NCAA bound
Women's soccer battles for spot in the playoffs
page 3

Building for the future
Sports Complex breaks ground Friday
page 5

Looking for a win
Football game preview, features and statistics
page 6 and 7
**SCHEDULE**

**Friday**
- Laugh Olympics on Mott Lawn at 2 p.m.
- Women's soccer vs. University of Pacific in Mustang Stadium at 5 p.m.
- Volleyball at Utah State at 6 p.m.
- Pep Rally and Mock Rock Competition on Sequoia Lawn at 6:30 p.m.
- Men's soccer vs. UC Berkeley in Mustang Stadium at 7 p.m.

**Saturday**
- Homecoming Parade on Higuera Street from Osos to Nipomo streets at 10 a.m.
- Club Carnival on lawn North of Mustang Stadium at 11 a.m.
- Football vs. Western New Mexico State in Mustang Stadium at 1 p.m.
- Volleyball at University of Nevada, Reno at 7 p.m.

**Sunday**
- Women's soccer vs. Long Beach State in Mustang Stadium at 1 p.m.
- Men's soccer vs. Stanford in Mustang Stadium at 5 p.m.
Soccer star has found a home

By Whitney Phaneuf
Mustang Daily

Most soccer players won't enter the field without shin guards, but Jill Nelson won't play a game without a baby-blue bow in her hair and her pinkie ring.

"I have to have them, or I don't think I'll play well," she said.

Nelson's superstitions seem to be working. She is leading the Cal Poly women's team in assists with five and last summer her club soccer team was number one in the nation.

"Winning nationals was the highlight of my soccer career," Nelson, a speech communication senior said. The Newport Beach native has been playing soccer since she was four years old. A self described "tomboy," Nelson wanted to be just like her older broth­er Sean, who played soccer. She played for her high school but achieved more success during her six years on a club team. Nelson met her best friend and current roommate, Andrea Sievers, through the club team.

"Off the field, Jill is a happy and social person. On the field, she's more serious and competitive," said Sievers, a liberal studies junior.

Nelson plays forward or center midfielder for Cal Poly. She was recruited after spending a year at the University of Nebraska. Nebraska was ranked fifth in the nation but Nelson decided the school was not for her.

"The coach was very demanding and I wanted to have more fun in college while playing soccer. I was also very homesick," she said.

Nelson still visits the friends she met at Nebraska, but does not regret leaving. Her brother Sean was attending Cal Poly at the time and Sievers was playing for the soccer team, so she knew she'd feel at home here. Coach Alex Crozier has also made Nelson happy to be at Cal Poly. She said he knows how to make the game fun.

Crozier is easily happy to have Nelson.

"She's someone that gives everything she has every minute of the game," Crozier said. "She's aggressive but very skillful."

— Alex Crozier
head soccer coach

I'll play well," she said.

Junior Andrea Sievers is fairly confident the team will come out hard, especially in the first five minutes.

"We need to work them," said Crozier. Head coach Alex Crozier feels good about the team's chances to win. He said some players were injured and sick, but they have recovered and the team should be re-focused after the first round of midterms.

Crozier said that if the players go in too relaxed it could cause trouble.

"We need to work them," said Crozier. Junior Andrea Sievers is fairly confident the team could win both games.

"We'll play well, we are the better team," said Sievers. Her only worry is the team might not come out as hard as they should.

Teammate Jill Nelson agreed the team needs to come out hard, especially in the first five minutes.

On Sunday the Mustangs will face their second challenge taking on Long Beach State. Cal Poly has never played the 49ers, a team in their first season.

According to Nelson, it is crucial for the Mustangs to play well from the start because they don't know what to expect.

Both Sievers and Nelson agreed Friday's game against UOP will be the most difficult.

According to Nelson, the game against Pacific will be intense and physical because both teams have a chance at reaching the playoffs.

The battle for the playoffs goes back to 1993 when Cal Poly ended the season 15-3-1 and was the NCAA Division II runner-up.

In 1994, with a record of 14-3-2, and in 1995, at 15-3-1, the team did very well but the schedules were too weak to get them to the post-season.

In 1996, the Mustangs were the first Cal Poly team to win a Big West Tournament, but because the Big West didn't get an automatic bid, the Mustangs were not selected to the NCAA.

Last year they were in first place going into the Big West Tournament but lost the championship game to the UC Irvine in quadruple overtime. The loss prompted the NCAA to choose Irvine over the Mustangs for a trip to the playoffs.

