The sky is falling
Idiots’ll believe anything — and they abound at Cal Poly
Opinion, page 4

Men’s b-ball returns
Mustangs, 2-2, hope to increase shooting percentage
Sports, back page

Look out Oscar
Find out who won a three-quarter award for football
Sports, back page

El Niño’s not-so-little sister is on her way
By Britt Fekete
Mustang Daily

La Niña is on its way, and compared to the seemingly endless rains El Niño brought to the Central Coast last year, this winter could be worse. La Niña, meaning “little girl,” is characterized by unusually cold ocean temperatures in the Eastern Pacific. El Niño is characterized by unusually warm ocean temperatures.

According to the Oregon Climate Service website, El Niño winters have brought consistently mild temperatures. On the other hand, La Niña winters tend to be colder. The stronger La Niñas are often very cold.

For the past two years, California has been hit with massive winter flooding, with El Niño last year and the January floods in 1997. According to Elia Chan, an official with Federal Emergency Management Agency, this winter will be no exception.

“There are some predicting that California will be dry, but they are also saying that Washington, Oregon and Northern California will be wetter,” Chan said. “If you look at the history of flooding in California (it looks likely).”

Chan said the exact amount of rainfall to Central and Southern California depends on snow melt in Northern California, but stressed that there doesn’t have to be a disaster to have flooding. To prepare Californians for a third year of harsh weather conditions and flooding,

see SISTER, page 2

Faculty labor union disputes lack of contract
By Whitney Phaneuf
Mustang Daily

California State University system faculty members are still working under last year’s contract and may not receive their promised salary increase until January

The California Faculty Association and the CSU system have been deadlocked in negotiations over the new contract since February. The CSU wants to lock in a four-year contract, while the CFA is looking for a one-year contract. Normally, faculty contracts are renegotiated in the spring.

On Monday a group of Cal Poly faculty members and union supporters protested CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed’s visit at the Cal Poly theater. English professor Kevin Clark said he was there to show his support for the CFA. He said that Reed is trying to make working life difficult for the faculty.

“The majority of the faculty is feeling depressed about the issue. They have been working hard and are not being rewarded.”

Myron Hood
chairman of Academic Senate

CSU has not compromised on the new contract since February, according to Terry Jones, CFA president. The main issues of contract renegotiation concern a salary increase, merit pay and retroactive pay.

“The majority of the faculty is feeling depressed about the issue. They have been working hard and are not being rewarded,” said Myron Hood, chairman of the Academic Senate.

see UNION, page 7

Rumors run rampant in missing cases
Similarities spark speculation between Newhouse, Smart case
By Alan Dunton
Mustang Daily

Rumors regarding the disappearance of 20-year-old nutrition junior Rachel Newhouse permeate virtually all conversations in San Luis Obispo, and are slowly trickling across the state. Those who have been in town long enough to remember when Kristin Smart disappeared seem to be trapped in a bad reoccurring nightmare that just isn’t supposed to happen in our “small town.”

“It’s devastating to find out that it happened to the same community,” Denise Smart, Kristin Smart’s mother said. “It’s a beautiful city, but reality is every co-ed’s need to take every precaution.”

Although local authorities will not comment on the similarities between the Smart and Newhouse case, characteristics of the two cases appear to mirror one another. Both cases involve young, presumably intoxicated Cal Poly students.

The San Luis Obispo Police Department on Nov. 30 released a statement saying Paul Flores has been eliminated as a suspect in the Newhouse case, but does however still remain a suspect in the Smart case. The police obtained a warrant on July 15, 1996 to

see NEWHOUSE, page 2
**El Niño damage dollars distributed through state**

By Louise Attard

California communities affected by El Niño landslides will receive more than $12 million in grants, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the governor's Office for Emergency Services.

The money is for communities' use in acquiring 165 residential properties affected by landslides during last winter's El Niño storms.

In Monterey County, 10 properties in Windsor received $1.5 million in disaster relief grants. The city of Lauma Niguel received the majority of grants from FEMA, totaling $6 million dollars from 32 properties.

The area that received the most property acquisition approvals was Sonoma County, with 44 properties approved by FEMA.

**SISTER continued from page 1**

stressing prevention and preparedness, hope property owners will take the time to be prepared before flooding begins.

Chan said the most important California residents can do is to assess their risk. Family members should create an evacuation plan from their home if necessary. She said it also is important to find out if they live in a flood zone by talking with neighbors who have lived in the area for a while and city planning officials.

The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department and businesses offer insurance to buy insurance.

