

Volume LXXII, Number 106

Friday, March 6, 2009

www.mustangdaily.net

# PBS show to use Cal Poly facilities to test possible Amelia Earhart plane remains

Genevieve Loggins

PBS' "History Detectives" are coming to Cal Poly to test the remains of what might be one of the planes Amelia Earhart flew.

The piece will be tested in an engineering lab facility on campus.

Part of the landing gear was found from a plane off the coast of Hawaii, perhaps one of Earhart's practice flights, materials engineering department chair Kathy Chen said.

"The show will be about if this piece of the plane could really be the same one that Amelia Earhart flew," she said.

The metal will be tested to see if it is a piece of one of Earhart's practie planes, Chen said. "We're looking for copper, magnesium elements in the aluminum, and we have that capability in one of our labs using a scanning electroscope," she said. "We can tell whether this material is what it should be, but if it's the plane Amelia Earhart flew, they're going to figure that out on the show."



Earhart brought her Lockheed Electra 10-E airplane to Cal Poly for repairs in 1936, where students repaired her Boeing 100 aircraft.

"Cal Poly is one of the first colleges at the time to design and build our own aircraft," library assistant Catherine Trujillo said. "She needed to get some repairs done on her plane, and this was the closest place to come."

Earhart's goal was to travel more than 34,000 miles around the world, and in July 1937 she set out for Howland Island for another 7,000 miles. Despite the unresolved radio frequencies and series of storms, she flew to her destination only to disappear, according to the University Archives.

The piece of aircraft being tested at Cal Poly is not from the

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES, CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

Amelia Earhart (fourth from left) came to Cal Poly in 1935 where students helped repair her Boeing 100 aircraft. She is shown in front of Cal Poly's Aeronautics Unit with (from left) aeronautics instructor M.C. Martinsen, colleague and Hollywood pilot Paul Mantz, student Phillip Jensen and student Harley Smith.

same plane Earhart disappeared in, but it will reveal what the piece of aircraft is, University Archives Director Ken Kenyon said.

"History Detectives" investigates modern technologies and solves historical mysteries in order to help solve myths existing in today's history. It airs at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday on PBS.

# Students solve Texas housing problem, win prize

#### Chris Jagger

MUSTANG DAILY

Construction management students once again proved they could compete with some of the top construction programs in the nation.

Cal Poly's student team took third place in the four-year school division at the Residential Construction Management Competition in Las Vegas, hosted by the National Association of Home Builders.

"A lot of people were impressed with our work this year," said construction management senior Caitlin Hickey. "All in all it was an awesome experience that provided groundwork for a career in the residential industry."

According to Hickey, the team was given documentation of a large-scale residential project in San Antonio and had to apply their knowledge about the home building process to solve a residential construction problem. Two of the team members even flew to Texas with good grades and a high level of the Central Coast sponsored Cal of interest in residential construction. Starting in mid-October, these cutive officer of the Central Coast

The team put together a 275page proposal that included a detailed construction plan, marketing plan and financial allocations. As chief analyst, Hickey was in charge of creating a marketing strategy. Her business-oriented work involved researching the demographics of the area as well as determining the spending power of the residents.

Cal Poly competed against 39 other universities. Many of these schools, including first place Brigham Young University and runner-up Middle Tennessee State University, have a full time residential curriculum.

Despite the fact that Cal Poly only offers one residential class, the team is a perennial contender and won in 2006 and 2007.

To assemble the group, faculty adviser Scott Kelting selected construction management students with good grades and a high level of interest in residential construction. Starting in mid-October, these students devoted three months to the intensive project. Seven students participated; Hickey, Chris DeHaan, Matt Anderson, Patrick O'Neill, Darrin Bigus, Josh Hoffman, Hannah Salling and Kelting.

"The time commitment was crazy," Hickey said. "We spent almost all of Christmas break working on it." The group traveled to Las Vegas to compete during the third week of January to give an oral presentation regarding their proposal in front of a panel of actual project managers from NAHB companies. For three days they presented their work, answered questions and defended their findings.

"Las Vegas was crazy," Hickey said. "Apart from the construction aspects, I learned a lot about how to talk in front of people and look professional."

