Open space guidelines set by city

New rules apply to Bishop Peak, now a city-owned 'open space'

By Brett Falbote
Daily Staff Writer

The San Luis Obispo City Council approved the establishing of a new and separate set of rules to guide use of open space areas within and surrounding the city.

In a unanimous vote at Tuesday’s meeting, the council approved the open space ordinance, which defines general and specific regulations for the 1,000 acres of open space owned by the city of San Luis Obispo.

This is the first time the open space areas will have an individual set of rules. Currently, rules from the park ordinance apply to the city parks and the open space areas.

City Natural Resources Manager Neil Havlick created and presented the ordinance to the council.

Havlick said he wrote the ordinance because of the sizable amount of open land the city has acquired over the past four or five years. The newest addition, finalized Monday, is Bishop Peak. The 108 acres were purchased from Ray Bannell, a local rancher.

Havlick said with the city gaining 1,000 acres of land, it became apparent that the rules for the parks and the open spaces were not a good fit because their uses were different.

“The top of Bishop Peak is not the place for a rally,” he said. “The key is that the open spaces aren’t parks, which are oriented only for social use. The purpose of the ordinance is to preserve the lands and their natural and cultural resources.”

In summarizing the ordinance, Havlick said the rules are obvious.

“They’ve promised us that any vote on Puerto Rico, if it becomes a state, to the same language requirements of any other state. The United States has no official language.”

The House voted 265-153 for an amendment that would subject Puerto Rico, if it becomes a state, to the same language requirements of any other state. The United States has no official language.

That vote scuttled an amendment that would have declared English the official language of the United States, imposing special requirement on Spanish-speaking Puerto Rico. Non-Puerto Rican House members who want statehood had led the English-only drive, which sparked a fiery debate.

The House also rejected an effort by Rep. Jose Serrano, D-N.Y., to allow Puerto Ricans now living in the 50 states to vote in the special referendum.

Even if statehood wins the plebiscite, the bill allows for a 10-year transition period and requires several votes by the House that Kansas built

By David Brisbane
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A vote by Puerto Ricans on whether to become the 51st state moved a step closer Wednesday after the House rejected efforts by statehood opponents to make English the official U.S. language.

Legislation supported by President Clinton and both GOP and Democratic House leaders would set up a three-way vote in Puerto Rico before the end of 1998, Puerto Rico’s 100th anniversary as U.S. territory.

Voters would choose whether they want to remain a self-governing U.S. commonwealth, gain statehood or become an independent country.

Final vote on the plebiscite bill was expected late in the evening as the House worked on other amendments.

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CLASSIFY from page 1

Molvin, manager of classification and employee relations.

Gold said the main rationale for the picket was to draw attention to the plight of the secretaries, through the only legal recourse their union contracts would allow. Administrators say the picket was not the reason the committee was formed.

"This came about because of classification concerns, not because of the picket," Stover said. "It came about with discussions with different people, identifying the issues that were not part of the gender-bias grievance."

The gender-bias grievance was the initial reason the secretaries picketed, but the grievance has now been separated from the redacted classification, which is being worked on at the Cal Poly level. The grievance has moved on to the CSU Chancellor's office.

"The grievance was a very short, simple statement. Part of it said that there was a problem with gender-bias and that it had to do with classification," Gold explained.

Administrators had a different take on the grievance.

"In my opinion, the two are disconnected. What was being 'grieved' isn't what's being discussed right now by the committee," said Frank Lebens, vice president for administration and finance. "The real issues, in my mind, are what the committee is discussing."

Long before the picket, administration, headed by Provost Paul Zingg, twice rejected the grievance.

Then the secretaries picketed, intending to take the grievance to the next level—filing it with Cal Poly President Warren Baker—if no settlement was reached through discussions.

No settlement was reached, but discussions between administration and the secretaries seemed productive so the secretaries offered to put the grievance on hold.

