Some still without electricity as new storm systems enter Central Coast

Power was restored on campus Monday night after an hour and a half of darkness, but some areas along the Central Coast are still without electricity after Monday's storm knocked more than 90 utility poles.

As of Thursday morning, more than 1,000 PG&E customers throughout San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties still had no power.

According to PG&E spokesperson Jane Oliveira, 575 of these customers are in various San Luis Obispo neighborhoods. She said crews are working hard to restore power to all customers by Thursday morning, but some will have to wait longer.

“With all the winds and rain and saturated ground, it brought power lines down, damaged poles and equipment in more than 300 locations in two counties. What our crews are up against this Thursday morning is going to be more than 240 locations that remain down and restoring their power,” she said.

Oliveira explained that the process of restoring power isn’t just going to a site, finding out the problem and fixing it. Crews must assess the sites, find out what equipment was damaged and leave the site to get the right equipment for repairs. When they return, restoration begins.

According to Oliveira, 55,000 customers throughout San Luis Obispo County and northern Santa Barbara County lost power by Tuesday night.

San Luis Obispo suffered some damage but not as much as other areas, according to San Luis Obispo Fire Inspector and Investigator John Oliveira.

“We fared pretty well compared to other communities,” he said, adding that the department ran 17 calls between 5:29 a.m. Monday and 12:40 a.m. Tuesday. The majority of the calls were for down power lines, leaking utility poles and fallen trees.

Women's history: the focus of February

By Michelle Byrkin
Daily Staff Writer

"Celebrate Women's History" is a month-long series of speeches and workshops, sponsored mainly by the Women's Center, with the theme "Living the Legacy: 150 Years of Women's Rights."

This is the first year the women's history celebration has been stretched out over a month. In its 15 years, the events have gone from a couple of days to a week long, which Women's Programs and Services Director Pat Harris said was difficult.

"We'd go from eight in the morning to five straight, with speakers and workshops, all day, every day for a week. This way, we can spread the activities further and more people are able to attend," Harris said.

This is also Black History Month. When the decision was made last quarter to extend women's history week to a month, some concerns were raised about the two observances colliding.

"We certainly were not trying to..."
Storm brings troubles on Highway 1

Because of the heavy rains, Highway 1 around Big Sur is blocked by mudslides, and sections of the road have fallen apart and slid away. Many vacationers and residents of Big Sur had to be evacuated by helicopter over the past few days. The highway was closed at Ragged Point, with the road cut off full way at Soberanes Point—leaving a 50-yard gap, 75-feet deep.

The area was also without power, though phone service remained. The area around Big Sur is expected to receive another five inches of rain in the next two days. The northbound highway is likely to stay closed for another two to three weeks according to Caltrans.

Council approves $62 million Highway 46 widening project

The San Luis Obispo City Council of Governments approved $62 million Wednesday to widen 18 miles of the "dangerous" highway 46. The widening would extend from Airport Road in Paso Robles to a spot near Shandon. The council agreed to spend $104 million total for seven major transportation projects over a course of the next six years. Some of these include widening the Niblick Bridge in Paso Robles and some other roadwork in Atascadero and Pismo Beach. Caltrans will pay for 52 percent of the highway 46 bill.

The highway is notorious for fatal and serious accidents for many years, and claimed the lives of Telegram-Tribune editor Jeff Goodwin and his wife Ann, and daughter Siena two years ago.

A new sound: Noise

Something new for the Central Coast: a rare opportunity to catch some cutting edge sounds. The ears will wonder what hit them. Experience Noise.

Noise artists come from around the state and as far as Italy. They'll be at the Internet Theater at Cuesta College for "Activating the Medium," a three-hour performance. Tickets are available at Boo Boo Records for $12 or $15 at the door. Show starts at 7 p.m. Only 100 seats available...get a move on it!

For more information call 546-9679.

State Senate candidates finalized

State Senator Jack O'Connell now faces competition from two directions in his campaign for re-election. The deadline for the 18th District seat passed Wednesday with Republican Gordon Klemma and Libertarian Jack Ray as the other two candidates.

Deadline for voter registration creeps up

Monday, Feb. 9 is the last chance for San Luis Obispo County residents to register to vote in the March 10 special election for the congressional seat left open by the death of Walter Capps. Registered voters who have changed their residence or mailing address or their name need to re-register by Feb. 9 as well.

Also on Monday, absentee ballots will be available. March 3 is the last day for absentee ballots to be mailed out. Applications for absentee ballots are available from the elections division, and will be sent to all registered voters with their sample ballots.

Registration forms are available throughout the county at post offices, city halls, libraries, banks, notary offices, utility companies and the County Clerk Recorder's Office in San Luis Obispo and Atascadero.