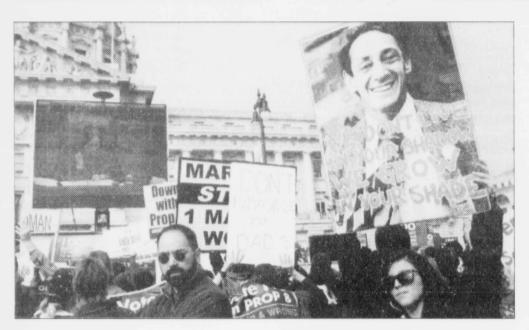
The Home Builder's Association

of the Central Coast sponsored Cal Poly's team. Jennifer Phillip, the executive officer of the Central Coast NAHB, raised \$2,000 to support the team's efforts. Half of the money came from Phillip's annual golf tournament. "We had been looking to get involved because many of our members are coming out of Cal Poly," Phillip said. "It's a natural symbiotic relationship I suppose. We are certainly going to try to support the student chapter in years to come."



The construction management team from Cal Poly won third place in the Las Vegas Residential Construction Management Competition this year.

Friday, March 6, 2009



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Katie Shea, right, holds a picture of slain politician Harvey Milk as people watch court proceedings on a giant screen during a demonstration on the issue of Proposition 8 in San Francisco Thursday.

# Calif. Supreme Court weighs same-sex marriage ban

"Do you use traditional or

new dating methods?"

#### Lisa Leff and Paul Elias

As thousands of demonstrators chanted slogans and waved placards outside, California's highest court on Thursday skeptically grilled lawyers seeking to overturn the state's ban on gay marriage.

Attorneys for same-sex couples argued the public's right to change the constitution doesn't extend to depriving an unpopular minority of the right to wed.

But questions and statements from the justices indicated a wariness to override what Associate Justice Joyce Kennard called the

WORD ON THE STREET

people's "very, very broad, well-established" authority to amend the state's governing framework at the ballot box.

"What I am picking up from the oral arguments is that this court should willy-nilly disregard the will of the people," said Kennard, who just 10 months ago voted that prohibiting same-sex marriages violated the civil rights of gays. "The people established the constitution; as judges, our power is very limited."

The justices heard three hours of arguments on the gay marriage ban, known as Proposition 8, which was approved in November with 52 percent of the vote.

### State

MONTEREY, Calif. (AP) — California's threatened sea otter population appears to be declining further.

The nonprofit advocacy group The Otter Project said Wednesday in its 2008 status report that surveys show there are fewer of the sea creatures off the California coast.

Otter Project executive director Steve Shimek says diminished food supply and increasing susceptibility to disease is the likely cause.

The U.S. Geological Survey's spring 2008 count showed there were 2,760 otters, down 8.8 percent from the previous year.

#### **SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, Calif. (AP)** — A federal grand jury in Sacramento has indicted a couple on civil rights charges in the 2007 beating of an Indian-American couple at Lake Tahoe.

Joseph and Georgia Silva of Fairfield pleaded no contest to misdemeanor state assault charges in July. The husband, who is 55, was sentenced to six months in El Dorado County Jail, while his 51-year-old wife was sentenced to a year.

# Briefs

## National

**CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)** —An attorney for alleged al-Qaida sleeper agent Ali al-Marri has released a photo of the accused enemy combatant, the first since he was incarcerated in a South Carolina Navy brig in 2003.

Lawyer Andy Savage said Thursday he had asked for a photo to share with al-Marri's family. The government agreed to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross to take one.

The committee has taken pictures of other detainees for their families.

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Mohandas Gandhi's eyeglasses and other items sold for \$1.8 million Thursday at an auction that drew outrage from the Indian government, a lastminute reversal from the seller and a frenzy of bidding won by an Indian conglomerate that said the pacifist leader's possessions will be coming home.

The lot included Gandhi's wirerim eyeglasses, worn leather sandals, a pocket watch, a plate and the brass bowl from which he ate his final meal.

## International

**ROME (AP)** — A Vaticanbacked conference on evolution is under attack from people who weren't invited to participate: those espousing creationism and intelligent design.

The Discovery Institute, the main organization supporting intelligent design research, says it was shut out from presenting its views because the meeting was funded in part by the John Templeton Foundation, a major U.S. nonprofit that has criticized the intelligent design movement.

. .

**DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)** — During eight years as Syria's president, Bashar Assad has grown more sure in his grip on power — ordering a crackdown on dissent, letting a personality cult bloom around him and opening up the economy after decades of isolation.

