Do you believe in magic?

By Bryce Alderton

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Cal Poly and San Luis Obispo area high schools don’t meet the help of the California State University system when it comes to remedial education.

The CSU allocated $9 million from its 1999-2000 budget to 18 campuses to help reduce the number of high school students needing remedial education in mathematics and English.

The money will be used to partner CSU faculty with high school teachers to improve students’ abilities in the two subjects.

Cal Poly wasn’t on the list.

CSI spokesman Ken Swisher said Cal Poly didn’t receive funding because area high schools don’t have enough students needing remedial education.

“It comes down to the number of students and not a percentage,” Swisher said. “Schools sending us the most students need it the most.”

Swisher said high school students could be doing well or the population may be less for universities not receiving funding.

“If it’s a smaller class, it’s less likely to be on the list since it comes down to the number of students,” Swisher said.

The 18 campuses that received funding are

New ASI group aims to battle campus apathy

By Nate Pontious

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The fact that there are uninsured students at Cal Poly may be coming to an end. Associated Students Inc. is forming a new group, dubbed ASI Associates, to better distribute information throughout campus.

The group meets tonight for the first time.

“We wanted an easy and low-commitment way for students to get involved in ASI as well as what’s happening in the university,” ASI President John Moffett said.

ASI Associates is open to all students and is intended to battle apathy on campus by keeping people informed. The group will meet once every two months.

“We don’t want people to have to go to 50,000 meetings in one month,” Moffett said.

The organization is a partnership between ASI, Foundation, Alumni, Student Affairs and the Industrial Technology Society. Each of the contributors will have a representative to give updates on the respective departments at each meeting.

Students who wish to join ASI Associates will distribute this information throughout campus. This includes helping to promote the ASI Associates web page, sponsored by ITS. The web page will include links to each of the contributors.

Students who sign up at the meetings will be assigned an ID number. This number can be given out to other students, who will then use it to enter the ITS web page.

“They’re kind of like the outside see ASI, page 2

Sorority anniversary celebrates strong Latina voice on campus

By Jenny Ferrari

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Sigma Omega Nu, the first Latina-interest sorority at Cal Poly, recently celebrated its third-year anniversary.

The sorority, founded Nov. 6, 1996, was started by eight Latina Cal Poly students who felt a need for a strong Latina voice on the Cal Poly campus. The sorority focuses on Latina issues in education, culture and community service, and requires members to perform 10 hours of community service a quarter. Some objectives are to strengthen cultural, personal and educational goals while promoting moral, academic and family support.

Sigma Omega Nu currently exists only at Cal Poly, but Sacramento State University is in the process of starting a chapter.

Zulema Gonzalez, president of Sigma Omega Nu and an agricultural business senior, is one of the founding members of the sorority.

“Our sorority is like a family away from home,” Gonzalez said. “We all have different Latina backgrounds, but we are similar in many ways. The majority of us are the first generation to go to college.”

Gonzalez said starting the sorority at Cal Poly was a surprise, seeing how well it worked and it’s likely to be on the list since it comes down to the number of students.” Swisher said.

The 18 campuses that received funding are:

Cal Poly, area high schools not picked in remedial effort

see CSU, page 2

New ASI group aims to battle campus apathy

see ASI, page 2

Sorority anniversary celebrates strong Latina voice on campus

see SORORITY, page 2

Sigma Omega Nu is Cal Poly’s first Latina-interest sorority, and celebrated its third anniversary on Nov. 6.

COURTESY PHOTO
ASI continues from page 1
reach," Moffett said. Students who refer the highest number of people to the web page will be given donated prizes. ASI Associates will give away one television, stereo, computer, VCR and various gift certificates at every meeting.

"No student money is being used on this stuff," Moffett said. "The bottom line here is: people will be more informed about what's happening." Moffett said.

ASI Associates will meet for the first time tonight at 6 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium. All students are welcome.

Memorial will remember Newhouse's spirit, life

Friends of Rachel Newhouse Nichole Tyelden, left, and Adrienne Gunness participate in last year's memorial for Newhouse by lighting a candle in her honor.

Cal Poly is planning a non-denominational memorial service Wednesday at 11 a.m. in memory of student Rachel Newhouse, who was abducted from downtown San Luis Obispo and murdered one year ago.

The public is invited to the service at the Newman Catholic Center, which is located at 1472 Foothill Road in San Luis Obispo.

According to Sister Mary Pat White at the Newman Center, a spiritual non-denominational service will be held in hopes that people will get in touch with the REMEMBER Week's spirit.