**Co-op Positions**

*Promax* is an exciting new medical device high technology company with tremendous customer interest and growth potential is offering 6 month Associate Engineer Co-op positions for Product and Process Engineering. Please look us up through the Web Walk-up to schedule an on-campus interview for February 13th.
STORMS from page 1

Larry Tolson with the San Luis Obispo Public Works Maintenance Division said 90 percent of the mess in the city was tree-related. He said that 12 to 15 large trees fell throughout the city. Tolson said he wasn't notified until Tuesday after­noon about the large Carrotwood tree that fell on Chorro Street between Monterey and Hippero streets.

"Its roots had uplifted from the soil and made a tremendous摆," he said. "We had to close Chorro to clear it away." Maintenance crews were still clearing away trees Wednesday.

"Thanks to our pruning program and pre-season clean-up of clearing storm drains and creawns, we kept damages to a small number," he said.

Further north, power was restored to most of Cambria by Wednesday. A spokesperson for the Cambria Fire Department said 90 percent of the mess in the city was tree-related. He said that 12 to 15 large trees fell throughout the city. Tolson said he wasn't notified until Tuesday after­noon about the large Carrotwood tree that fell on Chorro Street between Monterey and Hippero streets.

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Not all Catholics are opposed to abortion

Editor,

I am a first year Cal Poly student and an aspiring journalist. I wrote a letter to the Mustang Daily Feb. 5 entitled "Forget embryo and fetus rights and focus on reality." As a Catholic and a Christian, I have faced reality and taken responsibility for my actions. I wish to choose, and that is my God given right. God gave us a free will.

I am offended by the statement that "Catholics should face reality and stop focusing on the rights of zygotes..." As a Catholic and a Christian, I have faced reality and taken responsibility for my actions. After giving birth, I can not look at my daughter and say that she was just a zygote or a fetus. She was a human being in my womb. I understand that for some women, abortion is the option that they wish to choose, and that is their God given right. God gave us a free will.

In conclusion, I think that Ms. Rogers needs to re-read her broad statement that all Catholics are not to make society suffer with unwanted babies and teenage mothers or welfare. It is obviously an untrue statement and can easily be refuted.

Candice Goshgarian is a liberal studies freshman.

Yah evaluations

Editor,

Britt Fekete's article on standardized student evaluations of faculty captured many of the frustrations experienced by the university community. The bottom line is that great student evaluations and a buck will buy you a cup of coffee at Julian's. Great evals sure feel good, but departments and administrators routinely ignore them to promote and PSH time.

In past years, ASI has attempted to set up a system for published student evaluations of faculty. Such a system would go a long way toward dealing with student frustrations regarding teaching quality. At least you would know who's who when choosing a schedule. It's worth a continued effort.

As chair of the Academic Senate Instructional Committee, I have worked with ASI on these efforts in the past, and stand ready to do so now. Let me know if you're interested.

Laura Freberg is a psychology and human development professor.

Zygote Blues

Secrets of life unravel with time. A powerful mystery of body and mind. An embryo, a zygote nothing more-—nothing less.

get rid of the thing with a single quick flush. Why worry? The life never started quite yet. And if it did, the woman has no rights to respect. Than a baby quite young in disguise—no more a man can't read or care much less contemplate. So, next time when you just snap off its wee head it can't sign its name—so who cares if it dies. Oh, Michelle little lass, you wrote quite a piece and unraveled with time. Aren't you glad it's not you they'll exterminate next?

Eric Michielsen is in the education masters program.

Letter Policy: Mustang Daily welcomes and encourages contributions from readers. Letters should be submitted complete with name, major or department, class standing and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit grammar, spelling errors and length without changing the meaning of what is written. Letters sent via e-mail will be given preference and can be sent to: jbo-rasi@polymail.calpoly.edu. Fax your contribution to 756-6784 or drop letters by Building 26, Suite 226.

Our number one ladies man

This is in response to the myriad of opinions articles on the current Clinton scandal. In the United States, this issue is everywhere and the media can't get enough of it. Even if you watch CNN for five minutes you'll hear something about it. I know how America views this subject, but it seems to me that the other 147 countries in the world aren't taking it so seriously. Time recently wrote a piece on the different opinions countries tried to give on the subject. President Clinton has gained the respect of Mexicans, one of whom stated in the Jan. 9 article "Our tradition tends to admire Don Juan presidents and such guerrillas as Ivo, Poncho Villa and Emiliano Zapata." Someone from Thailand said "Great leaders are very good at sex... Cleopatra, Genghis Khan, Napoleon, Mao Zedong, Clinton is also a capable leader, so it is normal for him to be very good at sex." Other countries are shocked at the media and their behavior. It seems to many, "What kind of country is it that daily drags its President through the mud because of basically absurd rubbish?" Philippines thinks that "Clinton may... not be on trial, but his country is." Philippines thinks that "Clinton may... not be on trial, but his country is." India wants to know, "Will Clinton direct a military attack against Iraq to distract attention away from his series of scandals?" Iraq will "let Clinton and his entourage drown in the scandal. And let Americans explain the path of the great jihad for the complete lifting of the unjust sanctions.