"We felt administration was making positive gestures and were interested in a change. We were willing to put the grievance on hold, but Frank Lebens and administration wouldn't agree to that," Gold said.

Lebens said he thought the grievance needed to move on to the Chancellor's office because some of its content was beyond the powers of Cal Poly to change.

Lebens also said that it was not the reason the committee was discussing.

See CLASSIFY page 3

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OPEN from page 1 things that clearly impact other people's enjoyment of the area," he said.

Under the ordinance, only city-owned vehicles will be allowed on the land. Bicycles are also prohibited. The consumption of alcohol is banned, as well as building fires, skateboarding or using weapons, painting balls or fireworks.

There are also regulations regarding mountain biking, hiking and climbing. These activities will be confined to designated areas. Pets, including dogs, cats and those kept on the owner's shoulder, will be allowed. Dogs and cats must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet. Equine animals, including horses and mules, will also be permitted for riding and trail use. The ordinance will take effect April 16.

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STATE from page 1 Congress and Puerto Ricans before a change in status. A similar bill is pending in the Senate. Puerto Ricans themselves are split over the need for a plebiscite and the statehood issue, although two-thirds of the commonwealth's elected officials support statehood, according to Puerto Rican Senate President Charles A. Rodriguez. Statehood trailed commonwealth status in a close 1993 vote, with less than 5 percent opting for independence.

Forces advocating statehood cast the issue as a simple matter of self-determination for 3.8 million American citizens who have no voting representation in Congress. Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens but cannot vote in presidential elections and pay no federal income tax.

"Do you cherish the principles of our democracy enough to dismantle 100 years of colonialism and extend the right of full self-determination to the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico?" challenged Puerto Rico's non-voting Democratic member of Congress, Rep. Carlos Romero Barcelo, a former pro-statehood governor.

But the English-only provision sparked the most intense debate.

"To make English our official language," said Rep. Gene Green, D-Texas, "limits our nation." Others argued that the English-only amendment would impose requirements on Puerto Ricans that are not imposed on other citizens.

CLASSIFY from page 2 essay to separate the grievance from the reclassification.

"We were talking all the time (the secretaries) were picketing," Lebns said. "Certainly the picket provided an alternative way to communicate which may have reinforced their position ... but I think the real issues got fertilized out in the face-to-face discussions, which I thought were really productive."

Lebens and Gold both emphasized that not all secretaries will get reclassified, but Gold said that was never the intention.

"There are varying levels of responsibility amongst the different departmental secretaries," Lebens said. "And they know that. But there's certainly the possibility that some of them will fit into the AOA classification."
I nterview with Colleen Walsh on Animal Rights

The other night my parents came up and decided to watch a movie. We ended up at a somewhat ritzy restaurant downtown. When trying to decide what to eat for dinner, I noticed the waitress seemed far from her usual friendliness if she would recommend the corned beef at this night's special. The lady looked tired. "Well, I've heard it's good, but I don't eat meat so I really wouldn't know. I don't think it's right to kill animals because of how they're treated. This statement wouldn't have happened to me, except I happened to look down and notice that she had a very nice pair of expensive, black leather shoes on. The first time I checked, leather came from the hide of cattle. Maybe the leather for her shoes even came from the same animal it mistreated. Maybe the leather for her shoes comes from the same animal it mistreated.

I am voting for Tom Bordman because I believe he is the best candidate for the job. I agree with his platform on bilingual education and Propositions 187 and 209. However, though I am pro-choice, I still believe that the Bible has a purpose. Others see it as a normal part of pose. I write these things not to pass judgment, but because I want to say to each other, "I've saved myself for you."

Joe L. Ramirez is an agribusi­ness senior.

Virginity should be gift to spouse

This letter is in regards to Brad Davis' "Cappin' on Bordman," your intelligence amazes me! To think someone as ignorant as you is an editor for a newspaper. Brad, you have ever lived in a communist coun­try? I didn't know you had! HAVE My parents and I escaped and came here to live among people like you that have everything. I came here LEGALLY, learned English with books and TV shows and NEVER did my family take a cent from the government.