This year, according to Sievers, whoever ranks first in Big West play earns an automatic bid to the playoffs. But even if the Mustangs can't get in that way, the tournament will include more teams this year, so they could still have a chance with a wild-card bid.

Nelson is sure the team can do it.

"Hopefully everyone will stand out and play with their heart," said Nelson.

Women's soccer pushes for tournament berth

By Trisha Thorn
Mustang Daily

The Cal Poly women's soccer team is just four crucial games away from the Big West Tournament. The Mustangs face their first challenger today when they play University of the Pacific.

Head coach Alex Crozier feels good about the team's chances to win. He said some players were injured and sick, but they have recovered and the team should be re-focused after the first round of midterms.

Crozier said that if the players go in too relaxed it could cause trouble.

"We need to work them," said Crozier. Junior Andrea Sievers is fairly confident the team could win both games.

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"Hopefully everyone will stand out and play with their heart," said Nelson.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE: Cal Poly junior midfielder Jill Nelson leads the women's soccer in team assists with five. She also has scored four goals.

Steve Schueneman/ Mustang Daily
Hathaway blossoms as a team leader

By Jose Garcia
Mustang Daily

Hathaway's volleyball player Melanie Hathaway gets her strength from a higher spirit — God.

The F378 outside hitter feels her connection with God has helped her become one of the best players in the Big West conference, which is considered one of best in the nation.

Before each match head coach Steve Schlick diligently prepares his team by telling them to envision successful plays. Hathaway said the not only pictures more kills, but calls upon her own source of power. "I pray to God for strength before every game," said Hathaway. "I always pray and we mould doing things. I ask God for the strength to get me and the whole team through the matches."

Hathaway was highly sought after while playing at Santa Maria High School. She was a starter on the varsity volleyball squad all four years and also lettered in track and field. The graphic design major was also a 1996 Volleyball Magazine high school "Fab 50" national selection. In addition to Cal Poly, she was recruited by Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount.

"In my mind which college she wanted to attend to further her volleyball career. "I'm pretty much a hometown girl" said Jose Luis Obispo and Cal Poly was by far the best school for me," said Hathaway. Hathaway, the only jumper server on the team, has a lot of family support tailing behind her during games. Since her family only lives 30 miles away it is not rare to see the Hathaway clan of uncles, aunts, and even cousins come out to the games.

"Another reason why I decided to come here was because the (Cal Poly) players I met on my recruiting trip were so nice," said Hathaway.

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Enjoy student housing/rental/vacation multiple uses!

The Mustang volleyball squad has out to roch the NCAA tournament this decade even though Mustang teams were dominating in the Nineties. In 1985 Cal Poly was ranked No. 1 in the nation. The nine-year hiatus of reaching post-season play might be coming to an end this year. Currently, the Mustangs are ranked 15th in the latest USA Today/AVCA poll. Three of the four losses the Mustangs have suffered this season have come against top ten opponents. Hathaway, who is currently leading her team with 3.5 kills per game, is on a squad loaded with offensive weapons. She sees only one obstacle in the way of being considered a top team again. "If I really do think it's all a mental thing right now," she said.

"I don't believe in saving anything, I think you do it in the game. That's what makes you better, it's in the games."

Hathaway hopes to one day play professionally in Europe.

Volleyball sets sight on the NCAA Tournament

By Jose Garcia
Mustang Daily

With seven games remaining in the regular season, the women's volleyball team is gearing up for a potential spot in the 64-team NCAA tournament field.

During the Nineties, Mustang teams advanced to the tournament every year and were ranked No. 1 in the nation in 1984 and 1985. Cal Poly is struggling through a NCAA post-season drought.

Plans of work remains to be done this season if the Mustangs want to make it into the post-season. The team will need to elevate our name in the area of scoring to make the most of opponents and Rig West Competition. The team will be on the road once again until Oct. 31 when the Mustangs are scheduled to play at Montana State against Boise State.

The Mustangs face University of Nevada in Reno tonight. The Wolf Pack are currently leading the Eastern Division of the Big West with a 16-3, 3-2 overall record and are led by freshman hitter Suzanne Stonebarger. The first-year spiker is averaging 3.8 kills a game and has a total of 272.
Cal Poly racing towards the top

By Kristin Dohse

Mustang Daily

The 1998 Cross Country Men’s and Women’s teams look very promising this season, according to Head Coach Terry Crawford. At the Cal Poly Invitational last Saturday, the men finished first and the women finished third. The Cal Poly Invitational was held at the Fairbanks Cross Country Course across from Cuesta College on Highway 1.

