Cleaning a century of drudge from Avila

A 100-year history
Unocal's ups and downs in its involvement at Avila

Heading to the beach
One student talks about what he encountered at Avila
Avila's unnatural disaster

City hopes 2 years, $200 million will undo 100 years of pollution

By Steve Noone
Mustang Daily

Aug. 3, 1992: A Unocal pipeline cracks open, dumping over 600 barrels of crude oil down a cliff and into the ocean between Pirate's Cove and Avila Beach.

Currently, much of the oil is underground and Unocal has been court ordered to begin a $200 million excavation project. The project will remove 420,000 gallons of volatile petroleum products, including diesel fuel and gasoline, from beneath Avila Beach.

However, Unocal keeps pushing back the starting date, citing delays in acquiring the proper permits.

"The plan has already been engineered and designed," said Unocal spokesperson Derek Aney. "We're just waiting on the permits. We hope to have them by the end of this week or the beginning of next week. We can get started seven days after we have them."

Unocal estimates that the cleanup procedure will take 16 months of 16-hour workdays to completely remove the oil from the Aug. 3 spill and from years of contamination due to leaky underground pipes.

According to the Avila Beach/Unocal Environmental Impact Report, the restoration process would "include the dumping of traffic, loss of recreational beach use, elevated noise and vibration levels, the generation of dust and air pollutants, adverse odors, and potential safety impacts when the plume (large underground field of contamination) is disturbed."

Citing plans not to contaminate over Unocal's less intrusive, but more time-consuming "biostimulation" process as a method that speeds up the natural decomposition of the oil, even though excavation will demolish or relocate one and a half blocks of Front Street buildings.

The Environmental Impact Report states that "the demolishing of buildings overlying the plume would result in the closure of a significant percentage of Front Street businesses. Following cleanup activities, tourists may not immediately return."

"Probably 75 percent of Front Street businesses are leaving or have already left for good," said Chris Chandless, manager of the Old Custom House restaurant and Mr. Rick's bar. "Mr. Rick's is scheduled to be demolished at the end of October, and Cafe Avila is going this Sunday. But we will definitely be back."

A San Luis Obispo County health report showed no health risk from casual beach use. Those local business owners planning to stay are asking...
Unocal's 100-year history in Avila

1899
Union Oil makes its first venture into San Luis Obispo County, drilling its first hole—a "duster" or dry well—in Arroyo Grande about 400 yards north of the railroad depot.

1902
Union Oil buys land in Avila and buys drilling options on 50,000 acres near Santa Maria and Lompoc.

1906
Union completes a pipeline stretching from the oil fields to Avila, where it has built a tank farm with storage capacity for 250,000 barrels.

1907
In March, Pismo Beach Co. sues Union Oil Co. for $25,000 for beach oil pollution. Union agrees to stop emptying the tankers' bilges into San Luis Bay and builds a tank on land to accept bilge waste.

1908
Burning oil flows into San Luis Bay after storage tanks near Port Harford pier catch fire from lightning strikes.

1910
Union builds the San Luis Obispo Tank Farm to store oil and opens the Avila Refinery, a crude processing plant on the bluff above Avila.

1914
Union oil builds a pier to carry oil to tanker ships in Avila.

1919
The Avila Refinery explodes.

1920
Lightning starts a fire at the Union Tank Farm south of San Luis Obispo. The explosions release at least 168 million gallons of burning oil, which flows over nearby farms and down San Luis Creek. Unocal drains its pipelines to the ocean coating Avila and Pismo beaches with oil. Pollution from this spill still remains underground at the SLO Tank Farm.

1926
A Union Oil pipeline bursts on a hillside above Avila, sending diesel fuel pouring down streets and through yards.

1972
Nude sunbathing becomes popular at Pirate's Cove.

1973
In March, Pismo Beach Co. sues Union Oil Co. for $25,000 for beach oil pollution. Union agrees to stop emptying the tankers' bilges into San Luis Bay and builds a tank on land to accept bilge waste.

1985
Union Oil becomes a Delaware corporation and changes its name to Unocal.

1989
A Front Street property owner discovers petroleum during a routine soil test. Unocal begins studying the contamination.

