Taking responsibility
We are adults — we decide how to act despite the police
Opinion, page 5

Swimming sinks
Strong as individuals, Mustangs fall as a team
Sports, back page

Recruiting for future
Softball, women's basketball sign on new Mustang players
Sports, back page

Police arrest suspect in SLO killing

Roommate Blaine Richardson turns himself in at Police station Sunday
By Louise Attard
Mustang Daily

Blaine Richardson was arrested Sunday evening after he turned himself in at the San Luis Obispo Police Department for the murder of Richard Wall. Wall, 44, was found dead in his San Luis Towers apartment Nov. 18 from multiple stab wounds.

Richardson notified investigators that he was to meet them at the San Luis Obispo Police Department.

Police Capt. Clff Chequeta said Richardson, 22, was interviewed by police and is now being held in the San Luis Obispo County Jail as a second suspect for the murder. The police could not give any information as to what Richardson had told them.

"We believe he was part of the homicide," Chequeta said. Chequeta believes both Richardson and Allan Kness, a local transient, worked together in the homicide.

Kness was arrested for suspected murder Nov. 19 after an anonymous telephone tip. Both are being treated as suspects.

Kness is also being held in the County Jail in a separate case. See SUSPECT, page 2.

Seeking a safe ride home

Students can easily get back from a party or a bar without driving home
By Jen Stevenson
Mustang Daily

If a student is drunk or needs a ride after hours in San Luis Obispo — whether on campus, downtown, at a friend's house or in a party in a strange neighborhood — a safe ride is just a phone call away.

Mark Shaffer, founder of Ride-On Transportation, smiles from his van Monday in downtown San Luis Obispo. Cal Poly students came up with the idea of a late-night cab service in town on New Year's Eve 1994.

"Even if she didn't have two dollars, no driver would have turned her away."

— Vicki Woodford
Ride-On employee

Search for Newhouse continues
By Alan Dunton
Mustang Daily

The San Luis Obispo Police Department conducted more searches for Rachel Newhouse in the San Luis Creek and in the neighborhoods surrounding the railroad station, but little new information is available.

Newhouse's uncle, Peter Morreale, a criminal defense attorney in Riverside County, said the family is happy with the manner in which law enforcement is handling the case. Morreale is currently acting as spokesman for the Newhouse family and has said he will update the "missing" web site, www.gra-cenote.com/Rachel, as soon as anything new about her is available. See SEARCH, page 2.

Understanding birth control goes unnoticed at Poly
By Lauren Nowenstein
Mustang Daily

Female students may not know they can prevent unwanted pregnancies by taking the so-called morning-after pill, according to Ann Gordon, director of San Luis Obispo's Planned Parenthood.

The emergency contraceptive pills are 95 percent effective in preventing unwanted pregnancy if taken within 24 hours.

"The emergency contraception pill is our nation's best kept secret," Gordon said. She cited research that estimates that if everyone had access to and was aware of the drug, the use of morning-after pills would drop by 67 percent. See BIRTH, page 3.

FDA-approved birth control goes unnoticed at Poly
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Female students may not know...
Many students do not purchase computers, Joyal said. "It will enable a lot more collaboration between students and faculty," Joyal said. Because NMU is a commuter school, Joyal said, laptops will allow students to do more work on campus instead of driving home to type. "The difference between prices in laptops and desktops is going to be very small," Joyal said. Michigan State University has a proposal on the table that will require entering first-year students to buy laptops. "The proposal does not say everyone has to have the same machine," said Paul Hunt, MSU's vice provost for libraries, computing and technology. "The proposal calls for all students matriculating beginning in 2001 to have a network compatible laptop." MSU students, Hunt said, will be responsible for buying the laptop.

Hunt said computing sites located on campus will not be eliminated. Many of the sites would be retained for science and other majors.

University of Michigan Chief Information Officer Jose-Marie Griffiths said the University has discussed making laptops a mandatory learning tool. But with more than 80 percent of students having access to their own computer, it would be an added burden on students, Griffiths said.