According to Crawford, this season’s team is one of the best she has seen since she began coaching here seven years ago. “Because this team is young, I am very pleased with their performance so far, and I’m optimistic both for the rest of the season and for the coming years,” Crawford said.

Crawford said the Cuesta course is one of the most rugged her teams will run and she is pleased the teams did so well.

Sean Phillips, engineering sopho-

see RUN, page 10

Complex breaks ground

Cal Poly athletics honors donors at ceremony Friday

Mustang Daily

Groundbreaking for Cal Poly’s long-awaited Sports Complex will begin Friday.

A 2 p.m. ceremony will be held at the Sports Complex site to honor San Diego Chargers owner Alex Spanos and 14 other donors who contributed to the $9 million project. Spanos this week donated $100,000. The athletic department raised more than $3.37 million through pledges and a large donation from Pepsi.

Construction on the complex began this fall with the removal of the sheep units and the rodeo arena. The final vision of the 38-acre Sports Complex includes six fields for student and athletic department use and separate baseball and softball stadiums.

“I believe a modern athletic plant is vital in providing a well-rounded education for Cal Poly students now and into the future,” Spanos said in a statement.

Spanos, a student at Cal Poly in the 1940s, was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 1974.

The project, three years in the making, is finally under way despite some roadblocks. The city of San Luis Obispo pulled out of negotiations at the same time as Cal Poly alumni and former St. Louis Cardinal baseball player Ozzie Smith withdrew his support. Then a $1.4 million contractor’s overestimate during the summer led to confusion over the actual cost of the project.

This fall, however, Athletic Director John McCarthou said the complex could be completed for $9 million, a sum to which stu-

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1998 Numerical Roster

1. Tony Henry WR Jr.
2. David Kellogg WR Jr.
3. Chris Jones WR Jr.
5. Kasun Douglas WR Fr.
6. Antonio Warren RB Sr.
7. Kasey Murphy WR Fr.
8. Kurt Rubin DB Fr.
9. Dave Woods DB DB.
10. Andy Johnson QB Jr.
11. Kevin Behnke LB Sr.
12. N. J. Johnson QB Fr.
13. Chris Cremer QB Fr.
14. Chad Henry QB Sr.
15. Dennis Johnson WR Jr.
16. Ben Winter WR Sr.
17. Robby Runzleswicht QB Jr.
18. Craig Young RB Jr.
19. Ed Winn DB Sr.
20. Harry Hadley DB Sr.
21. Amero Ross DB Fr.
22. Mike Chevis DB Fr.
23. Vicente Guerra DB Sr.
24. Kris Rendol DB Fr.
25. Mike Davies DB Fr.
26. Matt Backe K/P Sr.
27. Kiko Griffin DB Jr.
28. Brett Baker DB Fr.
29. Frank Sibley DB Fr.
30. Drew Ecklund DB Fr.
31. Kevin Tesata DB Fr.
32. Isaac Dixon LB Fr.
33. Jason Sturr LB Fr.
34. Kanani Calvin LB So.
35. Brian Willen LB Jr.
37. John Williams LB Jr.
38. Christian Powers LB Fr.
41. Odulade Oluco LB Jr.
42. Ron Cooper DB Fr.
43. Mike Toosaint DB Fr.
44. Joe Martinez LB Fr.
45. Marc Tognazzini LB So.
46. Ryan Harker LB Fr.
47. Rase Field DL Sr.
48. John Loud C Fr.
49. Nathaniel Lones OL Fr.
50. Tim Collins OL Fr.
51. Jeff Filliponi OL Sr.
52. Russell Hall C Fr.
53. Delan Craft OT Jr.
54. Todd Garvey LB Sr.
55. Eric Rhoads OL So.
56. Andrew Jones OL Fr.
57. Josh Poduska OL Fr.
58. Far Bella OL Sr.
59. Matt Merritt DL Fr.
60. Craig Knowles DL Fr.
61. Sunny Smart OL Fr.
63. Sal Rivers K So.
64. Kris Vicks OL Jr.
65. Diane Smith DL Fr.
66. Steve Prejam DL So.
67. Ron Neithorp OL Fr.
68. Ryan Pittman OL Fr.
69. Scott Hargett OL Sr.
70. Brad Muns OL Fr.
71. Tim Trusman OL Fr.
72. Chad McEwan OL Jr.
73. David Jenod OL Fr.
74. Gary Parker TE So.
75. Ryan McGarty WB Fr.
76. Adam Harding WR Fr.
77. Jeremy Lee TE Fr.
78. Russ Ravens FB Fr.
79. Orion Lattin WR Fr.
80. Emmanuel Patermack TE Fr.
81. Kevin LeCroix WR Jr.
82. Keith Hargett TE Sr.
84. Brave McEarl LB So.
85. Jason Roberts DL Fr.
86. Darren Ross DL Fr.
87. Andy Sverchek DL Sr.
88. Juan Gonzalez DL Fr.
89. Henry Brown DL Fr.
90. Pat Taylor DL Jr.
91. Billy Bolz DL Fr.
92. Garrett Ford DL Fr.