1992
A Unocal pipeline ruptures sending 600 barrels of crude oil down a slope, over a cliff and into a small cove between Avila Beach and Pirate's Cove.

1994
The Regional Water Quality Control Board orders Unocal to clean up contamination. Unocal agrees to pay $1.4 million penalty for the Pirate's Cove spill in 1992.

1995
Unocal excavates the western end of Avila Beach and oil fills the excavation hole.

1996
Unocal shuts down the Avila terminal. The Avila Alliance sues Unocal to force a full cleanup. Unocal sells its Calif. refineries, pipelines, and gas stations to Tosco Corp. in a $2 billion deal. Unocal retains polluted lands, including its holdings in Avila Beach.

1997
Excavation of the pollution is recommended and Unocal begins dismantling its Avila Tank Farm.

1998
San Luis Obispo County health study determines little threat from casual use of the beach, but also finds oil leaking into the ocean. New estimates put the underground contamination at 420,000 gallons.

Unocal agrees to excavate oil pollution beneath the town and the beach and to pay $18 million in penalties.
Bill's Big Bill

Should we have peeked at the $40 million hummer? Six down in front of the television, tune in to a local radio station, glance at a newspaper or jump on-line and the details of one man's personal life are shoved down your throat. By now you'd think that with all the "graphic" details we've been forced to swallow the American public would quickly say, "No thanks," to the consistent offering of unimportant information and vacuous commentary by the news media's most glorified talking heads. But we eat it up. By now you'd think that with all the "graphic" unimportant information and hollow commentaries by the news media's most glorified talking heads, we would quickly say, "No thanks," to the consistent offering of vacuous information and hollow commentaries by the news media's most glorified talking heads. But we eat it up. How do you plan on relaxing after this first week of school? Do you plan on relaxing after this first week of school?

How do you plan on relaxing after this first week of school? How do you plan on relaxing after this first week of school? A Cal Poly WOW board member questions motives of advertisements in the WOW issue

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"I didn't climb to the top of the food chain to eat oats and hay."
Just when you thought you had enough to think about, I, Jon "Jacob" Jungheinrich, Wilson (your fun stu-

Friday, September 25, 1998 5
dent advisor), have a calling that I need to share with five people. These five people shall go free of your

fears and this will all be common knowledge before your next bowel movement.

As you go about your insanely full daily schedule of classes and activities, you will probably want to maintain yourself so as to make it through the entire quarter without electro-shock therapy.

The two obvious activities we think of regarding self-maintenance are exercise and eating right. Those are great to think about, but besides food, I want to discuss what else is going into your body.

It is rather unhealthy to eat meals on a regular basis consisting of the equivalent to McNuggets and ranch dressing. I know, college students are often lazy, but at least we know, in theory, what is good for us.

Now try and take that critical thinking and apply it to the other two consumption concerns: films, books, and music. I am claiming that it is "unsanitary" to constantly take in McDull-fat-grade sources of art. Limiting yourself to the five musical groups that MTV or SLY 96 focuses on would be like placing a local anesthetic on your brain. Similarly, watching only the blockbuster films which arrive just in time for us would kill your critical thinking.

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AVILA
continued from page 2

for community support.

Unocal has been ordered to pay the
city of Avila Beach an $18 million set­
tlement due to the disruption. $10 mil­
lion will be directed to restoration pro­
jects and another $6 million to
enhancement projects (including
redesigning Front Street). The remain­
ing money goes to lawyers, and other
administrative fees.

Cal Poly Soil Science professor
Thomas Ruehr feels "They (county
planners) may have overlooked an
important point. When they’re digging
at the beach they’re removing the
beach’s armor. The weather and wave
actions could then destabilize the land
some of the homes in the area are built
on."

"Unfortunately, most of the engi­
nering solutions are a quick fix. If they
remove the sand and clean it, it’s never
going to be 100 percent," said Ruehr.

"The bioremediation process may take
longer, but the action of the microbes
breaking down the oil droplets does a
better job."

But how did the problem get so bad?
How did the contaminated pipeline go
unnoticed? And why has it taken so
long to begin the clean up process?

