as a team and winning for each other."

For the majority of them, pulling an upset or two will be the only way to secure a place in the NCAA tournament in Philadelphia next month.

Last year's Pac-10 Championships still haunt Smith, who has revenge on his mind this year.

In 2010, Smith fought his way to the finals, but lost 11-5 to Riley Orozco and was forced into a "true second" match where Smith had to get Giesen on his back for a pin.

"It was kind of like my world fell down around me and everything that I had been training for was all taken away from me in a matter of seconds," Smith said. "It was heartbreaking, but at the same time, it was motivation. I never want to feel that way again, and I'm not going to let that happen again this year."

The loss almost certainly cost Smith an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament.

This year, Casperson and Stanford's Zack Giesen are again the two biggest obstacles in Smith's way to a title.

"I hope I get Casperson and avenge my first loss, and in the finals get Giesen and avenge that loss," Smith said. "(I want) it to be a full circle of the Pac-10 for me, beat the two guys that beat me and end up the champion."

Senior Filip Novachkov may be in the most precarious situation after a late-season jump to 149-pounds left him lacking the requirements for an automatic bid. Although, gaining 25 pounds in a matter of weeks, coupled with an undefeated record at his new weight, has given him hopes of making a third trip to nationals.

To give himself a shot, Novachkov's focus turned to Angels first baseman Kendry Morales, who had a breakout season in 2009, batting .306 with 34 home runs and 108 runs batted in. Morales, who had a breakout season in 2009, batting .306 with 34 home runs and 108 runs batted in. Morales, who had a breakout season in 2009, batting .306 with 34 home runs and 108 runs batted in.

"I have no doubt he'll be 100 percent by the start of the season," Mike Scioscia said of Morales, who broke a bone above his left ankle May 29 and sat out the rest of the season.

Down the hall, a few hours later, Morales left some doubt.

"I'm not ready," he said. "I've been working mentally on that, to be ready to handle the situation."

But are the Angels?

All winter, Scioscia and General Manager Tony Reagins said Morales, 27, would be better than any free agent they could add.

Scioscia reiterated Monday that "it's critical for us to get Kendry back in the middle of the lineup," and he said it is realistic to think Morales can regain his 2009 form.

"They're going to play me when I'm 100 percent, and the results will come," Morales said. "I'm definitely anxious to play, but I can't be crazy and lose track of the process. I know it's a very difficult injury, and I have to go through the steps."

Jermaine Dye rebounded fairly well from a broken leg suffered in the 2001 playoffs, batting .252 with 24 home runs and 46 RBIs in 131 games in 2002.

Former Angels outfielder Juan Rivera sat out all but 14 games of 2007 after breaking his leg the previous winter, and he had a down year in 2008, hitting .246 with 12 homers and 45 RBIs in 89 games.

Scioscia believes Morales shouldn't need too much exhibition games to get his timing back at the plate and in the field, but he admits there are some unknowns regarding stamina.

"What happens if he tweaks it a little bit ... ?" Scioscia said. "How much would that set him back? Those wouldn't be answered until the season. I think we have flexibility to move guys around and have a deep lineup if he needs a day off."

Mustang Daily