BRING IT ON: Senior defensive lineman Andy Sverchek (No. 94) gets ready to rush the Davis quarterback.

Athlete excels in two sports

By Louise Attard
Mustang Daily

Andy Sverchek remembers himself as a young boy when his uncle played football for the Minnesota Vikings. After one of his uncle's games, Sverchek saw a picture of him making a tackle in a Minnesota newspaper.

"I was pretty impressed because we watched those guys on TV," Sverchek said. "They're just these great football players and all of the sudden someone you know is doing it too."

Not much later, Sverchek started making his own football history as a defensive lineman for the Cal Poly football team. Sverchek, a biology senior, started playing football for Cal Poly his freshman year hoping to make his track history as a Mustang.

"I kind of looked up to both of them," he said. "Because they played, they gave me the ambition to try it."

Sverchek is a team player. He can run the 40-yard dash in 4.75 seconds and is known for his speed and strength. Not only does Sverchek excel in football, but he also stands out in track and field.

In 1996, Sverchek set Cal Poly's discus record, throwing 178 feet and four inches. That same year he also competed in the NCAA championships, placing 18th in the shot put.

"Sverchek said when the football season ends he will start season for the shot put and discuss. Sverchek couldn't decide which sport to take up in college so he chose both. As for which sport he prefers, he said they each offer him something different.

"I like them both that's why I do both sports," Sverchek said. "I'd have to say football is sometimes more fun because you get the whole team experience and all your friends are on the team. But track and field is a little more gratifying. When you win a track meet it's all because of you. There's no team that helped you do that."

Sverchek may be achieving individual goals in track and field, but on the football field winning is a team effort.

"I'd rather have no stats and win the game than be the hero of the game," he said. "I like the people that work hard. They don't have to dance around in the end zone when they've made a touchdown."

His personality on the field reflects his team-player image.

"I'm not a real big trash talker," he said. "Some people try to talk to you and intimidate you. I try to lead by example. If I play hard and play well then other guys on the team see that and it makes them play good too.

Off the field, Sverchek said you wouldn't know he played football.

"I'm usually a pretty laid back type of guy," he said. "Some people are surprised when I say I play defensive line because I'm a nice guy. I'm not real aggressive.

see SVERCHEK, page 8

Coach stays optimistic

Welsh tries to get his team back to last year's form when the Mustangs were 10-1

By Jen Stevenson
Mustang Daily

Despite a disappointing season so far this year, head football coach Larry Welsh forged ahead, pushing his team to work harder toward their goals and finish the season well.

In his first college head coaching position, Welsh amazed everyone last year by guiding the Mustangs to a 10-1 record and into a first-ever Top-20 national ranking. With a reputation as one of the most successful scholastic coaches in Calif., Welsh brought this expertise to Cal Poly to fill the shoes of departing head coach Andre Patterson.

Welsh doesn't seem overly concerned about the team's less-than-desirable 3-5 record this year. He attributes the disappointing statistics to several factors.

The loss of Kamil Loud and Alli Abrew, immediately

see WELSH, page 10
Mustangs plan to stop opponents’ Gray

By Jose Garcia
Mustang Daily

Despite the football team’s 1-5 record — Cal Poly’s worst start since 1967 — head coach Larry Welsh remains positive as his team heads into Saturday’s Homecoming game against Western New Mexico.

“Right now we’d like to start something for the next year, right here at Homecoming,” Welsh said.

Western New Mexico, an independent Division II team, also comes into today’s game limping with a 1-4 record. Cal Poly won at home last year in the first encounter between the two teams, 24-14. Former Cal Poly quarterback Alli Ahrem threw three touchdown passes to Mustang receiver Ben Winter in the victory. Winter’s three touchdown receptions tied a school record for most touchdowns in a game.

In Saturday’s meeting both teams will rely on the running game. Cal Poly is averaging 243 yards rushing per game and will play against a defense that has been allowing 224 yards a game.