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Buck-O-Nine

By Michael Troxell
Special to Arts Weekly

A sold-out crowd packed the SLO Vets Hall Saturday night, making the Buck-O-Nine concert a blast. Utopia and Back Burner Productions joined forces to put on an unforgettable show.

This all-ages concert was a good time for everyone, especially with four micro-brews served on tap (courtesy of Barley Corn Dancers) in the beer garden, so even the beer connoisseur couldn’t complain.

And everyone at the show had an equal opportunity to get a good seat, or spot I should say, since it was standing room only.

Unfortunately, I couldn’t catch local band The Pathetics, but I heard their opening act was great. Next came the Mad Caddies, another somewhat local band, from Santa Ynez. After doing an adequate sound check, the Caddies stormed through an action-packed hour. You’ve got to hand it to their lead singer for wailing through the whole set after just getting his wisdom teeth pulled a couple days prior.

After the Caddies, the sweaty crowd poured out onto the lawn outside the Vets Hall to cool off before working up another sweat skankin’ to the featured band’s music.

See BUCK page A4
Local Show rocks station

Ask any musician, and they'll tell you it's hard to make it in the music business. Talent can take you far, but it doesn't help if no one can hear your music. Sarah Wheeler and Graham Haworth know that. That's why at the beginning of this quarter they started "The Local Beat," a show dedicated to local bands and musicians. It airs every Wednesday from 7 to 8 p.m. on KCPR, 91.3 FM.

"There're so many local bands that people don't even know about." Wheeler said.

She and Haworth are both musicians, who play with Groove Syndicate and Sargent Cypress, respectively. Wheeler said she hopes the show can help an upstart band gain the chance to play at local venues like SLO Brewing Co., Linnane's and Frog & Peach.

With the exception of Linnane's, most venues require bands to submit a tape or a demo before they will even be considered for booking. "If you record off the station and give it to SLO Brew, you're in," said Butch Boswell, singer and guitarist for the Muses. "It's a great idea."

The Muses and their "folk rock with a twang," as Boswell described the band's sound, were featured last Wednesday on The Local Beat.

"I had a great time tonight," said Greg Olin, singer and guitarist for The Muses, after the show. Olin said he felt the show was a great way for bands to get exposure. The Muses have been together, mostly at local venues, for about a year and a half. They will play at SLO Brew on March 12, and played last Friday at Slim's in San Francisco with Convoys and Mother Hips. The band also includes Adam Farber on bass and Eliott "Dough" Haro on drums.

Their Grateful Dead-esque music and vocal harmonies are well worth checking out. "The vocal harmonies) were the easiest part," Olin said. Other bands that have appeared on The Local Beat include Echo, Opus (which played an acoustic set), Crystal, Glider and Imperial Cruiser. Hotwheelz played last night. The Local Beat is open to all different styles of music, and Haworth said he would like to see more bands give their tapes or CDs to KCPR.

"There's so many good bands," Haworth said. "We give airplay to everyone. And that makes the musicians happy. I think it's great that they let all styles come out rather than the regular format," said Echo (Chris Ward), the first featured guest on the Local Beat. "I think the most important thing about The Local Beat is you get a chance to get your music out without paying for it."

Ward will be appearing at Frog & Peach on April 15. Wheeler has also put together a show featuring local bands Opus, Jive-n-Direct and Glider, to play March 12 at SLO Brew. She hopes to take the money that is raised at the show and put together a compilation CD with various local bands on it. She also hopes to have local musicians Crystal Mattson and Jim Cushion, also a Cal Poly English professor, appear as guests.

The show is going to be one of the stronger bills in the area," said Tyson Leonard, guitarist and vocalist for Glider. He said when Glider played on the Local Beat, it had some technical problems at first but by the second song it sounded good. Glider will be playing at Sweet Springs Saloon in Los Osos on March 6.