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BIRTH
continued from page 1
of emergency contraception pills could cure the rate of unintended pregnancy and abortion in half.
Melissa Hayes, a kinesiology junior and peer health advisor, said many students don't realize emergency con-
traceptives are available to them, and the drugs have been available for sev-
eral years.
"Many women don't know that they can't get pregnant because they made one mistake," Hayes said.
Gordon said Planned Parenthood does not refer to the drug as a "morning after pill," because the name may lead some patients to believe the drug will be used immediately after sexual intercourse.
While an emergency contraceptive pill is most effective when taken within 24 hours, it can be used up to 72 hours after an incident takes place which could result in unintended pregnancy.
"It's a good thing to have out there for women," Gordon said.
Gordon said the clinic has access to several varieties of the pills but that Overall is most commonly used because it has the least amount of side effects.
Overall is taken in two doses 12 hours apart from a total of four pills taken altogether. Gordon said Planned Parenthood prescribes the pills mainly to students and middle-aged women who have recently been pregnant.
"We probably get about five or six requests per week for it," Gordon said, adding that the drug is available with- out a scheduled appointment.
Gordon said people against the use of the drug may have moral opposition to it.
"Some protesters think it's a form of abortion, but it's not true," Gordon said.
Gordon said high doses of estrogen and progesterone in emergency con-
traceptive pills often prevent a woman's ovaries from releasing an egg. If the egg has already been released and fertilized, the drug pre-
vents the egg from attaching to the wall of the uterus. Gordon does not classify this as abortion.
Gordon said that without medical insurance, the pills and consultation from Planned Parenthood cost $32, but if a woman is unable to pay this amount, state funds can be used to subsidize the pill.
Andrea Brauning, a physician at Cal Poly's Health Center for 24 years, said emergency contraceptive mea-
sures have been available to students since she began working there.
Before the official Food and Drug Administration's approval of Overall and other emergency contraceptive pills, Brauning said pills intended for estrogen treatment were used to prevent unplanned pregnancy.
Brauning said that in studies Overall is shown to have no known damaging effects to the developing fetus if a woman who is already preg-
nant when she takes the drug.
The most commonly reported side effect to the drug is nausea in some women. Brauning warned that emergency contraceptive pills should not be used in place of birth control methods and should not be used on a regular basis. Hayes said some students might not realize the consequences of hav-
ing unprotected sex or skipping regu-
lar birth control pills.
"People don't realize that some things they do are risky and may lead to pregnancy," Hayes said.
Brauning said students most commonly request the drug after con-
doms fail, but the drug may also be prescribed to students who have had unprotected intercourse after missing three or four regular birth control pills. For so far this month, the Health Center has issued 20 prescriptions for emergency contraceptive pills.
"It seems a little high this month," Brauning said, adding that the Health Center usually sees 10 to 20 people requesting the pills.
"To get the drug at the Health Center, Brauning said students can sign into the Health Center on a walk-in basis or by making an appointment. They are usually referred to the advice nurse on duty or a nurse practitioner and then pre-
scribed the drug. For a registered Cal-
Poly student the prescription costs $9.85.
Brauning said women should know emergency contraceptive pills are available to them and may pre-
vent them from experiencing the dif-
culties and choices which come along with an unintended pregnancy.
The Family Medical Center also provides emergency contraception pills on a walk-in basis on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The center is also open on weekends and the cost of a consultation and prescription is $54.
The Economic Opportunity Commission and the Health Services Center also provides emergency contraception pills, but a student must be a patient already registered to the ser-
vice to receive them. Since registra-
tion usually takes two weeks, unregis-
tered patients are usually referred to
Planned Parenthood.
Students can find out the names and numbers of health care providers who prescribe emergency contracep-
tive drugs anywhere in the United States by calling 1-800-534-9911.
RIDE HOME
continued from page 1
home there's no way we're going to turn them away.
"We take in money out of an expensive night downtown at the bars, we don't call to find a ride. We know that while the compa-
y could not afford to provide the ser-
vice for free, a student would not be denied transportation and would be bailed.
Shaffer said the Safe-Ride service was founded on New Year's Eve 1994, when a group of Cal Poly students approached Ride-On regarding a pro-
gram for students who needed rides home after hours.
All the riders are not students, Shaffer said. The service is for anyone who needs a ride during operating hours.
"They don't have to be at a bar, and they don't have to be drunk," Shaffer said.
Cal Poly Commuter Services coordi-
nator Jacqueline Paulsen said it is very important people realize the service is not just for intoxicated riders.
"We are very carefully marketed from the beginning that it wasn't just for those who had been drinking," Paulsen said. "Anyone can use it, especially females. Instead of walking home, call for a ride. If they're on a date and it feels wrong and they are somewhere they don't want to be, they can get away and get a ride home."
Anyone needing transportation during Safe-Ride hours can dial 235-78AF to reach a driver. Drivers carry cell phones in their vehicles so they can be reached immediately.
Shaffer emphasized the safety of the program.
"All our drivers are fingerprinted and they are selected and scheduled," he said. "They carry a class B professional dri-
ver's license and they go through a minimum of 12 additional safety training hours a year."
Landscapes architecture senior Chelsea Lemvi said she used Safe-
Ride on Halloween this year.
She heard about the service from friends and had purchased the annual pass.
"I couldn't drive home so I called Safe-Ride," she said. "It took about ten minutes for them to come. The van was clean and the driver was real-
ly nice. I would use it again."
Paulsen said West Campus is a ride on day when Safe-Ride doesn't operate have an other option. Sharon Myers, an employee at Central Taxi, said the company takes about 100 calls a week from Cal Poly students.
"We get at least 50 calls at night a week," Myers said. "Mainly on
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights students can call during the designated hours and request a pick-
up.
"Most users are off campus," Montgomery said.
The van takes them anywhere they want to go within a half-mile radius, such as Mustang Village or Garfield-apartments.
"How the van service is available even if people just need a ride to their car, or back to the dorms, Montgomery said.
During the week, students can also take advantage of the free campus bus service. Routes 1 and 5 run until almost 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday evenings.
"Unlikely the company can provide-
ors with emergency services," Montgomery said, "such as if a stu-
dent has to work later than they expected, or they are working in a lab and all of a sudden they realize it's 2 a.m. But they can't provide that ser-
vice on a nightly basis."

