

Eruption prompts band act to cancel

By Renée Guida
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Los Campesinos! will no longer be performing at Penn State on April 26 due to the recent natural disaster.

Danny Michelson, president of Students Organizing the Multiple Arts, said Monday due to Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull volcanic eruption, the amount of ash discharged has put travel restrictions on the band coming to Penn State.

Michelson (senior-film) said a replacement band has not been officially confirmed. Michelson said they would need to get replacements by Wednesday. He added there hasn't been any confirmation on whether the opening band, Cymbals Eat Guitars, will back out as well.

Michael Lin (graduate-computer science), said he was really looking forward to seeing them perform.

"I felt a really nice connection with them from their album, so I really just wanted to sort of feel their energy live rather than through the album," he said.

Songs like "Romance Is Boring," is a big reason why Lin likes Los Campesinos!

"Their songwriting and lyrics, I just really enjoy," he said.

Michelson said the Los Campesinos will be replacing its gig with a show in New York. He added its performance at Penn State, which was supposed to begin at 7, was its first performance with



Mila Ho/Associated Press

A plume of ash rises from the volcano in southern Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull glacier, on Tuesday.

opener Cymbals Eat Guitars.

Ryan Gilleran said he is upset the band can't make it.

"I'm kind of bummed out right now," Gilleran (senior- secondary education/social studies) said. "I guess it's not really their fault — they just can't make it. It's bad luck. I suppose maybe we could get them to come back soon or something."

Gilleran said he has friends from other colleges who listen to Los Campesinos! and were looking forward to their performance.

One aspect of the band Gilleran said he enjoys is how it doesn't change its style. Mentioning the bands' last two CD's, "We Are Beautiful, We Are Doomed," and "Romance Is Boring," Gilleran added both of them are really good and keep the same style techniques.

Lin said he likes the fact that the bands' songs are real stories.

"They are catchy, but I think it's

more than that," he said. "They're lyrics are meaningful, and it's kind of cliché, but I think they kind of speak to the effected youth without being overly cliché."

Some of these topics the band sings about include "why we are here," Lin said, "and the fact that we have good times and somehow find meaning in that."

Gilleran also said the lyrics were catchy.

"Some are poppy, so they're fun to people that like that kind of stuff," he said.

Gilleran saw Los Campesinos! perform at Wallypalooza this past summer and said most of the people seemed more excited to see the Wales-based group.

"Most of the bands people stood and listened to, but when these guys performed, everyone was jumping around dancing, having a good time," he said.

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Penn State graduate writes weather book

By Julie Lemanski
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Just because you're interested in one thing doesn't mean you can't show interest in another — at least, that's what Penn State writer and editor Paul Yeager thinks.

Yeager, Class of 1985, graduated with a meteorology degree and worked as a forecaster for his first 21 years out of college. But he had a hobby of writing as well — while he worked as a meteorologist and content manager of a weather website, Yeager did local freelance writing and a restaurant review column in State College Magazine.

Now, Yeager works for the Administrative Information Services on campus, writing and editing copy for services like eLion, though he still writes weather stories for AOL News.

In 2008, he published his first book, "Literally, the Best Language Book Ever." And last month, Yeager released his second book, "Weather Whys: Facts, Myths, and Oddities."

"I like to tell people I'm a little confused because I wrote a language book when I was a weatherman and now I wrote a weather book when I'm a writer," Yeager said, joking.

But Yeager believes his work as a meteorologist sparked his idea for his first book, he said.

"You notice that a lot of meteorologists say the same things in the same way every single day," Yeager said. "I said, 'I'm going to write a book on all the things we should never say again.'"

Yeager's language book describes words and "prepackaged phrases" people should reconsider using. Its sarcastic yet helpful chapters are filled with erroneous grammar, informalities and downright

wrong expressions, he said. "I was sincere in my recommendation that maybe we need to think about how we say things," Yeager said. "But it's not like I expect everyone to literally ban every entry in the book."

One interesting topic in Yeager's language book touches upon expressions that started in sports, he said.

"Like the expression, 'It is what it is,'" he said. "You hear that all the time. That probably started in the sports world, and now everyone's saying it. But what does that phrase even mean?"

Another commonly used word that bothers Yeager is "issue."

"You used to say you had a problem, and now it's always, 'We have an issue,'" he said. "I hear them refer to professional athletes having knee 'issues.' That's a 'problem,' not an 'issue.'"

Yeager's recent book is about how weather affects our lives, homes, health, sports and historic events, he said. He believes the weather is interesting to everyone — even those who don't know much about it — so he writes about bizarre weather myths, folklore and sayings.


"Like the saying, 'It always rains in Seattle.' It actually rains less in Seattle than it does here in Pennsylvania," he said. "I try to incorporate my weather experience and try to apply it in ways people can relate to."

One reason Yeager remains interested in the weather is because he doesn't think it gets the attention it deserves.

"In weather, you never get analysis or opinions by experts, you simply get the weather itself. I'm trying to add some commentary about the weather," he said.

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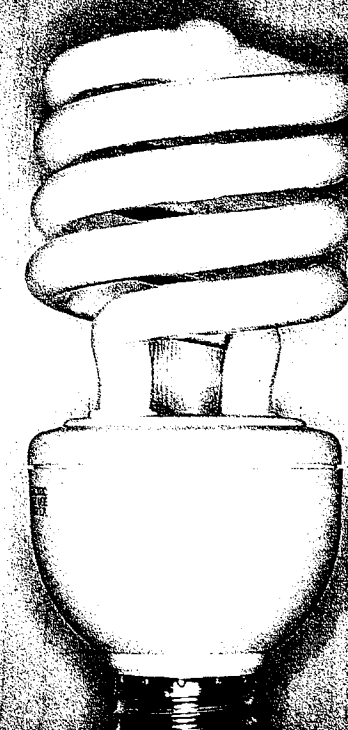
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