"Hopefully the show will get people acquainted with the bands and the local scene," Michael Tresell, singer for the band Opus. "This is excellent exposure for bands that want to get heard right off the bat."

Opus will be playing April 11 at SLO Brew. During finals week there will be an open forum for discussing the local scene and acoustic performances. Wheeler said anyone who shows up can play.

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In Greek mythology, the Muses are the nine daughters of Zeus and Mnemosyne who represent the various art forms such as poetry and music. While it is unlikely that you'll find any of these Greek goddesses down at Boo Boo Records, you can find a modern male version on an EP titled, "Penny." "Penny" is the first EP/CD only shorter than the San Luis Obispo-based band The Muses has recorded. The four Cal Poly students—Greg Olin, Butch Boswell, Adam Farber and Elliott Haro—composed six original tracks. The Muses' style was influenced by the sounds of The Mother Hips, Gram Parsons of The Byrds and The Flying Burrito Brothers, who tried to start a country craze in Los Angeles in the 1970s which never really got off the ground. "Our music is rock 'n' roll with a bluegrass and country influence to it," Olin said.

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The band has been touring with one of their role models, The Mother Hips, opening for them last Friday at Slims, a club in San Francisco, in front of a few hundred people. It was both exciting and nerve-wracking because it was the largest crowd they had ever performed in front of.

The San Luis Obispo scene has become a little mundane for bands because of the lack of places to play. They said, however, it is not too difficult to get gigs around here because the screening process is not very difficult at most bars. They hope to expand their following outside of town.

"It's kind of hard because in Santa Barbara you can play until the cows come home. If you play at a party in San Luis, it usually gets broken up by 11 p.m., because neighborhoods are so residential," Olin said.

The band is set to start playing Santa Barbara house parties soon to drum-up support before trying the bar scene there. According to Olin, if no one knows they won't come watch you at a bar. The fact that the band is eager to play anywhere people will listen, demonstrates its genuine passion for music. The Muses are not in music for fortune or fame.

In fact, they did not charge a cover at their release party last weekend. According to Olin, if no one knows they won't come watch you at a bar. The fact that the band is eager to play anywhere people will listen, demonstrates its genuine passion for music. The Muses are not in music for fortune or fame.

The band has come a long way since its first performance in 1996 at a house party on Halloween. The band played strictly at parties until it landed its first paid gig at a house party on Halloween. The band played strictly at parties until it landed its first gig in 1996 at a house party on Halloween. The band played strictly at parties until it landed its first paid gig. The band has played with the Hips in Santa Barbara.

Since it started playing at bars, the band's fan base has kind of switched from the young party crowd it used to attract, to older people. Olin thinks the Muses sound has a broad appeal that transcends age barriers.

"The two times we played at Cayuse Tavern the only people dancing were old couples in their 50s, doin' a little two-steppin'," Olin said.

The band enjoys seeing individuals and couples of all ages dancing and having a good time to the music. A responsive crowd helps members put maximum energy into their shows.

The Muses members perform any chance they get because they want to create a name for themselves and expose as many people as possible to their music. "Our goal right now is to play as much as we can," Olin said. "The guys outside and inside San Luis," said Butch, guitar and singer.

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John Simon and Brian Naumann of Utopia Productions want to continue creating venues for these mainstream bands.

"Bands often tour up and down the coast, stopping in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Jose and San Francisco, but skip San Luis Obispo because there's really no venue for these shows," Simon said. "The sold-out show this weekend is an example of the demand for the punk and ska scene here in San Luis Obispo. We just need a larger facility to attract the big names."

This reminds me of a quote from the movie "Field of Dreams": "If you build it...they will come."

BUCK

from page A1

Then the moment that everyone was waiting for finally arrived. Buck-0-Nine took the stage, and the crowd got crazy. The San Diego natives mixed it up, playing songs off their new and old albums.

I honestly have to say that I'm not a huge fan of Buck-0-Nine, but after seeing their Saturday show, I signed the mailing list. Maybe it was because the horn section kicked ass, or perhaps it was the sheer energy the band put out that made the performance so much fun to watch.