Chancellor Reed to Participate in Faculty Open Forum
A faculty open forum with Chancellor Charles B. Reed will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 30, in the Theater.
Chancellor Reed will respond to questions submitted by the Academic Senate and to questions from the audience.
Tales from the indentured serving wench

I think food servers should be allowed to carry handguns. We, perhaps more than any other group, could effectively weed out the conspicuous penitential drags of society.

I alone wait on anywhere from 100 to 200 people a week. Most of my customers are polite, friendly and completely unworthy of a death sentence. However, there are a few who are rude, stingy, and obnoxious that I would feel completely justified in exiling their evil from the planet.

For example: On Saturday I waited on a group of 18 adults who ran me all over the restaurant and likewise ran their bill up to more than $150. Of course they wanted 18 separate checks, all of their meals were special orders, and they spoke to me as if I were their indentured serving wench.

After almost two hours of enduring their condescending demands, I was rewarded with a $17 tip — just slightly more than on their total bill. The customers claimed the food was delicious and the service they received was excellent, so why did they feel the need to make me cry with their final insult of a server in this manner. Still, I need to make sure every­

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Increase personal awareness

Editor:

This letter is in response to comments made at the Open Forum at Cal Poly on Nov. 19. The Forum was intended to discuss community members' concerns about missing Cal Poly student Rachel Newhouse.

During the gathering, an individual voiced her concern about personal safety and directly asked if there has been an increase in sexual assault incidents in San Luis Obispo. Our anxiety increased when Chief Mitchell from the Cal Poly Police Department responded by stating he had checked with "local sexual assault agencies" and as far as he knows the numbers are not true and there is nothing to worry about.

According to the Rape Crisis Center of San Luis Obispo County statistics, 10 sexual assaults have occurred and were reported to law enforcement so far this month. All 10 occurred during the eight days preceding Newhouse's disappearance. In addition, this particular week is recognized by Rape Crisis staff as the busiest week of the year thus far.

Furthermore, when addressing safety concerns it is important to acknowledge that assaults do occur where the perpetrator is unknown to the victim; however, 80% of all sexual assaults are perpetrated by someone the victim knows. Increasing personal awareness such as following your instincts, being aware of your environment, building awareness skills and learning physical self-defense can contribute to lowering your risk. Victims don't cause rape, raped do.