The answers can be traced back to
1989 when a Front Street property
owner discovered petroleum in a rou­
tine soil test. A study by Unocal
revealed that the pollutants follow the
path of the pipeline — from Front
Street to the tanks on the cliffs above
the town. Unocal claimed that most of
the underground contamination had
hardened to an asphalt-like substance
and posed no environmental hazard.

In 1992 the pipeline broke. Only
160 of the 600 barrels of oil were recov­
ered in an ocean cleanup; the remain­
ing oil seeped into the ground.

In December 1995, Unocal per­
formed a test excavation at the west
end of Avila Beach. The site filled with
oil — the oil Unocal claimed was hard­
ened and harmless.

In early 1996, Unocal shut down the
Avila Beach terminal and left
California. All of Unocal’s pipelines,
gas stations, refineries, and the "76"
logo sold in a $2 billion deal with
Tosco Corp. According to Aney, the
deal was part of a corporate restruc­
turing unrelated to the Avila Beach inci­
dent. Also in 1996, the Avila Alliance,
state Attorney General, and San Luis
Obispo County filed a lawsuit against
Unocal, forcing them to clean up the
area.

In 1997, Unocal consultant Arthur
Little sided with Avila Beach. Little
recommended a full excavation in
Unocal’s environmental impact report.
Finally, in 1998 Unocal agreed to begin
the clean-up effort, to use the excava­
tion process, and to pay $18 million for
damages.

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is Committed
to Safety...


And because part of being safe is being
prepared, we want you to know where to find important information on what to do in case of
an emergency at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. You can find this information in the
Customer Guide section of your new Pacific Bell® Smart Yellow Pages® phone book.

We’ll even help you mark the place. When your new phone book is delivered, look for this
brochure tucked inside. Follow the directions to be safe and prepared.

If you don’t have a phone you can request this information by contacting: Pacific Gas and
Electric Company, P.O. Box 8592, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406, or by calling 546-5292.
Avila: a unique spot on the Central Coast
By Keith Park

Mustang Daily

By now you probably know about Avila Beach and the whole clean up fiasco. For those of you just getting out, we can say this is not that unusual. The Toxic Avenger, you may want to refrain from swimming or fishing at Avila! But I come to praise Avila, not hurry it, for it was and still is one of the finest beaches around.

I was surprised, therefore, to find that relatively few locals use Avila Beach, preferring instead other SLO coast beaches. In a brief telephone survey I asked more than 25 random people what was their favorite 'hang out' beach (as opposed to surf spot) and the answers came back mostly in favor of Pismo and Shell beaches, with one 'never-say-die' Cayucos fan. Could it be a fear of the black and still is one of the finest beaches around. From swimming or fishing at Avila? But I come to praise Avila, not hurry it, for it was and still is one of the finest beaches around. An early sevenies. Living in Avila, it is said that the first thing you lose is your driver's license, then your ambition and finally your mind. It is the potential loss of this peaceful antiquity that seems to haunt the majority of persons and merchants.

I rode out to Avila Beach recently to prepare this article, and also just to take in the natural beauty of the bay. I rode into one little beachwear shop on the main street, picked up a pair of cheap sunglasses and approached the counter. "That be all for you? asked the proprietor. "Yes" I replied, "and I'm writing an article about the beaches around here, could I ask you about what's happening here in Avila?" He grinned pantomime and shook his head "I'm sick of explaining it. Let's just get it started so we can get it over with. Good luck!"

So, I surmised, mentioning the cleaning to the locals is a definite no-no, kind of like dozing "Crazy, man!" to a psychologist. I would have to try a different approach. I tucked it up to the far end of town (two white blocks) where I meet up with Jeff Clark, who runs part of Central Coast Kayaks from Avila Beach. He had just finished instructing a couple on rolling kayaks, their wet suits still dripping pools of saltwater beneath them. "Avila is the warmest and most protected beach of all. Many folks who've spent their lives here on the Central Coast agree: Fall is definitely the best season, even for the beach. The water is at it's warmest right about now (a variable 60° E), and if you hit up the ebb tide coast at Moro rock the water can reach upwards of 10° warmer. But in spite of having been warmed up over the course of the summer, meteorologists predicted in Scientific American that warner along the Northern coast is going to be very clear, crisp and cool.