Now Assad is eager for a breakthrough in long strained relations with the United States, hoping for U.S. help in boosting a still weak economy and for American mediation in direct peace talks with Israel.

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"I use traditional methods ... through (mutual) friends or someone I know. I'm not into the whole online method. I've never had a blind date or anything."



"I see what happens. If I meet somebody cool and it works out and we end up hanging out then it kind of just goes forward. I don't really go looking for anything.

-Zak Suddjian, chemistry junior



"I've actually never gone on a date, but I'd probably be more traditional. I wouldn't say I'd never try new methods, but it's not my first choice."

-Mary Mohler, liberal studies junior -Emily Claus, recreation administration freshman includes a scalp massage and blow dry. A polished look shouldn't tarnish your wallet.

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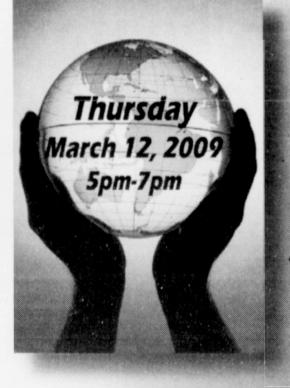


"I'm definitely more traditional. Online's cool, but it's not as direct. I'd rather just go up and talk to a girl."

-Justin Liu, business sophomore

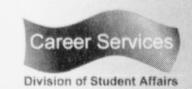


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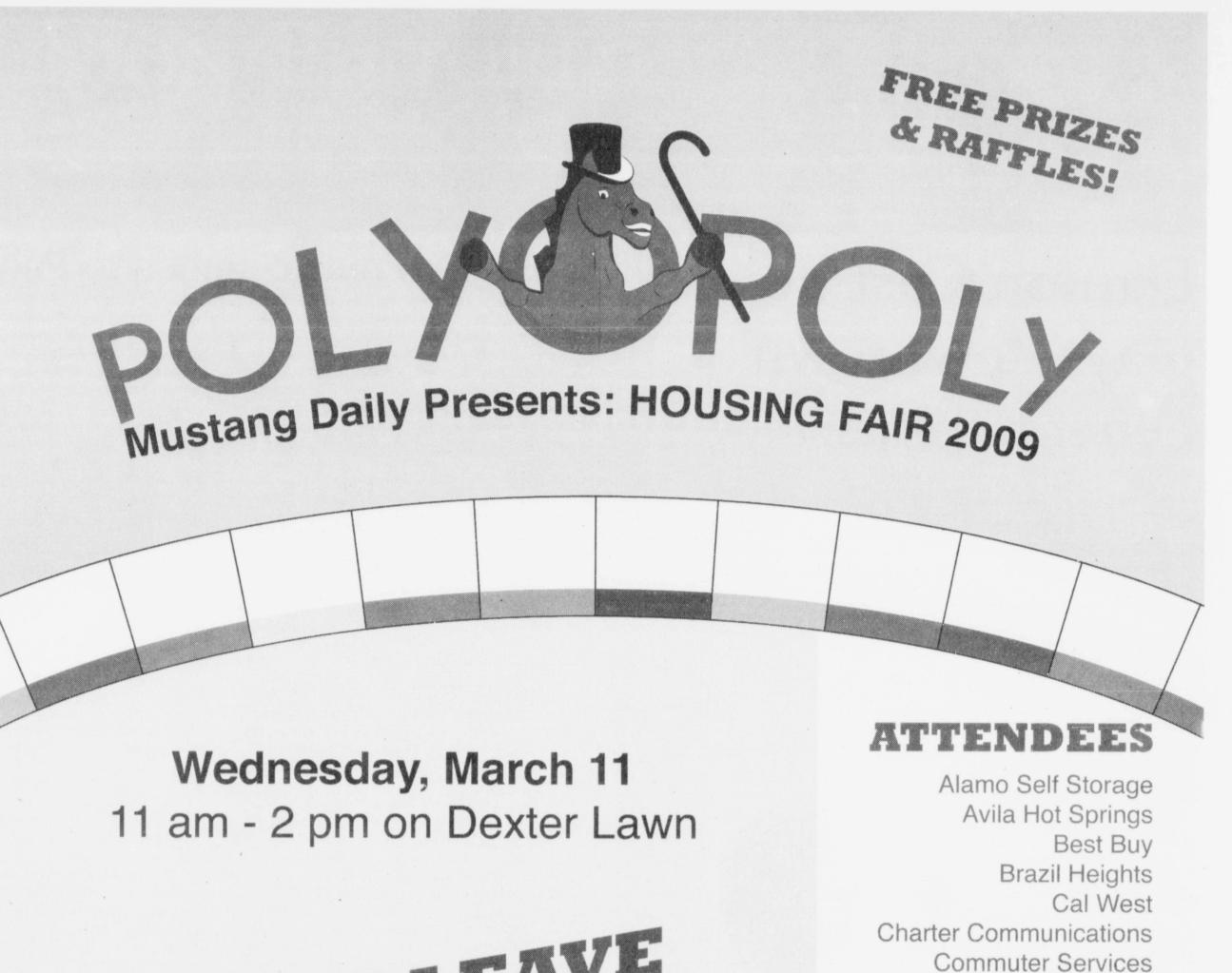