The following tips are things you can do to decrease the risk of getting assaulted by someone you know:

1. Listen to your gut feelings. If a situation doesn't feel right, get out of it.
2. Don't be afraid to make a scene, yell, or stand up for yourself.
3. Stay sober. You make poor decisions when drunk or loaded.
4. Don't allow yourself to become isolated with someone you don't trust or know well.
5. Learn and practice self-defense and assertive communication.
6. Take care of yourself. Don't assume others will.

Stacey Essenfeld, Carrie Kjellesvik and Sara Madrigal are Cal Poly student interns at the Rape Crisis Center of SLO County.

We are adults; it's time to act responsibly

Editor:

In response to all of those who wish to shift the blame from irresponsible behavior and onto the city police and the person responsible for Rachel Newhouse's disappearance, this is for you.

Police exist in this city to enforce the law as it is written by lawmakers. It is not, as Jon DeFerrari suggested in his column Nov. 25, to ensure citizen safety by providing education on safety and safe means for people to get from one place to another. Besides, law enforcement agencies all over the county, including Cal Poly police, have already united to provide free workshops designed to increase safety awareness in our community called "Scared Safe."

If we all go back in time to elementary classrooms run on safety from local police officers, school-wide assemblies in junior high and high school and no doubt numerous dinner table lectures from our parents, we will recall that we have had all the safety instruction we could ever need.

We are adults. It is not the job of local law enforcement to make us aware of the world we live in. We can read about our world in the newspaper and watch it on television everyday. But community policing and providing safe rides from law enforcement will not stop adults from continuing to make poor decisions.

The poor decision in Newhouse's case is the same poor decision on millions of college-age adults across America made every weekend. She drank enough alcohol to an unsecured area (think not in the safety of her own home) to impair her ability to think and make decisions rationally, and she was with a group of friends who were in no condition to aid her in making an intelligent decision.

Secondly, we cannot blame Newhouse's assailant because it does not further our goal to protect ourselves. Violent criminals like rapists and murderers are not like you and me, so don't give them any credit because that will only give them the power they were seeking when they committed the crime. We cannot change reality, and focusing on the assailant encourages people to believe Newhouse was just in the wrong place at the wrong time. This wrong place/wrong time theory allows us to continue believing such a crime could not happen to us. If we are ever to protect ourselves, we cannot factor criminals into the equation of effective self-preservation.

Newhouse and her friends chose to get drunk. She wanted to leave a situation that no one but Rachel got herself in to. She had numerous alternatives to get home safely such as calling a cab or Ride-on, which is a service offered by the community. Rachel made a choice and her drunkenness no doubt caused her to make this choice. She put herself in a situation to be victimized.

As Police Chief Thomas Mitchell said in a community forum last Thursday, 90 percent of all assaults occur to people who are alone. "Scared Safe" teaches two main things: how to avoid a potentially dangerous situation and how to respond appropriately to dangerous situations. Rachel walked right into a dangerous situation she was in no condition to appropriately respond to.

The problem is that young adults consistently make poor decisions. It is not coincidence that 16 to 24-year-olds (the youngest adults) are the nation's biggest drinkers. Nor is it any coincidence as young adults grow older they become more mature and wise. With this maturity, and college graduation, constant weekend drinking declines very rapidly.

The real problem is that the country we live in operates on a double standard. We live in a town where bars and parties are very prevalent. We are told from an early age how drinking can impair our judgment, but once we reach 18 to 24 and are not under our parent's giving eyes, we drink...excessively. It doesn't seem to matter what all the adults in our lives have told us up until this point, we are young and everybody drinks when they are young.

I assure you what happened to Rachel on Nov. 12 could have happened to another girl just this last weekend. I drove near the downtown area last weekend late at night, and not much has changed. People are still walking around under the influence...I even saw some people alone. Those of you who think police can stop assailants from taking advantage of situations where people have failed to take basic steps to protect themselves, are wrong. Police cannot be everywhere, nor is it their job to Act responsibly.

Kristin Dohse is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily.

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DAYTIME VILLAGE

MTV has created a free daytime festival experience of the musical kind and it's coming to your campus. Besides getting a sneak peak at the newest music videos, you can come on down and make your own music with the best DJ's in the biz, deeply involved in interactive music games, and try out for your favorite MTV shows.