In a news release, Martha Whetstone, FEMA regional director for California, said preparing for flooding will save lives and minimize damage.

Smart was last seen May 25, 1996 retuming to Muir Hall from an off campus party. Newhouse was last seen Nov. 12 leaving Tortilla Flats, on Nipomo Street downtown, where she was attending a fraternity event. The circumstances under which she left the nightclub are not known. Unlike the Smart case, investigators have no suspects. There is some evidence, however, that may aid investigations in discovering her whereabouts.

Blood was found on the Jennifer Smart's Department case turned into a missing persons investigation the night she was reported missing. The San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department and businesses offered insurance to buy insurance. The case turned into a missing persons investigation because they had reason to suspect foul play.

The increased levels of nitrogen dioxide in skating rinks.

**Ice resurfacing machines may pose air pollution hazard in skating rinks**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ice resurfacing spectators may want to think twice before giving a round of applause to the guys driving that colorful ice resurfacing machine. His work may be hazardous to their health.

A new study by Harvard University researchers concludes that gasoline- and propane-powered ice surfacing machines can produce hazardous levels of nitrogen dioxide in rinks.

It's sort of like running your car in a garage, said Jonathan L. Levy, one of the researchers. "If you leave the engine running for a long time, you know that the pollution levels rise. Obviously, an ice rink is larger — but it is a similar idea."

The solution is increased ventilation, Levy says. "Basically, ventilation levels (in ice rinks) tend to be not that high because, if you bring in too much outside air, you have trouble controlling the temperature in the rink."

The researchers studied 19 ice rinks in the Boston area over three years and found that rinks with propane-powered ice resurfacing machines had average nitrogen dioxide concentrations of 200 parts per billion.
Students wary of corporate influence in education

BERKELEY (U-WIRE) — Students are drawn to UC Berkeley because of its standing as a public institution, representing an open exchange of ideas, independent research and uncensored academic dialogue.

What many of these students may not know is that corporations are becoming increasingly present on this campus and across the country — a presence that could ultimately threaten the tenets of public education.

Recent groundbreaking deals between the university's colleges and private firms have drawn heightened attention to the debate over privatization.

The College of Natural Resources and the biotechnology firm Novartis signed a multimillion dollar contract last week that will fund research within the college. Although university administrators said the deal is a great step forward for building the college's integrity, some students and faculty are worried that the agreement may hinder the freedom of university research.

But, according to one College of Natural Resources official, the fear that corporations are somehow running things is unfounded.

"There are checks and balances within the university to ensure that the work here goes on as it is supposed to," said Rosemary Lucier, director of college relations for the College of Natural Resources.

"Corporate giving has a definite positive impact on research; it expands the possibilities of what is already going on."

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Some people are just idiots

Mustang Daily

There's nothing like a nice trip to an international airport to ruin the holiday mood. Thanksgiving. The San Francisco airport, a motos mecca, was the location last Sunday where I witnessed the breakdown of reason and decorum right in front of me.

The scene in front of the United terminal was one straight out of any amusement park's bumper car ride. It was last Sunday where I witnessed the breakdown of reason.

Paul Flores has been ruled out as a suspect in the recent disappearance of 20-year-old Cal Poly nutrition junior Rachel Newhouse. Okay Captain Obvious. I really hope the FBI, San Luis Obispo Police Department and Cal Poly didn't entertain the idea for too long that this guy drove all the way up here from Irvine to get mixed up with the Recent Disappearance Hotline. Believe me, the news media is not stupid like that. Why don't you give us the results from the blood tests, unless of course they're still inconclusive.

N.R. referees have come under fire this year because of double standards. It is not difficult to understand the narrow-minded, self-centered apparel in the columns by Aron DeFerrari. Our society is consumed with self-adornment and the overall attitude of "Every man for himself." However, when it comes to smoking, it is not just a personal venture. I do not feel that there are too many people, florid, flooding problems, not enough good food at the store, trash on the streets and unsanitary public restrooms. Then when our lives are inconvenienced — and only then — do we recognize that the jobs these people perform are necessary to our existence.

In a society filled with such immense double standards, it is not difficult to understand the narrow-minded, self-centered apparel in the columns by Aron DeFerrari. Our society is consumed with self-adornment and the overall attitude of "Every man for himself." However, when it comes to smoking, it is not just a personal venture. When a person smokes in a public place, everyone in the smoker's vicinity is at risk. Second-hand smoke kills, and no one has the right to endanger another human being for strictly personal satisfaction. DeFerrari and the recently passed legislation that increases the excise tax on cigarettes will cost the taxpayers millions of dollars. Well, I have a question for him... How many lives are going to be wasted until it does become cost-effective?