NFL scouts will be keeping a close eye on Western New Mexico’s 6-foot-1, 230-pound running back Anthony Gray. Gray led the nation last season with a Division II record 2,220 rushing yards in 10 games.

Last season Cal Poly defense held Gray to only 136 yards, his third-lowest rushing total.

Gray is hot in the eyes of the NFL scouts. Cal Poly alumnus and San Diego Charger Manager, Bobby Beathard, will be at Saturday’s game scouting Gray, Welsh said.

ON THE RUN: Ryan Pittman creates the hole for fullback Keith Washington to carry the ball.

“I don’t think we’ve had a practice this season without an NFL scout looking at Anthony,” said Western New Mexico head coach Land Jacobsen. Currently, Gray is averaging 108 yards against defenses that are keying in on him. He also leads the team in almost every receiving category for a team that only averages 156 yards through the air.

“We just want to shut down their running back and not allow (Gray) any touchdowns. We have the personnel to do it, we just have to come together. Our D-line can dominate anybody up front,” said Cal Poly defensive lineman J.J. Janasjala.

Everyone on the football team has one word to see FOOTBALL, page 10

Henry brothers connect on offense

By Joe Nolan
Mustang Daily

Tre Henry is a spark plug. The 5-foot-9 junior wide receiver stands out as he laughs at one of his jokes. He can’t stand still and is always thinking of his next clever remark.

His older brother, Chad Henry, stands in the background — despite towering over his little brother at 6-foot-3. The senior quarterback blends in with the rest of the team as he listens attentively to his coach.

While their personalities are “polar opposites,” according to Troy Henry, it may be the reason they get along so well.

“Sometimes I’ll be up right in the huddle and Troy will feel that,” Chad Henry said. “He’s usually good for a joke or two and it’ll get me back on track.”

It works both ways for the brothers when it comes to helping each other out.

“Chad helped me a lot this summer when I was learning to play receiver,” said Troy Henry, a former runningback. “He knows a lot more than I do and helped me develop the receiver I am now.”

Chad Henry has also helped his brother off the field.

“Chad’s always acting like a dad to me,” Troy Henry said. “He’s very level-headed. I’ll say something and he’ll say, ‘Are you sure you want to do that?’ He’s always looking out for me.”

Chad Henry said he’s been looking out for his brother as long as he can remember.

“Although we’re only 11 months apart, our mom has always babied Troy,” Chad Henry said. “I had to learn to cook and do laundry when I was younger. Troy only learned how to do that stuff once he came to college. Sometimes mom will call me up and say, ‘How’s Troy? Are you taking care of him?’ and I say, ‘Mom, what about me?’ But, I know it’s just because I’ve always taken care of him.”

While Troy Henry praises his brother for his intelligence and compose, his brother isn’t sure if it’s always beneficial.

“Because he’s so impulsive and so full of energy, he has a lot more freedom than I do,” Chad Henry said. “Sometimes I know I miss out on things because I think them through to much.”

While the brothers approach most situations differently, they do share a desire to win. They were both on the sideline last season when the Mustangs went 10-1 and would love to turn this season (1-5) around.

‘It sucks to win and not play, and it sucks to play and lose,” Troy Henry said. “I want to be out there on the field and win some games.”

Chad Henry agreed with his brother, but said he’s still managed to enjoy this season.

“It’s always better winning, but when you can share your time with your brother it’s a plus to share this time with my brother.”

The quarterback has shared more than just the experience with his brother. He also completed his first pass to Troy Henry before he caught that pass.

While this is the first season they’ve played together at Cal Poly, it’s not a new experience for them. They played together at Encina High School in Sacramento. They said their parents get very excited when they watch them play.

Chad Henry said, “I know this is a great thrill for them. They were really excited the first time they heard, ‘Henry to Henry’ over the PA system.”

Troy Henry said he heard, “Henry to Henry” before he caught that pass.

When I came here on my recruiting trip, (former head coach Andre) Patterson kept telling me, ‘It’s going to be Henry to Henry, brother to brother.’

But, that’s not what convinced Troy Henry to join his brother. He said he wanted to go to USC or Sacramento State, but his mom really wanted him to go to Cal Poly. He said he went on the recruiting trip and decided to join his brother. Chad Henry said he didn’t want to force his brother into the

“Chad Henry accepted my offer to join his brother. He was more than happy to play for Cal Poly.”

— Chad Henry
Mustang quarterback

GON’ DEEP: Quarterback Chad Henry throws downfield looking for his receiver — brother Troy Henry. Chad Henry’s first completion and last three touchdowns have gone to his brother.