Come Join at: U.U. Plaza from 10AM - 3PM

For more information on MTV's Campus Invasion check out MTV Online at www.mtv.com or keyword:MTV on AOL

Tuesday, November 24, 1998

OPINION
Broncos seek perfect game in midst of perfect season

DENVER (AP) — Records are falling, the Hall of Fame is repeated, and the Denver Broncos are going 4-0 but with "I don't think we've played as well as we can play," Denver defense end Greg Wills said Monday. "That day hopefully will come later in the year when we actually need to play our best game."

The Broncos (4-0) displayed some improvement from the team that were able to defeat Oakland 40-14 and surpise the 1992 San Francisco 49ers for the best start by a defending Super Bowl champion.

The Raiders were within six points in the fourth quarter before three interceptions led directly to three Denver touchdowns. The calm efficiency in the face of a challenge raised questions about whether the Broncos will lose any time soon.

"Everybody wants me to say how to beat the Broncos. I have no solution on how to beat the Broncos," Denver defensive end Neil Smith said. "We can't expect the Broncos not to be good. But I don't really think that's in anyone's mind, going back to San Diego (victims of last year's Super Bowl) underestimating us."

The same could be said for Denver's opponent. Quarterback John Elway reached 50,000 career yards passing Sunday; Jason Elam kicked a record-tying 63-yard field goal Oct. 25; and Terrell Davis became the third running back to rush for 1,000 yards in the season's first seven games. Elway has agreed to donate his $50,000-year contract with outfielder Brian Jordan (212) - the only team to finish a season undefeated.

"I don't know if anybody ever thought we'd be in this situation," Raiders' wide receiver Shannon Sharpe said. "Yeah, we knew we had a good football team and we'd have a chance to be somebody special, but I don't."

"That's one of those things that on the franchise, we want all the memories to Canton, and with a Super Bowl championship series, losing to San Diego in the final season of a $2.5 million, until the end of the draughts to the playoffs when we were 1-5. We're going to calm efficiency in the face of a challenge raised questions about whether the Broncos will lose any time soon.

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"That's one of those things that on the franchise, we want all the memories to Canton, and with a Super Bowl championship series, losing to San Diego in the final season of a $2.5 million, until the end of the draughts to the playoffs when we were 1-5. We're going to

Rice reflexes self-portrayal

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — It's not about the numbers. It's not about the catches. It's not about the records.

Jerry Rice said Monday that his frustrations, which continue to hold his holdout retarding this season, stem from the San Francisco 49ers' erratic offensive play and not a downturn in pass being thrown his way.

"If you're trying to say, guys, I'm not a selfish individual," Rice said. "I've always been a team player, but you guys made this into a situation where I'm seen as selfish. All I said is I want this offense to be running on all cylinders. If we can do that, I feel like we can win the entire thing."

"If you ask me if I'm having a good time, no. Is this something that might want to make you retire, hell yes. All I know is I'm not having a good time. Maybe it's time for me to move on."

"On Monday, Rice insisted his post-game remarks were blown out of proportion. He said he was "purely portrayed as a self-absorbed player and reporters ignored his main point, which was to call attention to San Francisco's sluggish starts in recent games.

"Why can't I be instilled? I'm a competitor," Rice said. "It has nothing to do with catches."

Stressless Thanksgiving Feast

Thanksgiving dinner is all about timing and perfect planning. Make the stuffing early and let it cool overnight. Stuff the bird, prepare the casserole, put the turkey in the oven, clean the house, set the table, take one item out of the oven and replace it with another, rotate and keep them warm, the stress. It's just part of the holidays right?

Attending to Vista Grande. This year, Vista Grande Restaurant wants to make the holiday a relaxing one. With their own line of the Thanksgiving buffet, the staff of preparing food can be replaced by the comfort of family and conversation. The buffet includes favorite dishes such as candied yams, cranberry sauce, cheese platter, apple/pear salad, cranberry muffins, corn muffins, assorted vegetables, pumpkin pie, carrot cake and of course the main course, roasted turkey, carved on the line and

The Vista Grande Restaurant is located on the Cal Poly campus. Parking on campus will not require a Cal Poly- issued parking pass and the parking lot is conveniently situated right across the street from the restaurant.

Vista Grande has been serving Thanksgiving buffet for over 20 years, making it sort of a staple.