Furthermore, he questions why a capitalist society would step in our "capitalist machine" by impeding the advancement and distribution of a sought-after product such as cigarettes. Unfortunately, what he fails to recognize is how much there is to be gained if (and his fellow smokers) would like to believe this legislation was put into affect merely to antagonize him and others, the freedom-stomping, anti-constitutional self-indulging bastud public servants were actually trying to save some lives! Is there no end to this lunacy?

In an empowering atmosphere to the land of the infallible, I must take issue with his final argument. Granted, I don't have to be a fast food place in a while, but I don't remember there being any lethal bargains on the menu. I don't recall any terrorist group ever holding hostages with a lump of grease, screaming "Turn our comrades free, or Ronald McDonald gets it!" I don't think most eaters have to stand ten feet away from the outside door at the local burger joint. The point is, as soon as hamburgers have a secondary effect to others, let me know and I'll be the first to sign the petition to have them banned.

Finally, he is absolutely correct. The government has no right to assess his personal risk in the marketplace. However, it is the government's sworn duty to protect citizens from harm and make this a country worth living in... or at least be able to try to continue living in. In his defense, sometimes it is a little hard to see the truth through all the smoke.

Jason Champeau is an English junior.

A plea to distracted drivers

Editor:

There is a problem at Cal Poly that affects all of us with half a brain and even a minimal amount of driving skills. People on this campus have absolutely no idea how to drive in parking lots.

I know you have to be fairly intelligent to get into this school, so why is it that I walk around all day with the overwhelming feeling that everyone is so damn stupid? It's like seeing as front your front bumper crosses into the lot, all practical driving knowledge leaves their brains.

Now I realize finals are coming up and people have a lot on their minds, but please, that is no excuse for four different drivers to have narrowly missed hitting my car in the span of about five minutes. And then these people honk at me like it's their fault they are driving full speed down the middle of the aisle.

People are in such a hurry to snag the next available spot or rush to stalk the people who are walking to their car that they pay no attention to any other car that might hinder their mission to get to class on time.

Don't you people realize that a car accident will make you a lot later to class than driving carefully to a spot? So please, remember that you are not the only person looking for a space, there are others out there. Think with your brain when you drive, not your lead foot.

Trisha Thorn is a journalism senior.

Smoking tax can save lives

Editor:

As a society, we condemn people who kill for money or greed, but we commend those who kill for God and country. We consider men who "sleep around" to be evil, while promiscuous women are labeled as tramps. We joke and meet at rodeo talks, dirt diggers, labvers, field workers, sanitation workers and janitors but still complain there are too many poor people, flooding problems, not enough good food at the store, trash on the streets and unsanitary public restrooms. Then when our lives are inconvenienced — and only then — do we recognize that the jobs these people perform are necessary to our existence.

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Trisha Thorn is a journalism senior.
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ON TOP AGAIN:
Water Polo players are now attracting the attention of national television shows. The team's nearly-nude digitally enhanced calendars are the focus of reports on shows such as Hard Copy and Extra! The calendars are on sale at El Corral for $5. The team will be in the University Union on Thursday for autographs.

Dawn Kalmar
Mustang Daily

Water Polo calendar rises to the surface

By Dawn Kalmar
Mustang Daily

Digitally remastered water polo calendars are now on sale. Shoppers aren't the only ones taking notice, though. Hard Copy and Extra! have interviewed the team and the programs are slated to air before Dec. 11.

"Actually they interviewed us in our clothes for a while," said Ryan Lehman, one of the players standing in the University Union plaza on Tuesday. "I demonstrated a deck change because they had never seen one, I guess. I get my towel ripped off so I don't know if I'm going to be naked on TV or not," he said.

Associated Students Inc. and Rec Sports are now supporting the fundraiser they contested last month. The controversial portions of the photo have been digitally remastered, adding Speedos and erasing body hair from some of the players in the picture.

"But I assure you they were not clothed in the actual taking of the picture," Lehman said.

The team will be holding a special signing session in El Corral on Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Calendars are $5 and can be purchased at the bookstore or from the individual players.

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Stripper pleads innocent to felonies

PLEASANTON (AP) — A male dancer who allegedly stripped nude at a Halloween party pleaded innocent to four felony counts of sexual contact with teenage girls. The mother of the girls, saying he had no idea the high school freshmen and sophomores were underage.