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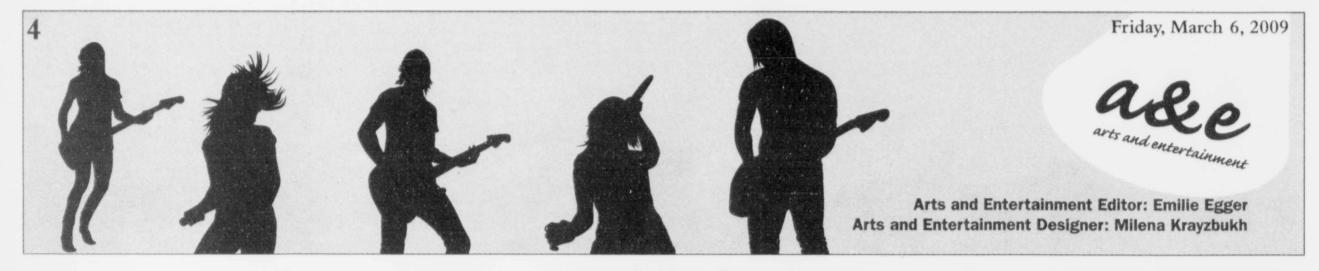
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# Damon Castillo plays downtown benefit concert

#### Krizia Torres MUSTANG DAILY

Music, sports and the act of giving will unite the Damon Castillo Band and Chase McBride as they headline a Special Olympics benefit concert at Downtown Brewing Co. Friday.

Hometown favorites, the Damon Castillo Band will play material off their recently-released album," Laurel Lane," named after the San Luis Obispo street where the band got its start.

The band will fuse its unique jazz, funk, rock and soul sound in an effort to raise money for the San Luis Obispo County Special Olympics.

"As far as benefits go, we've always been active," said Damon Castillo, who was honored when Downtown Brew and Special Olympics approached the band about playing a benefit concert.

This will be the second time local singersongwriter and Cal Poly student Chase McBride Musicians Heath Seager and Robby Hart of local band Criticnue will also take to the stage.

This all-ages music event opens its doors at 7:30 p.m. and music begins at 8 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased for \$12 at the door or \$10 in advance at Boo Boo Records, ticketweb.com or Downtown Brew's box office.

"It's just a wonderful cause. When you get the chance to be a part of a benefit like this, it just feels good. You will also get a wonderful night of music," Castillo said.



## **Middle Eastern music comes to Poly**

Chelsea Bieker MUSTANG DAILY

The sounds of the Middle East are coming to Cal Poly. Colorful costumes and intricate instruments will showcase a unique culture, as well as the talent of students and community members alike.

Encompassing an entirely different music theory, the Arab Music Ensemble will be performing in the Performing Arts Center showcasing traditional forms of Middle Eastern music and dance.

The 32-member group is comprised of both students and community members that have been preparing since January to put on what Cal Poly ethnomusicology professor Kenneth Habib said is sure to be an exciting and educational show.

Arriving at Cal Poly three years ago, Habib's specialties in Middle Eastern and American popular music have allowed him to begin the ensemble, and with great success.

"This year we are doing a little bit more of a mix of music," he said. "One of the things we try to show is that the larger Middle East is a very diverse place with a lot of inner-connection between groups."