I know that the United States is the most powerful country in the world and who cares what other countries think about us. In order to survive in this ever increasing interdependent society we should at least hear what other countries have to say. The United States may be falling apart morally, as some might argue, but most other countries don't seem to think so.

Well, except Nigeria who thinks "We may have to reinvent the Soviet Union, if only to help the Americans get their act together."

Morgan Steenhagen is a political science sophomore.

Reagan Washington what?

Who is Ronald Reagan Washington anyway? Why does the U. S. Congress want to name an international airport after him? Was he the inventor of almond butter or something? Or maybe buttered popcorn for the movies? Also, in a Feb. 2 Daily article, representative Dick Armey is quoted as saying, "Ronald Reagan is the most loved man in America today" I thought Bill Clinton was the most loved man in America today, and RIGHT IN THE WHITE HOUSE TOO! Why don't they name an international airport after him?

James Cuyazo is a fruit science senior.

Mustang Daily...
With surpluses ahead, economists say budget gridlock looks just fine

WASHINGTON - With big surpluses in sight, this is the year when budget gridlock between President Clinton and Congress may be something to celebrate, many economists say. And stalemate might not be too bad for the politicians, either.

As the fight over the fiscal 1999 budget begins, Clinton wants to expand social spending while many Republicans want more tax cuts. In a standoff, the expected billions in budget surpluses would be used for neither and the money would be applied automatically to reducing the national debt.

Trimming the government's $5.4 trillion pile of IOUs would make money available for private borrowers. That means a stronger economy because interest rates would be pushed down, boosting business investment, productivity and job creation.

"I think gridlock is good news for the budget," said Ethan Harris, senior economist for Lehman Brothers investment bank in New York. "They're going to be surprised at how big the surplus is going to be, and keeping their hands off it is the best think that can happen."

Automakers will make low-polluting cars

WASHINGTON - Honda and Nissan said Thursday they would join the four other major automakers in producing gasoline-powered autos nationally that drastically cut polluting emissions. The six automakers, which include the domestic Big Three, dominate the market with about 91 percent of new sales for cars and light trucks.

The agency said the Iraqi president also met with Palestinian Public Works Minister Azzam Ahmed, who had been dispatched by Arafat. INA said "Saddam reassured the Palestinian envoy that the Iraqis had closed ranks and are ready to confront the aggression" from the United States.

The agency said the Iraqi leader also met with Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdel-Meguid for a second day. Abdel-Meguid was quoted as telling Saddam he would "exert all efforts to reach a peaceful solution."
Flaim will march with memories of his father as Olympic flagbearer

By Larry Siddons
Associated Press

NAGANO, Japan — He was always there for Eric Flaim, helping him get started, watching him play. "He did everything for me," Flaim said of his father, Rico, who died two years ago after seeing his son win a world championship and a pair of silver medals on Olympic speedskating tracks.

On Saturday, Friday night EST, Flaim will carry the American flag into the opening ceremonies of his fourth, and probably last, Winter Games. He'll also carry the memory of the man who did the most to help get him there.

"I'll march with the memory of my father," Flaim said Thursday. "He got me started in hockey and in speedskating. He was there for every one of my world championship races and watched me at the Olympics in Calgary and Albertville."

Flaim learned of his selection there for every one of my world championship races and watched me at the Olympics in Calgary and Albertville."

"It was a real shocker," the 30-year-old from Boston said. "But it's a tremendous honor to be chosen to carry the American flag and represent my teammates and my country."

Now a member of the 5,000-meter short-track relay squad, Flaim broke into world-class competition on the long track. He was the 1993 world all-around champion, won the silver medal in the 1,500 at the 1996 Olympics and added a short-track relay bronze eight years later.

"The relay silver was a thrill because I got to cross the finish line after overtaking people," said Flaim, the anchor on that quartet. "And I'll always remember the 1,500 silver. I was the first one to skate and look up at the finish and saw a world-record time (1:52.12 seconds), and thought, 'I've just skated faster than anyone in history.'"

East Germany's Andreas Hoffmenn subsequently lowered the record to 1:52.06 to win the gold.

In the opening ceremony, Flaim will lead the biggest team at the Winter Games, with some 240 athletes, coaches and officials. He was the fifth-speedskater and the first from short-track to be picked for the honor.

With NHL players participating in the Olympics for the first time, the league is taking an unprecedented mid-winter break in its season Feb. 8-24.

The season will resume Feb. 25.

The union had been pressing for a no-trade period.

"The way most of us have it in our heads," Looney said, "is that we don't want it to start up if it's not ready. Because if it fails, it will take twice as long to bring it back up again."