“Chad Henry accepted my offer to join his brother. He was more than happy to play for Cal Poly.”

— Chad Henry
Mustang quarterback
HENRY
continued from page 7

decision.
"The first thing I told Troy was to keep his options open. I didn't want him to come here because of me," Chad Henry said.

One of the main reasons both of them chose Cal Poly was its academic reputation.
"Academics is huge in our family," Chad Henry said. "College is not an option; it's an expectation." They both have a GPA above 3.0.

The quarterback's major is finance while the speedy receiver's major is speech communication.

They both have career goals that don't include football. Chad Henry wants to work with children. He said he's been leaning toward teaching or coaching, but said whatever he chooses will be to help children.

Troy Henry said he knows the area he'll be working in.
"I was put on this Earth to make people smile," he said. "I want to do something in entertainment - movies or music - it doesn't matter. I just want to entertain."

Whatever direction the two go in, they will surely stay close.
"I'm not sure where I'll be next year," Chad Henry said. "But, I'll be back every weekend to watch him play. I'm his biggest fan."

SVERCHEK
continued from page 6

Head Coach Larry Welsh said Sverchek is an asset to the team and will be greatly missed at the end of the season.

"He's an outstanding player, a great young man and a quiet leader," Welsh said. "He doesn't say a whole lot so when he does everyone comes to listen. He's a team player."

Sverchek said one of his best moments happened last season when the Mustangs beat New Mexico State, a division IA team, on a field goal in overtime.

"When I saw the kick go through it was just unbelievable," he said. Sverchek was blocking on the field goal try.
"I didn't really do that much on that play, but I was just happy for our team," he said. "It was probably one of the biggest wins we ever had."

During the season, a typical week for Sverchek involves going to class all day, training in the evening and playing on the weekend. The Mustangs train for 2 1/2 hours a day from Monday through Thursday with a short practice on Friday. In addition, Sverchek lifts weights twice a week.

"Oh yeah! He always tells me you need to do this or that...but it's mostly encouraging stuff," he said.

While Sverchek said he is pleased with his performance this year, he was disappointed when the Mustangs lost their last home game to UC Davis.

"I think I just had a bad day," he said. "Usually after a game all I think about was all the things I did wrong. Once we watch the film of the game, I say, 'Well, I didn't do so bad.'"

Sverchek would love the opportunity to play professionally. But for now, it isn't his ultimate goal.
"I certainly want to finish my degree but it would be great if I had the chance to play professional football," he said. "I've talked to a couple of scouts, and coaches have told me that I have that kind of potential. But it's not really something I've got my heart set on. I'm going to work as hard as I can and if that happens, great."

Sverchek grew up in the Central Coast and played football at San Luis Obispo High School, where he was named defensive lineman of the year his senior year. In track, he earned three letters and won the league championship in shot put and discus. Sverchek's family is very supportive of him on the Cal Poly football team.

"Dad goes to pretty much all the games during the season," he said. After a game, his father gives him advice and tips.
"Oh yeah! He always tells me you need to do this or that...but it's mostly encouraging stuff," he said.

Sverchek is dedicated to the game and nothing is going to stop him from helping his team win.
"I've strained an ankle once and been sick a couple of times but never been injured enough to stay out of a game," he said.
### Football Statistics

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FOOTBALL continued from page 7

describe this season: consistency and the lack of it. The team, according to starting comeback Kiko Griffin, has yet to put a complete game together. The lack of consistent play is evident in the way the team plays defense and offense in each half.

Cal Poly’s offense has failed to score a single point in the first quarters of this year’s games. The offense has scored 37 points in the second quarter, and in the second half the team has a total of 57 points. Defensively, the Mustangs have been hurt by big plays in the first half as the opponents have scored 89 points.

"If we were more consistent our win-loss record would be a lot different," said first-year defensive back J.D. Williams. "Every game you see sparks of greatness in some, and then the next play you may see the opposite. We’ve got some great talent, it’s just a matter of getting everything together."

Cal Poly runningbacks Craig Young (560 total yards) and Antonio Warren (522 total yards) are leading the offense, while Oshadiko Onofo leads the defense with 66 total tackles.

FOOTBALL

Continued from page 6

The Mustangs have a 10-1 record to the team’s abilities and also to a little bit of luck.

"It was just a good melt last season," he said. "To be honest, I think we had a weaker schedule but we did play and beat some very good football teams. It doesn’t hurt to have a little luck too."

This year we don’t have any." Welsh said his goal on the field is to make better players. "I like to ask the kids after practice, ‘Did you learn today?’," Welsh said. His philosophy regarding his relationship with his players is that he isn’t there to be their best friend, but to improve them. Translation: he’s tough.