CSU continued from page 1

funding sent proposals to the CSU. CSU Long Beach received $948,161, the most of any university.

Each CSU campus receiving funds commits English and mathematics faculty members to work with faculty at partner high schools. University faculty are required to meet with high school teachers at least five hours a week for 30 weeks. Approximately 75 CSU faculty will work with 600 high school teachers.

The faculty will provide tutors who will help high school students strengthen proficiency in English and mathematics.

"We want to make sure the course content can prepare students to do well in math and English," Swisher said.

The CSU wants to target incoming freshmen.

Last fall, 54 percent of entering CSU freshmen needed remediation in math, while 47 percent needed help in English.

There are four goals in the program: provide training for high school teachers to align CSU and high school standards; develop more effective mathematics and English teaching methods; administer diagnostic testing; and use the best teaching techniques in developing on-site courses at high schools.

SORORITY continued from page 1

Sorority was difficult because she and the seven other girls didn't know what to expect. Gonzalez said it took about three months to officially become a sorority. There are now 15 active members of Sigma Omega Nu.

Gonzalez said Sigma Omega Nu is a cultural sorority, not a panhellenic sorority.

"We are a positive sorority, and I'm very proud of that. We don't incorporate drinking into our events," she said.

Gonzalez said she doesn't believe the sorority fits the typical stereotype, if there is one.

"We try to fight the stereotypes of sororities," Gonzalez said.

Jaci Quiroba, agricultural science senior and former president of Sigma Omega Nu, said having a Latina-interest sorority at Cal Poly is important.

"Our sorority is unique because it's more personal with a smaller group," Quiroba explained. "There aren't many Latinas on the Cal Poly campus and we are not as big as other sororities here.

Quiroba said Sigma Omega Nu provides family-like support to its members.

"We all know each other really well," Quiroba said. "Being a member of Sigma Omega Nu has helped her learn about Latina culture.

I chose to pledge because I wanted to learn more about the Latina culture, being I wasn't from a traditional Latino family."

Jaci Quiroba
former president of Sigma Omega Nu

Police collect 45 wallets after show

By Alexis Garibef
MUSTANG DAILY NEWS EDITOR

As rock band Blink 182 played to a sold-out crowd of mostly high school and college students at the Cal Poly Rec Center on Nov. 3, four white males were pocketing off the mesh pit.

According to Cal Poly Public Safety Sgt. Lori Hashim, 45-plus wallets were recovered under bleachers and in the facility by Associated Students Inc. employees as they cleaned up after the concert.

The public is invited to the service at the Newman Catholic Center, on 1472 Foothill on Wednesday.

Newhouse

People are encouraged to wear the REMEMBER Week T-shirts if they have them.

For more information call Suzanne Kelley at the Cal Poly Women's Center, 736-2600.

Just A Reminder

Meal Plan Payments are Due
November 15

Changes in your Meal Plan may be requested by completing a Change Meal Form available at Customer Service, in Light House atrium, or the Foundation Cashier, bldg 815. We cannot accept change forms after December 10.

Make payment at:
• Foundation Cashier Administration Bldg 815
• Campus Express Deposit Box
• Campus Express Drop Box

Please do not deposit payment at State Cashier drop box.

Please make checks payable to:
CAL POLY FOUNDATION

Current Meal Plan
• Meal Plan 1: Breakfast and Lunch
• Meal Plan 2: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Reminder

Safety Sgt. Lori Hashim, 45-plus wallets were recovered under bleachers and in the facility by Associated Students Inc. employees as they cleaned up after the concert.

The suspect took off, but cash was taken from his wallet.

Hashim said students who attend concerts with mesh pits should put their licenses and money in their front pocket of their pants or hock their wallet onto their pants with a chain. She also advises students not to bring bags or purses to concerts.

Currently there are seven wallets at Public Safety that still need to be claimed. Most of the people called over the weekend to report and claim their missing wallets.

Jackson protests football player expulsion

DECATUR, Ill. (AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson led dozens of protesters to the steps of a high school Monday to demand the reinstatement of seven black students who were expelled for two years for fighting a football game.

Jackson said the issue is not a question of race but whether the students were treated fairly. He accused the school board of overstepping its authority by expelling students who hadn't been charged with any crime.

2007-2008 Mustang Daily News

With the high schools closed, Jackson spent the day meeting with school officials but emerged shortly after 5 p.m. and said the talks had ended for the day with no progress. Gov. George Ryan, who was acting as a mediator, agreed with Jackson that the district's "zero-tolerance" policy is ill-defined.