The students involved in the show are in a class aimed at helping them understand how to play traditional Middle Eastern instruments, as well as read notes and symbols that are not applicable to American music.

"Not only do you have to know how to play them, you have to know how to hear them," Habib said. "It is very much like learning a new language."

Instruments such as the Oud, a traditional lute, and the Buzuq will be featured, as well as an array of drums. Habib gives individual lessons to students in addition to class time, because as he said, "There is an enormous amount that might not be obvious that you would not expect a person to know."

In addition to the music and songs, one of the highlights of the performance will be the dance segments. Jenna Mitchell and Saundra Sarouff of the World Rhythm and Motion Studio co-direct the dance portion of the ensemble and have been working with dancers on incorporating choreography and costuming that represent the Middle East.

The dancers are mostly community members with the exception of a few students, and they will be performing three dances in the show including two Egyptian dances and one Greek dance.

Mitchell said that people should be interested in this performance because it is something that we are not exposed to regularly as a community, and describes the performance as "amazing and intimate."

"The dances compliment the music and are based on the culture," she said. "It is important to show the common ground that we have, especially in the arts."

"If someone has never seen Middle Eastern music or dance or the different costuming, and it is very different than Western music, it will be a great experience to see hear and feel a different culture," she said.

Habib said that music is important to society no matter what genre or culture it comes from.

"Music is one of the few universals in the world," he said. "It's not a universal language, but rather it exists universally. I think sometimes we don't realize how important it is."

Habib described the show as an expression of a music culture in the world and an attempt to bring more cultural diversity to Cal Poly's campus.

"It is certainly my aim that we would increase that," he said. "I'd love to see a lot of expressions of culture on campus, music only being one kind."

The ensemble is set to perform tonight at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for the public and \$8 for seniors and students. They are on sale at the Performing Arts ticket office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

takes the stage with the Damon Castillo Band, after opening up for them at a November CD release party.

"The Damon Castillo Band has great music and it's going to be a fun night. The more people that come, the more fun it will be," said McBride. He will be performing songs off of his newlyreleased debut EP, "From the Mountains to the Sea."

According to Todd Landsman, mechanical engineering junior, Special Olympics coach and benefit coordinator, there has never been a strictly music-only fundraiser held for the San Luis Obispo County chapter until now.

All of the proceeds will go toward funding the local Special Olympics.

The San Luis Obispo County Special Olympics is a nonprofit organization that works with over 700 local athletes' with intellectual disabilities, making it the largest chapter in California and one of the biggest in the country.

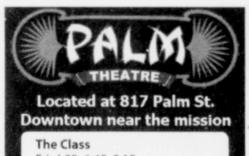
"It's a wonderful organization. They're doing a lot of good here in our community," Castillo said.

Math senior Matt Forman plans to attend the show and has seen the band perform many times before.

"I know they're really nice guys," he said. "This (benefit concert) shows that they're actually trying to do something good with their music and not just make money off of it. They're trying to make people become aware of the causes that they're passionate about."



Damon Castillo and his band will perform along with Cal Poly student Chase McBride to benefit the San Luis Obispo County Special Olympics.



Fri: 4:00, 6:45, 9:15 Sat.-Thurs: 3:45

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# OPINION/EDITORIAL

Friday, March 6, 2009

Editor in chief: Marlize van Romburgh Managing Editor: Giana Magnoli

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guest commentary

www.mustangdaily.net

# Pack a bong, save the economy

Last month, State Assemblyman Tom Ammiano (D) of San Francisco brought forth trailblazing legislation, Assembly Bill 390: The Marijuana Control, Regulation and Education Act, to legalize and regulate the commercial production and sale of marijuana to adults 21 and over.

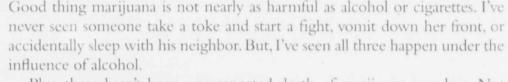
Marijuana is already the most widely-used drug in the United States, despite being prohibited since 1937.

a year. In addition, the war on

drugs has not only allowed a multimillion-dollar network of organized crime to thrive on the wallets of pipe-toting Americans, but overcrowded our prisons with non-violent drug offenders.

What's the estimated annual sales revenue estimate that legalization could bring to California? The Los Angeles Times estimated that it could be as much as \$14 billion - which would generate approximately \$1 billion in annual tax revenue for the state. If you further take into account the money saved on prison systems and all the jobs it would bring non-medicinal shops/growing houses to California. It's like Christmas, but better.