Seven Schanen of Walnut Creek was pleaded to a 45-minute routine for as many as 50 girls — most of them 14 and 15 years old — at the party on Oct. 30. He pleaded not guilty.

"This, to him, is a setup. He was exploited," said his attorney, William Swisher. "It's a set-up to get compensation for the CFA." Hood of the CSU contends that the settlement was a "smear campaign to close the salary gap," Hood said. "The CFA is asking for a 6 percent pay increase to faculty, pointing out the 5 percent behind those at other universities," Jones said. "How can we maintain the quality of our universities while allowing this to happen?"

CSU Chancellor Charles Reed said in a letter that he has committed the CSU to closing the salary gap over the next three years, according to a study done by CFEF.

"We have seen our salaries fall 11 percent behind those at other universities," Jones said. "How can we maintain the quality of our universities while allowing this to happen?"

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The CFA staged a demonstration outside the CSU's position at the Nov. 11 trustees' meeting in Long Beach. The CFA PETALO on hold in February in hopes that both sides would settle.

"We're celebrating," said Jamie Broder, Remo's lawyer. "We're very happy about this."

Los Angeles songwriter Mark Onofrio said he met Trent Reznor in August 1997, claiming Remo stole some of his songs, including some that appeared on "Downward Spiral" and one that appeared on the "Natural Born Killers" movie soundtrack. He later stopped the claims on "Natural Born Killers" movie soundtrack.

Onofrio's attorney, Michael Blaha, said he didn't know the faculty was working under an expired contract.

"I wouldn't work under an expired contract," he said. "He said the faculty is sending a message to students that "group force is more powerful than reason and compromise."
Health Center nurse warns against pandemic flu

By Xavier Lanier

The flu season is here but Cal Poly students are ill prepared. While influenza causes most people to suffer from fevers and aching, it can kill.

Kathleen Ruiz, a nurse at the Health Center, strongly recommends all students get immunized. However, only 500 students have been immunized at the Health Center. This is a problem because college students live and attend classes in close quarters.

Immunization Coordinator Barbara Schwenoha of the San Luis Obispo County Health Department warns against pandemic flu catching the flu. This includes people with asthma, diabetes, the elderly and people with high levels of stress.

The first week of December is when the flu usually hits San Luis Obispo, not in time for finals. "Stress can make it easy for students to catch the flu," Ruiz said. "We have students going to finals with 104-degree fevers."

Schwenoha says many people underestimate the severity of the flu. "You can feel fine. Then all of a sudden you start feeling chills, within a few minutes you can have a level of 104," she said.

The health department said last Christmas every Intensive Care Unit bed in every hospital of the county was filled. Many patients had respiratory complications from the flu.

People need to be more aware of the seriousness of the flu said Schwenoha. The worst case scenario is that a strain of influenza will spread totally and so rapidly that nobody in the world will be immune to it Schwenoha said. This kind of pandemic virus can be deadly even to young, healthy people.

Schwenoha noted the pandemic outbreak of 1918 killed over 60,000 Americans and more than 20 million others around the world. People died the same day they got sick, she said.

There have been four pandemic flu outbreaks in the past 100 years. The last one was about 30 years ago. Schwenoha says we are due to have another one.

Besides pandemic flu outbreaks, there are epidemic years. In epidemic years there is a clear association between the flu and an increase in the national death rate. According to the county health department, there were 19 such years between 1957 and 1986.

The flu virus mutates quickly, making it necessary to annually update the vaccine. According to the county health department there are three strains of influenza in this year's vaccine. The A/Sydney strain is the newest and struck ports and tour ships in Alaska last summer.

Vaccines take about six months to reach the public. The Center of Disease Control and the World Health Organization track which strains are causing illnesses. By February they decide which strains will be in the vaccine.

The vaccine is then grown in chicken eggs. After being cleared by the Food and Drug Administration, the vaccine is ready by August. The county health department only has $8,000 immunizations for convalescent homes, homeless and family care centers.

The Health Center only has 100 immunizations left, said Ruiz. "We have students going to finals, just in time for finals. In 1918, flu outbreaks accounted for more than 20 million deaths worldwide. Now, the flu vaccine can help stop the spread of certain strains."

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NEW YORK (AP) — Holiday shoppers are getting hit by a different sort of sticker shock this year — rock-bottom prices for consumer electronics.

Manufacturers, particularly the Japanese, are slashing prices more sharply than usual this year, in part because slackness in overseas markets is forcing them to do so to help unload products in the United States.

Bargains at Best Buy, Circuit City and other major chains have turned novelty items such as DVD players and digital cameras into mass-market lures for consumer electronics.