"Is two years too harsh? Many people would say yes," Ryan said.

Jackson said the students were allowed to return to school immediately but under some type of probation for at least six months. He said they should be required to perform community service while staying out of trouble and maintaining good grades.

The district scheduled an emergency school board meeting for 2 p.m. to discuss "student discipline, threatened legislation and student safety," according to an agenda for the meeting. The board listened to Jackson's plea for the students' reinstatement, then went into closed session. Jackson said if no resolution came from that meeting, he would return to school with the students on Tuesday.

Jackson protests football player expulsion

"Is two years too harsh? Many people would say yes."

George Ryan
Illinois Governor

p.m. to discuss "student discipline, threatened legislation and student safety," according to an agenda for the meeting. The board listened to Jackson's plea for the students' reinstatement, then went into closed session. Jackson said if no resolution came from that meeting, he would return to school with the students on Tuesday.
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Etiquette tips to consider before napping

S
leeping in class is rude. It shows a complete lack of maturity and respect on the part of the student toward the instructor. It is also distracting to other students (especially if snoring or drooling is involved), and it deprives the student of the full benefits of a collegiate education. Somehow, despite all this, I have managed to fall asleep in nearly every class I have taken at Cal Poly.

Facing a nap during class meeting is not a reality for many of us. We’re tried, overworked, under-rested, and sometimes completely uninterested in what the professor is saying. We spend so much time outside of class working on projects, studying for exams or staying up all night contemplating the meaning of life (or how they will pay for these little things inside those hot dogs), that we are seldom able to get the amount of rest required to remain attentive and interested in class lectures. Besides, we are not paid any just bring. (Ever take GEOL 221 with a certain British professor?)

Now I could offer even more information on justifying sleeping, but it would not change the fact that sleeping during class is rude. So in an effort to mitigate the incivility associated with mid-lecture snores, I have a few suggestions for all of my attention challenged fellow students.

1. Be honest with your professor at the beginning of class. Something like, “I’m not really sure why I bothered to come to class today. I’m totally out of it, and unless you plan on lighting your hair on fire, I don’t think that I’m going to make it through your hour-long discourse on the history of wheelbarrow use in Central Asia” will suffice.

2. Make an effort to stay awake. Hot coffee usually helps. When you begin to nod off, remove the lid and splash some of it on your face. Crammed, ear-punishing screams of “AHHH! This coffee is burning my face!” are viewed by many in the academic world as impolite. However, your instructor will appreciate the effort you are making. Besides, you might be doing a service to other students having trouble staying awake.

3. Make sure that your out-of-class sleeping is as unobtrusive as possible — just put your head down on your desk. Students who fight the urge to sleep, and end up doing that head bob thing (we’ve all done it) usually become the center of attention in class. Honestly, if I had the choice of listening to a professor drone on about the significance of the Industrial Revolution during the usual statistics recitation, or watching that guy’s head in the next row whip around like one of those dashboard halo dolls, I’m going to choose the latter. Furthermore, students should conceal as much of their face as possible when sleeping. Not only does this mask both drooling and snoring, it makes it difficult for the professor to identify the corneal transgressors.

I am certain that if all of us mid-lecture nappers follow these simple suggestions, the quality of education in those who sit near us will be significantly reduced.

Craig Weber is a city and regional planning senior who keeps a pillow in his backpack — just in case.

Letters to the editor

School of the Americas has disturbing mission

Editor,

I am writing in reference to the Oct. 19 commentary by Brett Marcus ("Poly could learn from the School of the Americas"). Making light of the fact that thousands of innocent people are mysteriously disappearing every day is disturbing. What I think is even more shocking and somewhat frightening is that most students don’t even know what the School of the Americas is. The SOA is a U.S. army training school that trains soldiers from Latin America. This training is funded by U.S. taxpayers. More than 56,000 members of Latin American militaries have attended the SOA since it opened in 1946.

So what is the big deal? Why are so many people upset and protesting this military school? For one simple fact that upon their graduation, SOA trainees are creating mass destruction in their countries by murdering their own people. SOA trainees are not taught how to defend their borders from invasion. Instead, they are taught how to create war, inflict torture and commit human rights violations against their own people.

For those of you who are interested in learning more about the School of the Americas, Rev. Roy Bourgeois, a Maryknoll priest, will give a lecture on Thursday, Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium.

Bourgeois has brought to the consciousness of the American public the violence that the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Ga., has perpetrated in South and Central America. So passionate is he in his efforts to close the school that he has willingly spent seven years in prison as a result of his frequent acts of civil disobedience. As many as 7,200 others have joined him in recent protests.