So, for a plethora of food in irresistible varieties, Vista Grande Restaurant and the entire Vista Grande family wish you a Happy Thanksgiving. So put away that baking pan and those casserole dishes and call 756-1204 today for your reservations for a relaxing holiday with family.
Wrestling gets three recruits

Mustang Daily

Cal Poly has announced the signing of three high school student-athletes to wrestle for the Mustangs. The students, all from Hughson High School, signed letters of intent last Thursday.

Head wrestling coach Dennis Cowell said the recruits attend the same high school as Steve Strange, Cal Poly’s top recruit last year. Strange holds the national record for the most career wins in high school history.

"I feel fortunate to sign these three quality wrestlers during this early period," he said. The next recruiting period will take place in early April.

Kyle Bunch weighs 125 pounds and is a two-time league and sub-section champion. Bunch is also a C.I.F. champion and runner-up in the junior nationals. Steve Vieira weighs 135 pounds and is a three-time California state champion. He is also a C.I.F. champion, and sub-section and league champion. Joshua Blagg is a league and sub-section champion. Weighing 149 pounds, Blagg won the C.I.F. and placed eighth in the California State meet.

Cowell said early recruitment gives Cal Poly a great start in signing new wrestlers.

"They are both exceptional student-athletes who will have a major impact on our program. Badowski is the fifth ranked singles player and is the top-ranked doubles player in Northern California. He was also a C.I.F. singles finalist last year. Eppright said Berger "is the best local tennis player I’ve seen in the past nine years.”

Two new players
for Mustang tennis

Mustang Daily

Two high school student-athletes signed letters of intent to enroll at Cal Poly and play men’s tennis.

The announcement was made last Thursday by Athletic Director John McCauley.

Head tennis coach Chris Fppright was pleased with the decision to sign Mart and Dan, he said in a press statement. "They are both exceptional student-athletes who will have a major impact on our program."

Fppright said Berger “is the best local tennis player I’ve seen in the past nine years.”

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man attends St. Patrick-St. Vincent High School. Ballard is a former member of the CIF San Joaquin Section Championship team for the 1996-97 season. Natalie Carrillo, from Concord High School, is a right-handed pitcher from Calvert High School. As a junior, Schubert was selected for the Central Coast Section’s All-Conference First Team, and also received the Peninsula Athletic League Player of the Year Award. Like Carrillo and Ballard, Schubert is also a member of the California Scholarship Foundation Honor Society.

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**SPORTS**

**Swimmers drop meet in Malibu**

Jen Stevenson  
**Mustang Daily**

The Cal Poly men and women’s swim teams won several individual races this weekend at the Malibu Invitational, but lost the overall meet.

The men fell to Pepperdine, 208-185 and to CAL State Northridge, 272-92. The men lost their meet against Northridge 62-67. However, there were some bright spots.

For the men’s team, seniors Buddy Haddad, Peter Keeblers, Eric Wiles, and freshman Kyle Woodruff teamed up to win the 200-meter medley relay with a time of 1:40.28. Wiles also won the 100-meter breaststroke at 59.06. Senior Trentin Kraus won the 200-meter freestyle with a time of 1:49.16.

The women’s team had some victories as well. Junior Diane Lotts took a second place finish overall in the cross country course flat.

**Women’s basketball signs two recruits**

**Mustang Daily**

Cal Poly’s women’s basketball program has signed two student-athletes for the 1999-2000 season.

Standing 5 feet 9 inches, Paige Billingsley is a guard and attends Mission Prep High School in San Luis Obispo. Head women’s basketball coach Faith Mimnaugh said in a statement that Billingsley is an exceptional athlete with many qualities which make her a great catch for Cal Poly.

"Perhaps the one that stands out is her commitment to play every position with 100 percent focus," she said.

Mimnaugh envisions Billingsley playing the three and two positions at the collegiate level. Next season the women’s basketball team will lose Kristin Griffin, who will be graduating. Mimnaugh said Griffin is one of the team’s "fiercest competitors" but believes Billingsley can match her performance.

"I expect Paige to contribute to that same level of intensity," she said.

The second recruit, Jill Hodges, is 5 feet 10 inches tall and a guard at Stockdale High School in Bakersfield.

**Softball gets top pitcher, three others**

**Mustang Daily**

Four new high school student-athletes join the Poly’s softball team next year. The students signed letters of intent to enroll next year.