For some, consumers have more reason to be comfortable about buying some relatively new gadgets.

Since DVD players hit the market last year, for example, about 2,000 movie titles have been published on DVD. Digital video discs look like regular CDs but hold seven times more information and are promoted as the replacement for videotape.

Though retailers remain cautious, some analysts were upbeat that this season will be broker for electronics than last Christmas' spotty sales at today's gift buyers shift from low-tech little concerns to high-tech.

"Things are flying out of stores," said Dave Strasser, a retail analyst for Pacific Smith Barney Inc. "You've got all the products that are now hitting the sweet spot on pricing."

Among bargains at major retailers, since holiday shopping formally began Friday: VCRs as low as $90, 25 percent off last year's price; new DVD machines for $300, down from $500; personal computers at $700, with lots of goodies included; a five-CD lisp for $80, down from $120 for a single-disc player.

Low-price-surprised shoppers such as Laurie Cags, who was cruising the CompUSA store in midtown Manhattan on Monday for a computer to help organize her building contracting business.

"Oh, God," she exclaimed, reacting to a $1,699 price tag for Hewlett-Packard PC, monitor and printer that's also a scanner and fax machine.

"I thought I'd have to spend a little more like $2,000 to $2,500."

Long lines of up to 1,200 customers greeted workers at some Best Buy stores Friday, drawn by promotions for a $599 IBM PC that included a printer and $228 DVD players, including free movies and 13 free movie rentals.

Circuit City says its $30-scorer saw strong sales for computers under $1,000, digital cameras and $400 DVD players, also including movie giveaways.

Low-end hacker Kevin Mitnick is known for his art to computer systems.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Computer hacker turned-government informer Justin Petersen is back in custody, in this case he is helped put superhacker Kevin Mitnick in jail, on his 38th birthday.

The flamboyant, long-haired, one-legged hacker known to computer outlaws as "Agent Steal" is accused of robbing the online telephone answering machine of human alcohol consumption.

SEATTLE, Wash. (U-WIRE) — The discovery of neuropeptide Y (NPY), a brain chemical in man, may take University of Washington researchers a step closer to determining why some people are more prone to alcoholism than others.

A team of five UW researchers recently completed a year-and-a-half long study that measured the effects of NPY levels on alcohol consumption in mice.

"There's a good chance that we'll find that NPY does modulate alcohol drinking in humans," said Todd Thiele, leader of the UW research team.

Thiele said that although there is no evidence to show whether NPY affects human alcohol consumption, he suspects that it's a good possibility.

During the research project, scientists genetically altered mice with different levels of NPY in their brains. One group of mice had no NPY at all while another group was produced with excessive amounts of the chemical.

The scientists provided the mice with bottles containing their food and water. They replaced the water in one bottle with ethanol solution and increased the amount over a period of time from three percent alcohol to 20 percent. The three percent solution is equal to about one beer and the 20 percent solution equals roughly half a shot of whiskey.

Each ethanol solution remained with the mice for eight days. During these time periods, the scientists monitored the behavior of the mice.

"There's a good chance that we'll find that NPY does modulate alcohol drinking in humans."

— Todd Thiele
Washington researcher

Brain chemical may impact alcoholism, researchers suggest

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Experts expect technology to dominate holiday sales

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — (U-WIRE) Days after bargain-hunting computer shoppers lined up outside stores, retailers seem to agree with experts that technology items will dominate other goods as the most-purchased gifts in the countdown to the holidays.

"It was an unbelievable madhouse," Wal-Mart assistant manager Stephanie Beward said of the week-end's business. "People just ran in here. It was like a swarm of locusts."

Experts forecast a 6 percent increase in retail sales for the holiday season, which will be comprised largely of computer and technology purchases.

Something University of Florida students plan to purchase technology as gifts for the holidays, as well as receive is "I plan on buying some Norton Utilities software for my parents," criminology senior Garrett Harrell said. "I asked for a new CD-ROM (for Christmas)."

Wal-Mart's cheapest computer is a Hewlett-Packard Multimedia computer — sold for $898, including the monitor and printer, during the Friday-only special.

Hacker informant becomes a fugitive

Thursday, December 2, 1998
9

Wednesday, December 2, 1998
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Tyson pleads no contest to assault charges

ROCKVILLE, Md. (AP) — Mike Tyson pleaded no contest Tuesday to a misdemeanor assault, a decision that could return the former heavyweight champion to prison.