It's not too often that a well-known band like Buck-0-Nine makes it to SLO town. Folks like me have a higher alcohol content than beer. And remember the saying, "Beer before liquor, never sicker. But liquor before beer, never beer in excess."

This foster of vodka is almost endless. Vodka has to be one of the best hard liquors out there. It's hard for me to say anything bad about this stuff. I would recommend this to anyone considering a career in alcoholism.

Of course, you must be careful when consuming liquor because it does have a higher alcohol content than beer and is relatively non-alcoholic.

One thing to consider before consuming a large quantity of Jack is whether or not to take a look at a few popular kinds and brands.

Jack Daniels Whiskey

Drinking Jack straight is a difficult task, considering the taste is so harsh. As well as tasting horrible, the small shots sends a painful wave of nausea through my body. Although, when Jack is mixed with other substances, it can be quite a delight. For example, Jack and Coke is a tasty little beverage.

One thing to consider before consuming a large quantity of Jack is whether or not to use that amount of Jack is acceptable. I was informed that drinking too much Jack causes "whiskey woe" which renders men incapable of sex—just looking out for my readers.

Jagermeister

I don't ever really know anything about this stuff other than that it's fermented from poppies or something. In my opinion this has to be one of the tastiest liquors out there. To me, it tastes like liquorice, which is my favorite candy.

Cointreau has a hint of lemon and lime which complements the vodka very well. Drinking it straight is fine, but in orange juice (aka a screwdriver) with the vodka flavor is barely noticeable. The list of different mixed drinks requiring vodka is almost endless. Vodka has to be one of the best hard liquors out there. It's hard for me to say anything bad about this stuff. I would recommend this to anyone considering a career in alcoholism.

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Buck-0-Nine

from page A1

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Responses to “A dividing line between the living and the dead” — March 3

Editor
In response to Mr. Wilson’s letter to the editor asking for some feedback from his fellow students, I would like to offer some possible solutions to the living/dead saga. It seems as though he has some very complex concepts (perhaps due to his major) about some basic facts about this small planet and the things which thrive on it.

For starters, let’s look in the book for Webster’s College dictionary's definition on the word ‘life’: life—a. the general condition that distinguishes living organisms from inorganic objects and dead organisms, being manifested by growth through metabolism, reproduction, and internal regulation in response to the environment.

I think this covers some of the points that were touched on in Mr. Wilson’s letter, but maybe some clarification into English is needed. Mr. Wilson stated that on an atomic level, a car and a blade of grass are the same, except for the difference in the "programming." He bases the rest of his ideas on the dualism of the spiritual and the physical. However, I believe his foundation is so unsecure that the rest of his ideas suffer. How can you compare the two? One is a combination of electrons, protons, and neutrons; the other is a combination of the four basic elements which, by the way, are what you and I are composed of; and some chlorophyll to a structure made mostly of iron? The difference between a human and a plant is inorganic chemicals. All living things have organic molecules—this is a fact.

Now that we have figured out that all Cal Poly students can get what their body is composed of for about $3.00 down in the chemistry department, one question still remains. How are these complex molecules put together to make a living, growing, functioning being? And is this what we are implicitly with “self-perpetuating stimuli?” Well, now we run into the theories and religions of the world. Another time perhaps.

Without dipping into the realm of the existence of souls, gods, creators, etc., I would like to ask Mr. Wilson this: Can a computer program have a soul? In other words, can we implant ourselves with “self-perpetuating stimuli” into our world? This question has a lot of possibilities. How many of our computers know about the physical universe, real or not? What about the existence of other universes? Does this mean that we can’t have a computer program that is not a particle of the universe? What are the implications? What about the corollary to our universe? Can we imagine an intelligent universe? And if so, can we imagine its existence? What does it mean? Which leads to a whole host of questions.