"I think I’ve been taken a little out of concept as a coach," he said. "Because I’ve always said you don’t need an 18 to 21-year-old kid for your best player. They have to respect you for what they learned and for becoming a better player."

"I want to know how players feel about me after the long run," Welsh said.

The athletic department feels great about Welsh, according to John McCurcheon, athletic director at Cal Poly.

Journalsm sophomore, Adam Boothe has also been running consistently. Boothe finished first overall at the season opener at UCSC, and was Cal Poly’s top finisher at both the second UCSC meet and the University of California, Irvine Invitational.

The men’s team finished first at both UCSC meets and the Cal Poly Invitational, third at the Fresno and Stanfard Invitational and fourth at UC Irvine.

The women have also done well, finishing second at the UCSC season opener, 12th at UC Irvine, ninth at Fresno, third at the second UCSC meet, 14th at Stanford, and third at Cal Poly’s meet.

WELSH continued from page 6

are injuries, and a tough schedule all took their toll on the Mustangs, Welsh said.

Welsh feels the team just doesn’t have the right mix of offense and defense yet, but is hopeful for the rest of the season. "I still believe we have a good team," Welsh said confidently. "When you are losing, you do some of your best work. You’re working hard to get better."

Welsh always wants to feel he has a good strategy and be able to prepare the players for the game plan that the players understand. "I never want the kids to get beat because I didn’t cover all the bases," he said.

"I try to make sure there are no alibis," he added. Welsh feels very strongly that football is not just a game of physical power, but stresses the role of mental strength plays. "I believe you have to adjust to his new surroundings."

However, he never felt intimidated by his new program, student body, fans, and alumni, whom he said have been extremely supportive of Cal Poly football. He hopes to have a great future at the university.

"I’d love to stay here," Welsh said. "I’ve recruited an outstanding class and I’m here to grow with the program. My whole concern is that our team grows and I want to be a part of the whole growth."

He speaks modestly of his successes last year in his first season at Cal Poly, attributing the teams 10-1 record to the team’s abilities and also to a little bit of luck.

"It was just a good melt last season," he said. "To be honest, I think we had a weaker schedule but we did play and beat some very good football teams. It doesn’t hurt to have a little luck too."

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The athletic department feels great about Welsh, according to John McCurcheon, athletic director at Cal Poly.

"Because this team is young, I am very pleased with their performance so far, and I’m optimistic both for the rest of the season and for the coming years."

— Terry Crawford cross country head coach

THE KIDS KEEP YOU YOUNG, YOU ALWAYS KNOW THE LATEST JARGON AND GET AN UNDERSTANDING OF ALL THE JOKES. I NEVER WOULD HAVE LEARNED HOW TO SAY ‘MY BAD,’ WITHOUT COACHING.

— Larry Welsh head football coach

The Stanford Invitational was great for us because we tied our conference record, broke State, and placed third among some really tough teams." Phillips said. "We’ve shown a lot of improvement from last season because we spent the entire summer training together."

According to Crawford, the potential in the women’s team lies in the youth of its top runners. The top female runner so far this season is biology freshman Alison Millhollen.

Millhollen has had a consistent season finishing second overall at the first meet at UCSC. At the second UCSC meet, Millhollen finished third overall, coming in first for Cal Poly. Millhollen also finished first for Cal Poly at the Stanford Invitational. At the Cal Poly Invitational, Millhollen again was Cal Poly’s top women’s runner placing eighth overall.

"We have been working on staying together in groups, called pack-running," said Millhollen. "It keeps everyone together and helps us finish better overall."

Millhollen and Phillips are not the team’s only outstanding runners.
Soccer battles league powers

By Trisha Thorn

In soccer, the road is a tough one to travel. Mustangs' head soccer coach Steven Junge is hoping that will work to Cal Poly's advantage when the teams go up against UC Berkeley and Stanford this weekend.

Cal Poly (6-4-2) will face Cal Friday and Stanford on Sunday at Mustang Stadium. According to Newton, every game is significant on the road to championships, and coming off last Friday's disappointing tie with the University of Denver, these two games are even more important.

According to Junge, Cal and Stanford are both highly regarded teams. "If you look up 'excellence' in the encyclopedia, there is a picture of Stanford," Junge said. "In academics, in athletics—you've got to have respect for a program like that."

"Stanford has a knowledgeable coach who has been around," Gartner said. He also said that the team, who is 10-3-3, is extremely fit.