Although the plea to the two counts is not an admission of guilt, Tyson faces up to 20 years in prison — 10 years on each count — when he is sentenced early next year by a Maryland judge. He also could be fined up to $2,500 on each count.

The charges stem from an Aug. 31 traffic accident in Montgomery County, Md., involving Tyson's wife, Monica. Tyson was accused of kicking and punching two motorists after the accident.

"You understand that this plea could affect your parole," Judge Steven Johnson told Tyson before accepting his plea.

"I'm truly aware of that," said Tyson, who was released from prison in 1995 after serving three years of a six-year sentence for a 1992 rape conviction in Indiana.

Tyson, who is scheduled to fight former heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield's ears during a June fight, is not an admission of guilt, Johnson said.

Prosecution officials about Tyson, his clerk, Becky Wagner, said. She said that Tyson's plea would decide whether to request a violation hearing for Tyson.

George Walker, chief probation officer for Marion County, was out of the office until Wednesday.

Tyson told Johnson he did not expect leniency or a lighter sentence in return for entering the no-contest plea.

The prosecutor urged that jail time be included in the punishment.

"The state opposes any probation before judgment," said Assistant State's Attorney Carol Crawford.

Tyson's lawyers, Paul Kemp, said the plea was an appropriate resolution to the case.

"Mr. Tyson certainly conceded that things occurred that were inappropriate," Kemp said.

Following the August accident, Aineebic Saucedo and Richard Hardick said Tyson attacked them. They said Tyson had a settlement with Tyson to avoid a civil suit.

Kemp said Saucedo and Hardick are prepared to testify at sentencing that they support Tyson's no-contest plea.

"He does not admit to intentionally striking anyone when this incident occurred," Kemp said.

Kemp told the judge that Tyson became angry when neither Hardick nor Saucedo expressed concern for his career and was driving when the accident occurred.

Kemp admitted that Hardick was "cracked with a glancing blow" and Saucedo was inadvertently kicked as the boxer was restrained by his wife and bodyguard.

Tyson is undergoing psychiatric treatment, one of the conditions that led to the reinstatement of his boxing license by the Nevada Athletic Commission. The license was revoked after he hit champion Evander Holyfield's ears during a June 1997 title bout.

Freak hit leaves Niners without defensive star

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Bryant Young's agonized scream as he collapsed told Tim McDonald all he needed to know about his teammate's gruesome injury.

"I understand how the leg bends and it wasn't bending like it was supposed to," McDonald said.

Young, one of the league's best play­ers and the San Francisco 49ers' defen­sive anchor, underwent surgery Tuesday at Stanford Hospital, the day after fracturing both bones in his lower right leg in a freak, sickening collision on the field.

Team physician Dr. Michael Dillingham inserted a metal rod into the tibia, the main weight-bearing bone between the knee and ankle. The fibula, a smaller supporting bone, was set and will be allowed to heal on its own. He's out for the rest of this season and could miss a part of next season, as well.

"With all things considered, he seemed to be in good spirits and certainly he's getting a lot of support," said Coach Steve Mariucci, who visited Young's bedside until the early morning.

"There is not one person that is going to compensate for him. It is going to have to be all of us," Mariucci said former 49ers center Jesse Sopo llegó suffered a similar injury early in his career and was able to come back and resume a productive career.

"It's quite a loss for us," said Mariucci, who choked up at times as he spoke of Young. "It's a similar situation to when we lost Jerry Rice, which also was devastating and we needed to regroup and rally and pick up the slack.

Added defensive tackle Junior Bryant: "There is not one person that is going to compensate for him. It is going to have to be all of us." Young, San Francisco's first-round pick out of Notre Dame in 1994, had 9.5 sacks and was on his way to another Pro Bowl season when he went down in a fast, frightening sequence during the fourth quarter of Monday night's 37-7 win over the New York Giants. New York's Kent Graham scrambled out of the pocket and Young and line­backer Ken Norton Jr. crashed in from opposite directions to make the tackle.

Young had grabbed hold of Graham's jersey when Norton plowed into the player and hit his helmet squarely on the leg.

With Young's cleats firmly planted in the soggy turf, his leg buckled, bending at a grotesque angle. Young fell to the ground, his anguish evident to anyone who saw his face or heard his screams.

"I could tell Bryant was hurting pretty bad," said Graham. "It was a Joe Theismann-type injury. It's something you just hate to see.

Theismann was playing for Washington when he suffered a broken leg in a 1985 Monday night game after being hit by the New York Giants' Lawrence Taylor. It was Taylor who immediately after the tackle began frantically waving for a doctor. Theismann never played again.