Robert Bailey is an electrical engineering sophomore.
Mustangs strike out Titans; grab first Big West wins

Daily Self Report

The Cal Poly softball team stretched its winning streak to seven on Wednesday with a pair of victories over Cal State Fullerton.

The Mustangs, 7-6, defeated the Titans, 5-1, in game one and came from behind to win game two, 5-4.

In the first game, Mustang Kelly Sack singled in a pair of runs in the bottom of the third inning to help lead the team to victory. With one out, Tracie Carlisle singled to left and moved to second on a wild pitch. Cal Poly pitcher Darrie Knipfer struck out eight Titan batters and allowed just four hits.

In game two, Cal State Fullerton opened the scoring right away in the first with three runs keyed by a two-run double. The Mustangs took the lead and secured the win in the third on an RBI single by Anna Bauer.

Cal Poly senior pitcher Kelly Smith picked up a win over the Cal State Fullerton in game 2.

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Have a summer job lined up? If not, Camp Challenge may be just the thing for you. Free travel and over $650 for a few weeks’ work. Also, there is no commitment to join ROTC afterwards.

Find out more! Contact Captain Rob Wootridge, the enrollment officer, at 756-7682 (SLO-ROTC) or e-mail him at rwootridge@calpoly.edu

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Baseball bats in a win

The Cal Poly baseball team improved to 6-13 as they defeated Cal State Stanislaus, 17-7, Wednesday atSMSU Park. Head coach Ritch Price was just happy to get some innings in on the field.

"Because we're young, we need the practice," Price said. "The players understand we're trying to get everyone innings and ready for next weekend's series.

Big West play begins Friday at Long Beach State, and freshman third baseman Pat Wood said this game was important for them to do well this weekend.

"This was a good win, but it was more important that we got innings and we got to see some pitches," said Wood, who had three hits, a walk, two RBI, and two runs scored.

With sophomores right-hander Tanoce Treuper on the mound, the Stanislaus Warriors (4-5) jumped on the board first when Bobby Drueer, who hit a home run and had three RBIs, scored on Pete Casseade's groundout. Casseade knocked the ball weak in their half of the first thanks to Warrior mistakes. After a single by centerfielder Andrew Watman, an error by shortstop Tim Guzman allowed Wut to reach third and Matt Elam to reach first. Safely Watt then scored on pitcher K.J. Camerons's wild pitch. Cameron then walked five straight Warriors and scored after a passed ball on a strikeout authorized hitter Brian Canasangano to reach third. Cameron then walked Pat Wood to score Elan. After a scoreless second inning, the Warriors got four runs off Treuper in the third.

Price then put in Dan Merritt who got the Mustangs out of the inning. Merritt contributed to dominate Warrior hitters as he allowed just one hit and two walks.

Pat Wood got the Mustangs starting off with a bang when he hit his 10th home run of the season on a Jason Barringer grounder to short that was mishandled. Cameron's broken bat single in the fourth sent Barringer's first stolen base of the year, catcher Bryan Oseuro drove him in with a single. Oseuro later scored the tying run on a Steve Wood sacrifice fly to right field.

The Mustangs got their third and final run in the sixth inning when a Pat Wood double scored Cameron. Cameron was tagged out when he was hit by a pitch. The defensive play of the day belonged to junior rightfielder Matt Brady who in the seventh inning threw out Hoover who trying to stretch a single into a double. Later that inning with Greg Workman on the mound, Jeff Tropper doubled in a run.

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get knocked around, the A's offense will be excruciating to watch. Justing the lineup will be pre-season.

Schoor was excited to see how the first few games of the season went. Schoor said that despite starting the year slower than his past two years, the A's anti-activated shortstop Marcus Tracy, third baseman Eric Chavez and catcher A.J. Hinch.

THE BIGGEST

Last season's biggest contributor, the Las Angels, didn't do much to improve their club.