Cal has a good reputation as well, Gartner said. "They have always been in the forefront athletically."

Gartner also said that Cal's record of 5-7 is more a reflection of their schedule than their ability. They have played more away games which, according to Gartner leaves them at a disadvantage.

Sophomore midfielder James Newton agrees. Newton has played soccer with many of the players on Cal's team and said they are better players than their record shows. "They have a hard schedule like us," Newton said. "And even though their record might not show it, they play good soccer. They just haven't come up big like us. Friday is a kick as is Saturday," he said.

Gartner expects Cal Poly to win these games, especially with the home-field advantage. Newton added that Stanford may have difficulty playing in Mustang Stadium. "Mustang Stadium is not conducive to the kind of soccer Stanford is used to playing and they may have to alter their game," Newton said.

According to Newton, the field is shorter and not as wide, and it is paved and bumpy. Newton also said that after the Homecoming game on Saturday, the field may be even more torn up which would hopefully work to Cal Poly's advantage. "The home field is a crucial element," Gartner said. "We actually can compete and expect to beat these schools and have no inferiority complex. If they show they can beat us here, they deserve it."

Freshman Eli McGarva agreed Cal Poly has the skills to beat these teams, but only if they have their heads in the game. According to Gartner the team needs to be careful on offense. "We have always gone ahead, especially at home," Gartner said. "There is a danger of counter attacks when you attack too enthusiastically. It can backfire."

For Cal Poly, who according to Gartner could possibly reach the NCAA championships if they keep winning, this is an exciting time to achieve something. "It best suits my physique," he said.

When Junge graduates, he hopes to play soccer professionally. "If the opportunity arises, I would love to play soccer for money," he said.

Although Junge doesn't want to count on it, he said he is probably going to take a year off after he graduates to try and make it somewhere.

"It best suits my physique," he said. "And on top of that he's a good student." Junge attended high school in Lake Forest, Calif., where he played football, basketball, and baseball. He was also involved in club soccer since he was 13 years old, although he never did play soccer for his high school. "I've been playing ever since I could stand up," he said. He got involved with the American Youth Soccer Organization when he was five years old and has been playing with a team ever since. He hasn't always been a goalkeepe:er. He played every position up until he was 11 and found he liked being a goalie the best. "It best suits my physique," he said.

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PUSH AND SHOVE: PJ Woolridge battles with an opponent for the ball.
Goalie leads Mustangs to playoffs

By Heather Hershman
Mustang Daily

Active in a variety of sports ranging from surfing to skiing, Brenton Junge is not only a winning goalkeeper for the Cal Poly men's soccer team, he's also a well-rounded athlete.

"I play pretty much anything to stay active," he said. Junge is 6'4" and 205 pounds and starting as a redshirt freshman.

This season, the soccer team lost its goalkeeper of four years, GregConnell, but Junge said so far everything is going well.

"They [Junge and Connell] are both good goalkeepers," said head coach Wolfgang Gartner. "Brenton is taller and better at coming out of the goal."

Junge values the time he had to learn from Connell.

"I had a year to adjust," he said. "If I just started last year it would have been overwhelming."

Gartner saw Junge fitting nicely into Connell's shoes.

"He looks like a potential four-year starter," he said.

Even his teammates are very happy with his performance so far.

"He's a great goalie," said Rodrigo Costa, kinesiology sophomore and teammate of Junge. "He's made some unbelievable saves."

"He does some pretty incredible things both during practice and games," he said. "I like the competition of trying to score on him during practice. It's a great challenge."

Even though Junge is a skilled goalkeeper, he's grateful for the team's defense because they often make his job easier.

"We have a really good defense so sometimes I don't have to do much," he said.

Junge was recruited for both soccer and football by nearly ten universities. He chose Cal Poly because he liked its size and its location.

"It's far enough away from home, but not too far," he said.

He loved the school and the small-town atmosphere. "It's exactly what I was looking for in a school," he said.

Junge was recruited a lot more for football than soccer, and he almost decided to play football instead.

"He's a great athlete," said Billy Benda, business sophomore and roommate of Junge.

"I've always wanted to play soccer in college," Junge said. "But there's a lot more money in football."

Junge is currently on a partial scholarship. Due to the team's poor funding no one gets a full scholarship, he said.

"People that come here don't come for the money," he said. "They come because they love to play soccer and they want a good education."

"I feel like I'm working my way through college, but I'm doing what I want to do," he said.

According to Junge, all of the players get along really well. He said they are friends both on and off the field.

see GOALIE, page 11