But back to Avila Beach. Rolling into Avila is like shaving off the last few blocks, their wetsuits still dripping pools of saltwater beneath them. "That be all for you?" asked the proprietor. "Yes" I replied, "and I'm writing an article about the beaches around here, could I ask you about what's happening here in Avila?" He grinned pantomime and shook his head "I'm sick of explaining it. Let's just get it started so we can get it over with. Good luck!"

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Another surf shop employee claimed he was the 'scene' at the more popular beaches that drove him up north to the relative tranquility of San Simeon State Park. It was easy to get people to talk about their favorite beaches for combing or sunning, but most everyone zipped off over the course of the summer, meteorologists predicted in Scientific American that warner along the Northern coast is going to be very clear, crisp and cool.

"Beaches like Avila are less windy, usually, but in spite of having been warmed up over the course of the summer, meteorologists predicted in Scientific American that warner along the Northern coast is going to be very clear, crisp and cool. But back to Avila Beach. Rolling into Avila is like shaving off the last few blocks, their wetsuits still dripping pools of saltwater beneath them. "That be all for you? asked the proprietor. "Yes" I replied, "and I'm writing an article about the beaches around here, could I ask you about what's happening here in Avila?" He grinned pantomime and shook his head "I'm sick of explaining it. Let's just get it started so we can get it over with. Good luck!"

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Since working for Central Coast Kayaks, Jeff has explored just about every inch of coastline in San Luis county. Geographically, he says, the cave at San Simeon State Beach is similar to Avila in its south southwestern orientation, but is much more prone to fog. "On some days the entire coast may be soaked in" explained Jeff, "but since Avila is surrounded by hills, it bares off the fanast of any of the other beaches."

"Also," he says "there's a couple of secluded beaches out and around point which are excellent, but are only accessible by boat or kayak. Also, if you round Foul point, the whits bluffs at the lower end of Avila bay, there's caves for exploring, and eventually you reach P'irate's Cove, the nude beach."

As I rolled out of the Avila township, I passed a vacant lot where several bulldozers were sitting. I yelled up above the tractor noise "Must I had a small silver lining hovering over this whole clean up fiasco. I passed a vacant lot where several bulldozers were sitting. I yelled up above the tractor noise "Must I had a small silver lining hovering over this whole clean up fiasco. I passed a vacant lot where several bulldozers were sitting. I yelled up above the tractor noise "Must I had a small silver lining hovering over this whole clean up fiasco. I passed a vacant lot where several bulldozers were sitting. I yelled up above the tractor noise "Must
Hollywood hopes to make Spider-Man a star

Los Angeles Times

I
t the adage is true that the ultimate Hollywood art form is
the deal, then the maneuvering to get "Spider-Man" to the big screen will
ever hang in the Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Valere Baker, with as many as 18 separate written agreements at issue. Last month, a Delaware judge overseeing Marvel's bankruptcy cleared the California cases for trial, which could begin before the end of the year. But that will leave Baker confronted with a tangled mess.

"Spider-Man could be a movie, or it could be litigation," said Howard Weg, an attorney who represents the liquingating trust of Carolco Pictures, which claims to have acquired the movie rights in 1989 but went bankrupt in 1995. "All the entities involved have elected not to make a movie, but litigation."

But this is more than a story of dueling lawyers. The multimillion-dollar litigation parade provides a unique snapshot of recent Hollywood history. Along the way, "Spider-Man" has become the Hope Diamond of the movie business, earning many of those who have laid claim to it. Three studios that at one point or another claimed an interest in the movie rights have gone bankrupt awaiting a resolution; as has Marvel Entertainment Group, the comic book publisher that owns the character. Indeed, it's not clear whether the leading complainant today, the aging studio MGM, would have the financial wherewithal to finance the "Spider-Man" movie it once won the litigation.