The Dodgers left field problems continued last year when 1996 Rockey of the Year Todd Hollandsworth slumped at .247, .34. The possible answer in left field may have been prospect Karim Garcia who was let in the expansion draft to Arizona. In centerfield, L A may hope Roger Cedeno (273.

PARK OFFICIALS

With the addition of new players and new manager, this season will be the biggest test for the team. The team will look to improve in all aspects of the game this season.

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SATURDAY
Big West names Bjorklund
Freshman of the Year

Freshman Chris Bjorklund led Cal Poly's high scoring offense. He finished the year averaging 17.3 points per game, eighth best in the league. He recorded 25 double-figure scoring games, helping the Mustangs finish 14-14.

Daily Tall Report
Freshman guard Jabbar Washington was also named to the All-Big West freshman team with Bjorklund.

University of the Pacific center Michael Olowokandi was named the Big West Conference Player of the Year.

Olowokandi was the top vote getter, leading a list of five other players on the first team All-Big West. Olowokandi, a 7-1 senior center, leads the conference in scoring with 21.8 points per game, rebounding with 11.1 rebounds per game, field goal percentage (.623) and blocks (2.7 bpg).

He has recorded 22 double-doubles in leading the Tigers to their second straight Big West Western Division title.

In addition, he has registered five games of 30 points or more, including a career-high 35 points against Boise State.

During the course of the season he was named Big West Player of the Week five times, a new conference record.

Pacific enters the conference tournament on Friday as the Western Division’s No. 1 seed, taking on Idaho. The Tigers also enter the tournament as defending champions.

UCLA State head coach Larry Eustachy received Coach of the Year accolades. Eustachy led his team to a 13-3 regular season Big West record to finish first in the league’s Eastern Division.

SPORTS

Major League Baseballs opening day is today, so it's time to look at how effective the five California teams were this off-season in improving their teams.

The Padres were a disappointment last year, finishing 56-96 after winning the National League-Western Division in 1996. Their 4.98 team ERA was the league's second worst, so they improved it, adding one of the league's most dominating hurlers, Kevin Brown (16-8, 2.69).

Offensively, San Diego will hope right-time hitting catcher Gary Gaumn, 1996 National League MVP Ken Caminiti, leftfielder Greg Vaughn and centerfielder Steve Finley can stay healthy. They will add Chik Brown, who they got from the Yankees in the Hokei Irua deal, to one of the league's most talented outfield. The one area the Padres failed to improve, however, was depth at the middle infield positions. Grade A-

The Giants

The defending National League Champion San Francisco Giants were busy again this off-season.

They added veteran right-hander Oral Hershiser (14-6, 4.47) and Steve Reed (44-4, 4.04), who will allow last year's setup man, Julian Tavares (6-4, 3.87), to complete a much-improved pitching rotation. The Giants lost Roberto Hernandez and longtime closer Robe Jock to free agency, but stabilized their bullpen when they traded for Mark Jesse.

On offense, the Giants added depth at several positions.

They added left-handed hitting catcher Brent Maye (289, 6, 22) from the White Sox to complement Jason Johnson (279, 11, 27). They also traded for third baseman Charlie Hayes (258, 11, 56) who will play first base. The signing of Ray Sanchez (.312, 1, 55) will ensure a capable backup at either middle infield position. The one area the Giants failed to improve is in right-field where they will rely on veteran Stan Javier (.296, 8, 50) and Jacob Cruz who led AAA Phoenix in hitting Grade B-

The Angels

Baseball's worst record (65-97) last year belonged to the American League Western Division. Oakland Athletics. Their league-high 5.48 team ERA defied logic.

The As enhanced their pitching staff with the acquisitions of reliever T.J. Mathews (1-0, 2.22) and probable third starter Jimmy Haynes (34-4, 4.42) in the Mark McGwire and Geronimo Rosario trade, respectively.

However, off the season signings of overpaid left-hander Kenny Rogers (6-7, 5.85) and veteran knuckle-ball Tom Candioli (10-7, 3.60) will not be the answers to a questionable rotation.

While their pitching staff should

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