Yet, there is already some solace in being one of the pioneers. The best thing about pro sports isn't the relative handfuls of unhappy millionaires who play the games or own them. It's the dramatic moments they produce — those mind's-eye souvenirs that millions of kids carry out to frozen ponds, asphalt squares and green diamonds and try to reproduce. How powerful those tableaux have been. What's changing now is that more and more, some of those little girls following big brothers to the rink a reason to step onto the ice with a hockey stick in hand and play the game themselves.

The "old woman" of the squad, the 31-year-old Brown-Miller, has put off her mission for three years now to solid on in the program. A few others have put careers and college on hold. Looney is such a pragmatist that to limit her downtime, just three days after the 1997 world championships, she underwent knee surgery in the morning and facial surgery that afternoon.

And yet, already 26, she does not expect to take the next step herself. She even doubts whether things will have changed fast enough for even the two teenagers on the squad, 18-year-old Angela Ruggiero and 19-year-old Jenny Schmidtgal, to do so. "The most we have is a gold, Silver and Bronze, but that's not going to be enough for even the two teenagers on the squad, "Looney said. "I think I could say all of us are living our dream."

In women's sports, even non-chalence is hard-earned. A few of the veterans were already part of the national team program when the International Olympic Committee extended official recognition to the sport in 1992. Nearly everyone else was in the pipeline by the summer of 1996, when the gold medals won by their counterparts in soccer, softball and basketball at the Atlanta Games brought their own mission into sharper focus. "By doing so well, they turned out what the women's game needs," Looney said. "And in the case of skating, they actually opened up some very big opportunities."

Here, Looney paused and scanned the stage in the large auditorium where she and her teammates had gathered Thursday for a series of interviews. As strong a bond as their vistas. As strong a bond as their dreams have, and the threat of a knock here or there changes nothing. Especially if it comes, as anticipated, against the Canadians in the gold-medal game some two weeks from now.

"I'm not ready. Because if it fails, it will take twice as long to bring it back up again."

Mustang Daily Sports
Deep Question #4
What could be better than a BBQ, live tunes of Jive n'Direct, prizes and a basketball game all in one spot?

SUN. NITE FREE
Mon. College NITE
FREE 2 for 1 Tuesdays
Wed. Amateur Nite

Mustang Daily Sports
Deep Question #4
What could be better than a BBQ, live tunes of Jive n'Direct, prizes and a basketball game all in one spot?

EXOTIC DANCERS
11:AM TO 2:AM
7 DAYS A WEEK
FREE 2 for 1 Tuesdays
Wed. Amateur Nite

SANTA MARIA'S ONLY ADULT CABARET
EXOTIC DANCERS
11:AM TO 2:AM
7 DAYS A WEEK
FREE 2 for 1 Tuesdays
Wed. Amateur Nite

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SPORTS

SPORTS BAR

SPORTS TRIVIA

Yesterday's Answer:
The ESPN X games will be held in San Diego, Calif. in June 19-28.

Congrats Craig D. Prestini!

Today’s Question:
What owner of a television network is attempting to purchase the Los Angeles Dodgers?

Submit your answer to:
kskaney@polymail.calpoly.edu

The first correct answer will receive two band T-shirts from Jive-n-Direc.

BRIEFS

Maniacville returns

On Saturday, Cal Poly will host another 7-footer as defending conference champion Pacific comes to town for a 2 p.m. game at Mott Gym.

Last year, hearts were pounding as the Mustangs pulled off a buzzer-beater to defeat Pacific, who would eventually advance to the NCAA tournament.

Also on Saturday, Maniacville is back. Starting at 11:30 a.m. Mott Gym will come alive with the live tunes of local band Jive-n-Direc. Soapbox Sports will be there to give away prizes and students can feast on a pre-game BBQ.

Football receives award

Cal Poly football center Doug Lichtlenberger was named to the Division I-AA second team all-American by ESPN/SportsTicker.

Lichtlenberger, a 6-foot 4-inch, 275 pounder previously named to the all-independent team, anchored the Mustang line the previous two seasons.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY
- Women’s basketball vs. Long Beach State at Long Beach at 7 p.m.
- Men’s Tennis vs. U.C. Santa Barbara at Santa Barbara at 12 p.m.

SATURDAY
- Men’s Volleyball vs. U.C. Davis at Rec Center at 7:30 p.m.
- Softball vs. St. Mary’s at Cal Poly Softball field at 12 and 2 p.m.
- Wrestling at California Collegiate Tournament in San Francisco at 9 a.m.
- Wheelmen at U.C. San Diego for road race.
- Men’s basketball vs. University of the Pacific at Mott Gym at 2 p.m., Maniacville activities start at 11:30 a.m.

SUNDAY
- Wheelmen at U.C. San Diego for criterion
- Women’s basketball vs. University of the Pacific at Stockton at 2 p.m.