The case traces the rise and fall of three independent film studios that tried to dominate Hollywood deal-making until their shallow finances brought them down and placed the backdrop of the industry's bankruptcies and its pro-cupation with big names, such as superstar director James Cameron, whose association with the "Spider-Man" project helped drive it from a modest $15 million undertak

AIDS in women increasing

MORGANTOWN, W.V. (UPI) - An American dies every 13 minutes from AIDS-related causes, but many college students still think AIDS is something other people get.

Most of the estimated one million Americans who are infected with the virus which causes AIDS, contracted this disease during their teenage years. Research shows that, one in 18 college students is carrying the AIDS virus.

In the U.S., the Center for Disease Control estimates that only two-thirds of people with HIV know about their infection.

The number of women contracting AIDS is increasing. Women are one of the fastest growing groups of new AIDS cases, accounting for 20 percent of newly reported cases in the US and 42 percent of new cases worldwide. AIDS is the third leading cause of death among women ages 20 to 49.

High school athletes turn to performance-enhancing drugs

The Allentown Morning Call

Brian Gallagher is the kind of student-athlete every coach dreams of - bright, upbeat, hard-working, determined to be in the best shape he can be for his sport.

This summer, he capped his high school football career with an appearance in a Pennsylvania all-star game. Now the Emmaus (Pa.) High School graduate is at Delaware Valley College, where he'll be playing full-back.

He's been taking creatine since the end of his senior year.

"When you're struggling on that last rep, and the lactate acid kicks in... that's when it helps you win that rep," he said. "I think it's a great product."

Gallagher said he was introduced to creatine before the supplement became popular by a friend who worked at a nutrition store.

He credits it with helping him bulk up.

Gallagher, 18, stands 5-foot-9 and weighs 220 pounds. He remembers trying to be competitive on the field while weighing only 150 as a 16-year-old sophomore.

"I got completely whupped on because I wasn't big enough," he said with a laugh. "I came in junior year weighing 200 pounds."

Gallagher now takes creatine three times a day for a month at a time. Then he takes a week off and starts again, a process athletes call "creating cycling."

He says he makes sure to drink two or three gallons of water daily so he doesn't get dehydrated.

"It feels the product gives him a psychological as well as a physical boost. 'Psychologically, just taking something big in, it's more natural. It's not artificial. I think it's safer. It's like, it's natural,' he said. Gallagher acknowledged that the pressure is part of why creativity is spread among high schoolers.

"Some of the players on the best teams in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley use it, he said, and he's talked to players to keep creative in the weight room for players to take before they work out."

When I started two years ago, I was one of the few. It was me and a couple of other kids who had heard about it," he recalled.

"But in my senior year, I was a captain, and me and the other captains were using it. So the other players started asking about it, and one thing led to another and now almost the whole team on it."

Gallagher, who plans to major in business, spent the summer following a specialized track and field program at a local health club.

Every Monday and Thursday he lifts weights for his upper body and Tuesday and Friday he works on his legs. On Wednesdays, he runs three or four miles for his cardiovascular component, and on Saturdays he does sprints and drills.

Each weight workout takes him 1 to 2 hours.

"You can't just take creatine and not work out. You've got to work out before you take creatine."

"It's the combination that got me where I am."
MEN'S SOCCER
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including several freshmen who could
start were it not for upper classmen
already filling the positions.
"If we have a weakness, it's that we
are too excited, too careless on the
attack, not foreseeing potential dan­
gers," said Gartner.

Cal Poly got the season rolling
with a 1-0 win at home against Cal
State Los Angeles, with the only goal
being scored by Yosso.

The next game, also at Cal Poly,
was a 4-0 victory over Loyola­
Marymount in which Haynes got a
hat trick in the second half.

Game three against St. Mary's
College was a 1-0 victory for Cal Poly.
A penalty kick by senior Brian Lange
was the only score.

Team members ran into some trou­
ble playing San Jose State, a game
that ended in a 0-3 loss to Cal Poly.

In the second half, Haynes was red-
carded for a hand-ball violation and
the Spartans were awarded a penalty
kick that led to their first goal of the

game. Cal Poly was then forced to fini­
sh out the game with only 10 players
in the field and Lange allowed two
more Spartan goals. Yosso pulled him­
self out of the starting line up when
he pulled his hamstring in the first
half of the game, but said he hopes to
play Oct. 2 at the Adidas Invitational
in Clemson, N.C.