With the exception of Young, perhaps no one took his injury harder than Norton, who played the rest of Monday night's game in a cast and then left for the hospital, where he stayed at Young's bedside until the early morn­ing.

It must have seemed like a recurring nightmare for Norton, who was also involved in the hit during a 1994 Monday night game that left Los Angeles Raiders running back Napoleon McCallum with a career­ending knee injury.

"This game is so strange," Norton said. "You're so fortunate to play it, but I don't think people realize the chances we take to play this game."
DODGERS ACQUIRE TODD HUNDLEY FROM METS

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Dodgers, looking to beef up their offense, acquired power-hitting catcher Todd Hundley from the New York Mets on Tuesday for catcher Charles Johnson and outfielder Roger Cedeno, The Associated Press learned.

The Dodgers will also receive minor league pitcher Arno Gough, a 22-year-old right-hander obtained by the Mets in the Bert Sabinager trade on July 31, 1995.

Los Angeles wouldn't immediately confirm the trade, but planned to make the announcement later Tuesday.

Hundley, coming off elbow surgery, played in just 53 games last season and hit .161 with three homers and 12 RBIs. He became expendable when the Mets signed catcher Mike Piazza to a $91 million, seven-year contract earlier in the offseason.

Hundley, a 29-year-old switch-hitter, set a big-league record for homers by a catcher in 1996, batting .299 with 41 home runs.

Los Angeles will have to pay $5.5 million to the Mets for contracts on Piazza's salary cap.

J. Schneidere said, the team had achieved the necessary balance between the inside and outside games.

"It's too early to tell, but we've been playing as well as anyone in our league so far," said Jeff Schneider head coach

"I want the team to get into the road games. The big guys were playing good, but the perimeter players weren't shooting well," Schneider said. By the end of the year, Schneider said, the team had achieved the necessary balance between the inside and outside games.

"I have no complaints about the team, with the exception of how we shot the ball in the Fortaleza game," Schneider said. "We just have to be able to grind it out on the road. We have to be able to enjoy playing on the road."

"It's a rough schedule, but the team has had excellent play," he said. "We have the ability to score, and no pressure from our defense. In three of four games we've been able to do that, all except for the last game. The team also has great offensive rebounding abilities."

Schneider said the team is benefiting from several keys players, such as Mike Wozniak, Chris Bjorklund, Jabbar Washington, Jeremiah Mayes, and forwards David Henry and Jason King.

"Mike Wozniak is becoming one of the better perimeter players on the west coast," Schneider said. "This year he'll break the Cal Poly all-time scoring record."

"Wozniak, a junior, is a former Big West Player of the Year. He set a career high with 33 points against Simon Fraser earlier this year. Schneider is also enthusiastic about Jeremiah Mayes, a sophomore forward. "He's one of the better rebounders in the Big West Conference," Schneider said. "He has the chance to be the best rebounder in the Big West. He's scoring more, he's a very good defender, and he's developed great ball control. He has extremely strong hands. When he gets the ball he's hard to get it away from him," Henry, a freshman forward, said while he feels the team has room for improvement, they are on their way to a winning season. "We're going to bounce right back," Henry said. "We lost the last game and we're going to take it out on Fresno-Pacific. It's too bad for them."
LONG DISTANCE: Freshman Jason King has made 44 percent (1 of 25) of the 3-pointers he's attempted this season. He's only taken one shot that was not from behind the arc.

Mustangs hope to shoot better during homestand

By Jon Stevenson

Mustang Daily

Cal Poly men's basketball is unfazed by an inconsistent 2-2 start this season as they begin a three-game homestand this Thursday when they go up against Fresno Pacific in Mott Gym.

The Mustangs will be going into the game following a blowout loss on the road. However, head coach Jeff Schneider isn't concerned about the team's recent performance.

He blamed the team's 103-64 loss to Portland State on Nov. 28 on poor perimeter shooting and the fatigue that comes with traveling to away games.

The Mustangs shot 24.2 percent from the floor in the first half, while Portland State shot 57.1 percent. The Mustangs improved their shooting in the second half, but still only shot 34.2 percent in the game. From 3-point range, Cal Poly shot 9.4 percent, making three of 32. They are making 34.1 percent of their 3-pointers for the year.

Schneider said he isn't worried about the team's shooting lapse.

"When you watch the tape after the game," he said. "You're never as bad as you thought you were or as good as you thought you were. We didn't play well, but we did do a lot of things properly. We had the shots we wanted, we just didn't make them."