Head softball coach Lisa Boyer said in a statement, she was happy with the new recruits.

"I am exceptionally pleased with the caliber of student-athletes that has committed to the Mustang softball program during this signing period," she said. "These four players represent a very strong group of athletes who still have room to grow athletically. I am confident in their ability to have an immediate impact on the Cal Poly softball program."

Jamie Gelhart is a right-handed pitcher from Palos Verdes Peninsula High School. She led the South Bay League in strikeouts in the 1996, 1997 and 1998 seasons, racking up a total of 676 strikeouts.

Holly Ballard, a left-handed first base, made up the remaining three recruits. Ballard was a six-time All-State, was the MVP of the 97 game at Jacobs Field. Ballard has been in the sights of Indiana general manager John Hart for several years. With his addition, Cleveland has a lineup with a corner or former All-Star at every position and one only rivalled by the World Series champion New York Yankees.

Second base has been Cleveland’s most glaring weakness since Kazmir was dealt to the New York Mets. The Indians used six different players at second during the 98 season alone and went into the postseason with Joey Cora there after acquiring him in a late-season trade with Seattle.

Cora hit just .299 in the playoffs and he became a free agent after Cleveland declined to exercise his 1999 option.

Roberto’s addition gives the Indians the strongest and flashiest middle infield in baseball. A six-time Gold Glove winner, Roberto will be paired up the middle with shortstop Omar Vizquel, who won six straight Gold Gloves.

"It would be worth the price of a ticket just to watch Omar and Roberto turn a double play," Hart said last week.

Alomar, who has played with San Diego, Toronto and Baltimore, spent three seasons tumultuous seasons with the Orioles. He came under fire in 1996 when he spat at umpire John Hohbeck during an argument, and last year he and other Orioles were critical of manager Ray Miller.

Cleveland’s third baseman will be Scott Hatteberg with a .291 average.

**Second Alomar joining Indians**

**CLEVELAND (AP) — Make it two All-Star Alomars on the Cleveland Indians.**

Roberto Alomar joined his brother Sandy on the AL Central champions, agreeing Monday to a four-year contract worth $30 million to $32 million.

While the deal wasn’t immediately announced, several sources familiar with the negotiations, all spoke on condition of anonymity, said it had been completed. The Indians planned a news conference today in Jacobs Field to announce the contract with the nine-time All-Star.

Alomar recently finalized the Indians stability at second base, where they have used 15 players since trading Carlos Baerga in 1996. Roberto, who was in Cleveland on Monday for a physical, was the Most Valuable Player of this year’s All-Star game while a member of the Mets. Baerga was dealt to the New York Mets. The Indians used six different players at second during the 98 season alone and went into the postseason with Joey Cora there after acquiring him in a late-season trade with Seattle.

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**Indoor track will not help women’s sports**

On paper, the Mustangs recently competed with much more opportunity in athletics at the collegiate level. Its goal was to save money. Apparently, they weren’t concerned with what Title IX was supposed to erase. Women’s sports were turned into a more appropriate sport to choose. They won the Southern California Regional softball crown in 1995 and 1997 and have a solid team every year.

Another good choice would have been water polo which has also been successful at the club level. The team has been ranked in the top 20 in the nation the last two years.

Both of those sports are certainly more deserving and they would have benefited more from the boost in status. Currently, the club sports get limited funding from Rec. Sports, and could use the extra money for travel and other expenses.

Another problem is the athletic department isn’t taking this new sport seriously. Cal Poly doesn’t have an indoor track to practice at so they will practice during the cold winter on the Cal Poly Track. How is this any different from the current track and field team?

There will also be no home meets and only two road meets, one in Reno and one in Los Angeles.

Title IX has been a blessing for women’s athletics and it is important that the athletic department respect this.

As a Division 1 school, Cal Poly should respect the women’s teams and give women the equal opportunity they deserve.

Jen Stevenson

**Mustang Daily**

**CATCH YOUR BREATH:** The Mustangs’ next meet is Dec. 2 at Long Beach State.

Junior Hollie Franklin took first in the diving events, shattering her own pool record of 227 points.

The men’s and women’s teams will compete again December 2-5 at the Speedo Cup Invitational, hosted by Long Beach State.

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