The team recovered from the loss
with a 2-1 win against Xavier
University in Cincinnati, and a 1-1
tie against the University of
Cincinnati. The game might have ended
up as a win for Cal Poly, but
officials ended the game with eight
minutes to go, on account of severe
lightning, according to Lange.

"We had the momentum to win,
that's for sure," said Lange. "But you
never know what's going to happen in
conditions like that, where it's pouring
down rain, and sloppy muddy, and the
ball is skidding around all over."

Cal Poly plays at home Sunday
against San Diego State University.

"We had the momentum to win...but you never know
what's going to happen in conditions like that."

— Brian Lange
for forward

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VOLLEYBALL
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Los Angeles Times

Another week, another blowout
for UCLA.

This one, though, won't carry

with the nation's pollsters and

could come back to haunt the third-

ranked Bruins.

Still, Coach Bob Toledo

wasn't about to second-guess

Thursday's decision reached by administrators

from both schools to cancel

Saturday's nationally televised game

at Miami because of the threat of

Hurricane Georges.

"Deep down inside, I'm actually

kind of glad that we're not going," said

Toledo, who broke the news to his

players as they prepared to board a

bus to LAX. "I'm responsible for

those young men and to their fami­

dies, and I would feel terrible if some­

thing happened. You've got to keep it

in perspective: This is a game."

In South Florida, Thursday night's

baseball game between the Florida

Marlins and Philadelphia Phillies

was postponed and rescheduled as part of

a doubleheader Saturday. Friday's pro­

gram at Calder Race Course was can­

celed, and many high school events

were postponed.

The Miami Dolphins have a bye

this week so Coach Jimmy Johnson

canceled Friday's practice, and many

players made plans to spend the

weekend out of town.

"We just want to be good enough

to call ourselves a title contender," he said.

The team does have one very

important goal as they continue this

season with the high hopes and optim­

ism that their early success has

brought, Schlick said.

"There's no question that we
can continue winning, but we need to
get better. The team has set high
goals, now we need to work up to
them. I don't know if the team realizes
completely what their potential is."

— Steve Schlick

vocabulary head coach

"1980's was tremendous," Schlick said.

"What we're trying to do is get back
to where the program was."

Things are looking hopeful for the

Mustangs so far in realizing this goal.

However, while Schlick says the

team's early wins have been great,

there is still room for improvement.

"Having this early success

was good in that it gave the team a

greater sense of their capabilities," he

said. "There's no question that we

continue winning, but we need to
get better. The team has set high
goals, now we need to work up to
them. I don't know if the team real­
sizes completely what their potential is."

One of the team's goals, says

Schlick, is to try to live up to the suc­
cesses of the program in the 1980's,

when the team was in the NCAA

Championships for nine straight years


"The history of the program in the

continued from page 12

"There's no question that we can continue
winning, but we need to
get better. The team
has set high goals, now
we need to work up to
them. I don't know if
the team realizes
completely what their
potential is."

— Steve Schlick

vocabulary head coach

UCLA, Miami blown out

"We could be in a tie and not go to the Rose Bowl
because of (not playing) this game."

— Bob Toledo

UCLA head coach

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Cubs, Cards rivalry rejuvenated

ST. LOUIS (AP) - Like everyone else in the Illinois town of Centralia, 70 miles east of St. Louis, Gary Oceguera's baseball allegiance was forged in the cradle.

"There's a line around Decatur, Ill., the break-off point between Cards fans and Cubs fans," Oceguera said. "Anything south is Cardinal territory, and anything north, you're a Cub fan. We're Card fans." 

Oceguera's childhood dreams came true when the Cardinals signed him as a free agent in December 1995. After they released him last month, the 45-year-old third baseman signed with the Cubs. Playing in two places confirmed his belief that Chicago and St. Louis, which have rich sports histories and a long-standing rivalry, are baseball's western- and southern-most outpost and the Cub and the Cards were the only National League team in the upper Midwest. Both play in baseball-only stadiums and on grass, which the Cardinals restored to Busch Stadium after the Busch family sold the team to a group headed by businessman William DeWitt in 1996.