Schneider is confident the team will be back on track on Thursday night's game against Fresno-Pacific.

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Orioles, Belle all smiles after $65 million deal

BALTIMORE (AP) — Albert Belle dutifully donned his Orioles hat but flashed a broad smile as he posed for pictures Tuesday behind a Baltimore jersey with his name and No. 80 on the back.

The controversial star then talked excitedly about playing with a contender, giving more of himself to the fans and making an effort to be more accessible to reporters.

There's no telling how the union of Belle and Baltimore will play out, but both sides were certainly intent upon creating a positive impression during day one of his planned five-year stay.

Belle was downright cocky at Camden Yards after signing a $65 million contract that made him the highest-paid player in franchise history, and said his jaded regard for the press is over.

"I make a promise today that I am going to improve my relationship with the media," he said. "It's kind of hard to talk about baseball when you are in last place and you're getting your brains beat out every night."

Belle had until Wednesday to return to the White Sox and complete a $55 million in the next three seasons. He repeatedly attempted to convince the White Sox to give him a raise, then insisted that money was not the reason he ultimately joined the Orioles.

"You look at the situation the last two years. October rolls around and you're out there working on your golf game. That just didn't sit well with me," Belle said. "It was a situation where I weighed all my options and I felt Baltimore was my best option."

After the White Sox refused to increase Belle's salary, he was delighted to take more money from what he perceived to be a better team.

"Buck in Chicago, they were rebuilding the past two years. With an experienced, veteran team, you don't have to worry about rebuilding," he said.

Belle, 32, is arguably the most talented right-handed hitter in the World Series. But he is also known to be one of the most controversial players in the game — he has been suspended six times and has snapped at both the media and the fans.

Yet the Orioles were willing to take a chance on Belle after losing free agents Roberto Alomar, Eric Davis and Alan Mills and watching the World Series champion New York Yankees lose Bernie Williams, David Cone and Scott Brosius.

Baltimore is seeking to re-sign free agent first baseman Rafael Palmeiro, which would provide the Orioles the potent 1-2 punch that Chicago had with Belle and Frank Thomas.

"We continue to talk," Baltimore general manager Frank Wren said of negotiations with Palmeiro. "Obviously, if we could have those two guys hitting back to back, we would be a very formidable in the middle of the lineup. That's our goal.

Regardless of how the Palmeiro negotiations pan out, the addition of Belle was essential if Baltimore is to be a factor in the competitive AL East. Belle had 49 home runs and 152 RBIs last year, and he should be even more lethal playing in Camden Yards, where the left-field line is only 333 feet from the plate and the left-center alley is a mere 364 feet away.

Flutie, officials and Vikings top first edition of three-quarter awards

Since most columnists give out mid-season awards, I thought a more accurate picture would be seen three-quarters of the way through the season. Here are the first edition of the three-quarter awards.

Best Team: Minnesota Vikings.

I wasn't convinced before the Dallas game, but after the beating they put on the Cowboys, their road to the Super Bowl got a lot smoother. This team has it all: dominating defense, veteran leadership and three of the best receivers in football.

Worst Team: The Officials.

After the debacle on Thanksgiving before the Lions/St. Louis game, I wondered what these guys were thinking. How can you screw up a coin toss? Add that call to the many other blown calls such as the pass interference call in the Bills/Patriots and Cowboys/Skins games.

Those calls, which were clearly New England and San Francisco wins, weren't deserved. Do you call a replay for most instant replay?

Rookie of the Year: Charlie Batch.

Before all you Randy Moss fans jump all over me, consider what Batch has done. He was forced into the starting role after starting quarterback Scott Mitchell got injured. He has led the Lions to a 5-7 record in the most difficult division in football, the NFC Central. He's led his team to wins over Green Bay, Tampa Bay and Pittsburgh.

As for Moss, the players surrounding him aren't even good enough. With a great game on Thanksgiving, when he started against the Cowboys, but Batch did just a good job of making him look better.

Fan Favorite: Doug Flutie.

This one's a no-brainer. Deep down, everyone wants to see him succeed and it's great to see him do exactly that. Nobody saw the Bills at 7-5 and Deep in the playoffs, but his stock has blown up at this point before the season started.

Biggest Disappointment: Kansas City Chiefs.

The perennial playoff team has been relegated to basement duty in the AFC West. Changes need to be made soon, starting with firing Head Coach Marty Schottenheimer. Marty's stale coaching style no longer works for this team, and they need some new excitement. Maybe a high draft pick will bring that since that seems to be where they are heading.