Our culture is already saturated with references to marijuana. Movies from "Pineapple Express" to "Reefer Madness" to "How High" can be found in every store; musicians from Tom Petty to Lil Wayne express



Plus, there hasn't been one reported death of marijuana overdose. Not one. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, What's the yearly price tag on enforcing this ban? Upwards of \$8 billion an estimated 5,000 deaths a year of people under 21 are in relation to al-



cohol, causing more deaths than all illegal drugs combined. If you're going to use this argument you better have a firm belief in reinstating the prohibition of alcohol, otherwise it's just hypocritical and inconsistent.

Another opposing point is the infamous marijuana-as-a-gateway-drug theory. This has been argued many times before when arguing against the legalization of medical marijuana, but no matter how numerous the statistics to prove this theory wrong are, people still want to use it. According to a Rand Study, for every 104 Americans who've tried marijuana, there is one cocaine user and less than one heroin user. Plus, the bill allocates special fees to fund drug abuse prevention programs; schools could teach about the advantages and disadvantages, risks and repercussions, etc. associated with marijuana, and hopefully make for a well-informed youth because of it.

I guess I retract my previous statement. I don't see where the other side is coming from. Call me Cheech or Chong, but I can firm-

the Mustang Daily. Please limit length to 250 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, phone number, major and class standing. Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the e-mail.

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their admiration for the plant frequently - even President

Obama has admitted to trying a puff. Why wouldn't the state want to join in on the fun?

Plus, legalizing the substance would allow for restrictions (hence the proposed 10 plants maximum for personal use) to be placed on usage and driving high would amount to a similar penalty as a DUI.

OK, so as wonderful as this all sounds to me, I can sort of see where some of the opposition is coming from. Would this make marijuana accessible to kids? Yes — but only as much as alcohol and cigarettes are available to them. PAUL LACHINE NEWSART

ly say I believe that the passage of this bill would benefit California.

This is a billion dollar industry that is only expanding. If they could repeal the prohibition of alcohol for the Great Depression, we can repeal marijuana for the mess we're in now. As we watch with great hope that Bill 390 passes, we wait for the dreary regulations stating how and where it would be sold; we can at least take heart in the fact that the predicted price for an ounce of premium grade, pesticide free, state-grown marijuana will be around \$50.

Britney Huelbig is a social sciences sophomore and a Mustang Daily guest columnist.

#### humor column

## Count booze intake by servings, not drinks



I have chosen alcohol as my word this week, so all of you under 21 should stop reading right now. Anyway, I know none of you underage college students would let alcohol even touch your lips.

As Cal Poly students, we have been bombarded with those "Under Four" campaign ads. Personally, I feel a night of "Under Four" is not that much different from a night of being the "designated driver," but I can appreciate the general goal of the ad campaign: If college students understand more about the use of alcohol, then they will make more responsible decisions concerning alcohol.

The "Under Four" phrase comes from

a statistic that says the majority of Cal Poly students drink four or less drinks in a given sitting, 25 percent less than what they think everyone else is drinking.

While I truly enjoy some of the "Under Four" posters<sup>1</sup>, trying to calculate the average amount of drinks I have in a given sitting is just too complicated for this liberal arts major. What am I supposed to do? Keep a detailed record of how much I drink for a month, then use Excel to compute my average per sitting? Does that mean it's OK to blackout on Saturday night, then have one drink every day for the next six days so I average under four? These conundrums have caused me to abandon the "Under Four" strategy and create my own.

I call my drinking responsibly strategy "Under 10." The idea is as follows: Under no circumstance should anyone of my size<sup>2</sup> ever consume more than 10 servings of alcohol in a given 24 hour period. This is a simple system (assuming you can count to  $10^3$ ) that allows one to participate in drinking games without vomiting in the backyard. To implore the Under 10 strategy, you need to know exactly how many servings of alcohol are in your drink of choice. So, I have compiled a list<sup>4</sup> of approximate serving sizes:

- 1. Beer: 12 ounces
- 2. Wine: 5 ounces
- 3. Hard Alcohol (80 proof): 1.5 ounces

So, a Long Island Iced Tea would count as four servings of alcohol, not one drink. And, while a red plastic cup of beer only counts as one, a red plastic cup of wine counts as two servings of alcohol. Unless, of course, you're drinking that wine straight from the box, in which case you're definitely no longer "Under 10."