In addition, both owe much of their popularity to broadcaster Harry Caray, whose flamboyant style helped turn each into America's team long before the Dallas Cowboys claimed the title or Ted Turner thought of Turner Field. Caray called Cardinal games from 1945 to '89 and moved to the Cubs' TV booth in 1982, in time for WGN's emergence as a superstation that beamed images of Wrigley Field's quaint, ivy-covered walls into living rooms everywhere.

"We were Cardinal fans," Oceguera said. "There's a line around Decatur, Ill., the break-off point between Cards fans and Cubs fans," Oceguera said. "Anything south is Cardinal territory, and anything north, you're a Cub fan. We're Card fans." 

"That was one of the few times in the history of the Cardinal-Cub rivalry I've seen Card fans cheering a Cub," except maybe Lou Brock," said Billy Williams, the Cubs' dugout coach. "It's really ironic that for years and years a handful of cities might match it for passion, but no one can match its combination of passion and civility." 

"It's exciting to have both cities match it for passion, but no one can match its combination of passion and civility."
**Men's soccer prepares for MPSF**

By Trisha Thorn
Mustang Daily

The Cal Poly men’s soccer team has its hands full this season, facing tough competition in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF), according to Head Coach Wolfgang Gartner.

The MPSF, which is a combination of the Big West, Pacific-10, and Western athletic conferences, includes the University of Washington, which is currently ranked number one, and UCLA, which won the National Championship in 1992.

“If we win, it’s a surprise on paper,” said Gartner. “We’re not suppose to win on paper. But if we play exceptionally, we can win.”

With a 4-1-1 record so far, the team has had an exciting start to the season, according to Gartner. The players are also looking forward to a successful season.

“I think we’ll do very well this season because we work very hard and every position is very strong,” said junior David Yosso.

Gartner said the players have exceptional skills in a lot of areas, and the team won’t have to rely on the talent of one person.

One such example of team skill is the combination of Yosso, senior Martin Hayes, and freshman Johnny Cummings. Gartner said these three forwards are a great combination on his offensive-minded team.

“Yosso is good in the air and it’s tough to figure out his next move,” Gartner said. “Cummings is a good, quick player and a good shot. Hayes is fast and he can jump and get away from people.”

The team also has the distinction of having some outstanding freshmen including starters Cummings, marking back Brianne Matthews and goalie Benton June. June stepped in this year for Greg Connell, Cal Poly’s goalie for the past four years.

“They are some big footsteps to follow, but it has been a pretty easy transition,” June said. “I’m just playing soccer like I’ve done all my life.”

The future of the team looks promising for Cal Poly because they have a very strong bench.

See MEN’S SOCCER, page 9

**Volleyball digs in, kills opponents; record at 10-1**

By Jen Stevenson
Mustang Daily

Cal Poly’s women’s volleyball team is turning heads with a 10-1 start and now they hope to continue their success as they go into Big West Conference play.

The team played this weekend at the St. Mary’s/San Jose State Invitational, winning all three of their matches. Sophomore Melanie Hathaway and junior Keri De Soto were named to the All-Tournament team.

Senior Melissa Pierce led the way Thursday. The team will take on Boise State Friday and Idaho Sunday in the first two games of season conference play.

The women’s soccer team, who have a preseason record of 5-4, kicked off another year of Big West competition when they left for Idaho on Thursday. The team will take on Boise State Friday and Idaho Sunday in the first two games of season conference play.

The Mustangs took on some tough opponents in their preseason games. Coach Alex Covert attributed the team’s success to the perfect record to an unusually difficult early season schedule. Three of the seven teams they played were ranked in the top 25, including No. 5 Santa Clara, No. 10 University of California, Los Angeles, and No. 23 San Diego State University.

Jill Nelson, a sophomore middle forward/forward said the preseason was difficult because of the many strong schools on the schedule, but that the team is playing well and getting better with experience.

“The tough competition we’ve faced is making us stronger,” said Nelson, adding that she believes the