Marci Palla is a public policy graduate student and a Mustang Daily humor columnist. "Marci's Word of the Week" explores some of the more important vernacular of college life, one word at a time.

<sup>1.</sup> They remind me of the good times, because, as Asher Roth would say,"Time isn't wasted when you're getting wasted." 2. 5-foot-7-inches, 150 pounds

<sup>3.</sup> If you can't, just get someone to make sharpie marks on your arm every time you consume a serving of alcohol. Trust me, plenty of people will jump at the chance to get to write on you. 4. With information 1 got from Wikipedia of course

# Classifieds comics ... games

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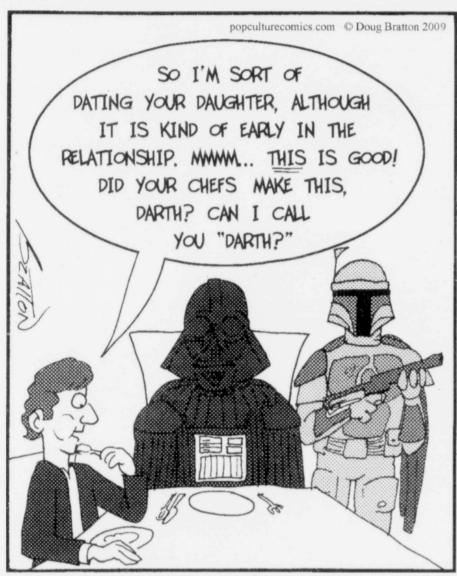
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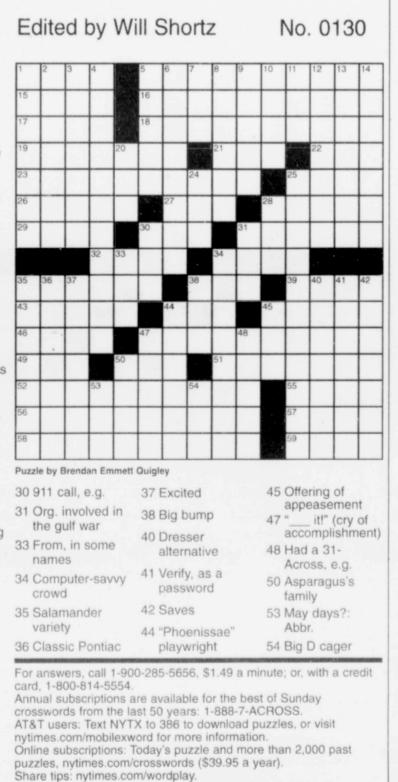
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mustangdaily.net Friday, March 6, 2009

# SPORTS MUSTANG DAILY

SPORTS EDITOR: Scott Silvey mustangdailysports@gmail.com

## women's baskedball CAL POLY 70, LBSU 63 Late rally pushes **Poly past LBSU**

#### MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Cal Poly women's basketball team capitalized on a 14-4 late run to beat Long Beach State at the Walter Pyramid on Thursday night.

The Mustangs were led by sophomore forward Kristina Santiago who scored 17 points.

Cal Poly (19-9, 11-4 Big West Conference) forced the 49ers (8-20, 4-11) into 23 turnovers.

The Mustangs trailed by three midway through the second half before going on their gamebreaking run that ended with a Megan Harrison 3-pointer.

Cal Poly sophomore guard Rachel Clancy contributed 10 points in the first half, hitting on three of her first four shots. She finished with 16 points on 6-of-8 shooting.

The Mustangs took the lead for good on a layup by Clancy with 5:24 remaining.

Joining Santiago and Clancy in double-figures were senior guard Lisa McBride and senior forward Megan Harrison, both with 11 points.

LaTorya Barbee led Long Beach State with a game-high 18 points, adding three rebounds. Center Whitney Fields had a double-double scoring 12 points and gathering 11 rebounds.

The 49ers out-shot and out-rebounded the Mustangs but when the game was on the line Cal Poly was able to force

The Mustangs shot 53 percent from 3-point range.

The Mustangs conclude their

#### a number of Long Beach State turnovers. The 49ers had a very limited bench contribution with just 12 points not coming from the starting five.

regular season at 5 p.m. Saturday when they visit conference-leading UC Riverside.

#### ଚରଟ୍ରଚର

After having its weekday game against undefeated San Jose State cancelled, the Mustangs will visit Houston (2-7) starting this afternoon.

Cal Poly (6-1) is enjoying its highest ranking (17th) ever at the Division I level after a sweep of Sacramento State last weekend.

The Mustangs first four games of the season were against teams that qualified for the 2008 College World Series including national champion Fresno State. Cal Poly defeated the Bulldogs 13-11 in a slugfest on Feb. 24.

Junior outfielder Luke Yoder and junior shortstop Kyle Smith both hit .545 against the Hornets while junior infielder Adam Buschini and junior right fielder Adam Melker hit .429.

The Mustangs hit .343 as a team over the weekend.

While the Cougars are off to a slow start this season after finishing last year 42-24 and qualifying for NCAA regional play, their last four losses have been to teams in the top 10.

#### softball

Cal Poly will finally begin its home schedule after opening with 14 road games at 2 p.m. Friday when it hosts the Mustang Classic at Bob Janssen Field.

**JOKINGAHEAD** 

#### NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

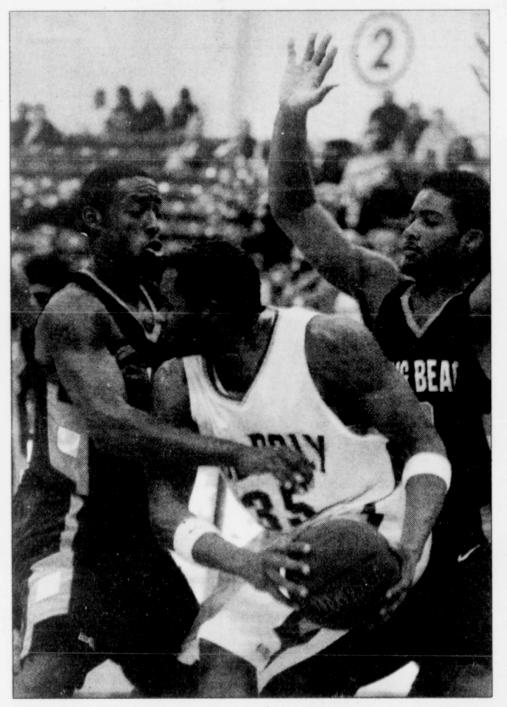
Cal Poly sophomore Matt Leonard throws during the Mustangs' 6-2 win over Sacramento State last Saturday at Baggett Stadium.

The Mustangs (8-6) will play games against the Aggies and the a week in which she had a 0.33

# to Long Beach

Mustangs fall late

men's basketball LBSU 63, CAL POLY 60



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly senior forward Titus Shelton is double-teamed by Long Beach State defenders during the Mustangs' 63-60 loss on Thursday night. Shelton led Cal Poly with 15 points. For a full recap of the game go online to www.mustangdaily.net

Temple (1-4) and Sacramento Owls. State (3-9) on Friday. On Saturday Cal Poly will face Utah State (3-12) before a rematch against the Hornets. Sunday closes out the tournament schedule with return

Cal Poly will likely rely heavily on the pitching of sophomore Anna Cahn over the course of the weekend. Cahn was named Big West Pitcher of the Week after



#### MUSTANG DAILY ORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading.

Please send your correction suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail. com.

• An article in Wednesday's edition the Mustang Daily claimed the Cal Poly Rugby Club got no school support. The club receives money from ASI Club Funding. They are eligible for up to \$2,000 a year. We apologize for the mistake.

ERA and held opposing batters to just a .130 batting average in four appearances.

#### women's tennis

The No. 75 Mustangs will play a critical Big West dual at No. 44 Long Beach State (6-3, 4-0) on Saturday morning.

Cal Poly (5-3, 3-1) has gotten a lift from the play of junior Brittany Blalock this year. Blalock, who is normally known for her double's play with partner Steffi Wong, defeated No. 8 Maria Sanchez of USC; giving he Mustangs the best singles victory at the Division I level.

The win catapulted Blalock into the national rankings (No. 78) and earned Big West Player of the Week honors. Blalock has a 16-5 overall record in singles this year, but is 7-1 in the first or second slots, having lost only once in her last ten singles matches.

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