You can also call or write your representative or senator to tell them that you do not want your tax money spent for the School of the Americas or check it out on the web at www.sosal.org.

Sara Pehanick is a third-year liberal studies major.

ASI is doing a fine job

Editor,

Reading Monday’s editorial on the “Case of the missing student government” was a rude five minutes.

Given the Mustang Daily’s consistent good reporting this year, I was surprised at the blatantly narrow scope of the editorial, with cute put-downs and snappy insults. But Associated Students Inc. is in good shape. On a campus-wide level, the Club Sponsorship program, which funds up to 50 percent of event fees that come with club activities open to all students, has funded seven separate events this quarter. That money is spent directly on students and their clubs.

Furthermore, the Board of Directors just announced its official stance against mandatory community service, a bill that California’s state government is considering. Colleges went straight down to student clubs to hear the regular Joel and Janes’ opinions.

Last week, the College of Science and Math co-sponsored the recent Graduate and Professional School Day with Career Services. Over 50 graduate schools came to inform students of higher education.

Students have a voice all day; they even can participate in activities like ASI’s Neighborhood Cooperation Week, which was your front-page article on Monday. And did anyone go to the Bink concert? ASI helped bring them here. I think ASI is doing a fairly good job this year.

The Mustang should not start fights where there is no conflict.

Robert Whelan is a mathematics junior and a student council chair in the College of Science and Math (Programs and Services Committee).

Letter policy

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

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, proficiency and length. Please limit length to 350 words.

Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten and signed with your major and class standing. Preference is given to e-mailed letters. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to opedi@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu.

Mustang Daily Editorial Board

Monday, November 9, 1999

Volume LXXIV, No. 44

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New dawn for religion opens possibilities for resolution

Last Sunday, the Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches signed a joint declaration putting aside their differences over the way humanity achieves salvation. This pact ended an almost 500-year debate over the topic that started when the instigator, Martin Luther, nailed his 95 theses to the Castle Church in Wittenberg, provoking the sides of indulgences. The big debate stemmed from the Catholic belief that people’s actions can make a difference, while Lutherans believe salvation is based on faith alone. This ongoing debate set the stage for the division of Germany in the 17th century that sparked the Thirty Year War. The heart of the signed agreement stated that faith alone is essential in salvation, and leaders from both sides hope they can work more closely on educational programs, particularly in developing countries. Is the signing of this pact important? You bet. The signing is not only important, but this may signal the rise of a new dawn for our world.

This could be part of a religious evolution trend to change with the times. Paganism is another example of an evolving religion. In medieval times, it was common practice to use animal sacrifices in rituals, but now since animal rights advocates would have a confrontation if most people would find it repulsing; they decided to retire the practice.

This could also be an opposite sign of the possible Armageddon theme once the year 2000 is born. If these two sides can mend their ways after half a century of bickering, it could hint toward signs that our civilization is on the brink of peaceful living. The Middle East Peace Conference was another example of the steps people are taking to co-exist in a peaceful manner.

This pact could also reach several groups across the globe about setting aside differences and working together toward a common goal. Maybe this can reach the Republicans and Democrats that we are all part of one country, and muckraking only deteriorates our political system. Maybe the commissioner of Major League Baseball, Bud Selig, can get coaches be bygones and lift the lifetime ban from Pete Rose. Maybe high school outlets can be accepted by their peers and not feel hostile enough to engage in a high-school blood sport. Maybe the KKK and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People can talk about their differences over tea. Maybe the Cal Poly administration and the City of San Luis Obispo can work together with the Greek system to promote student life.

Morgan Stanley, Arthur Andersen, PriceWaterhouse, Autoweb.com, Coca-Cola, Deloitte and Touche. These are just a few of the companies that have hired “graduates” of the Summer Management Program. Now Hiring Future Business Leaders.

California Polytechnic State University
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.

The Annual Audit of the Associated Students, Inc. and the University Union for FY 1998-99 has been completed.

Public information copies are available at the ASI Business Office (UU 212) and at the Campus Library.

For two and a half hours, I stared unblinkingly at the movie screen. When the curtains closed and the mar­

heth sublaced, I left the theater with a sense of satisfaction that I rarely achieve.

Fight Club is one of the most interesting and thought-provoking movies I have ever seen. Behind the catchy one-liners, mesmerizing acting and cal­

amitous fist fights resonates a poignant, yet modern, message to which anyone can relate.

“Know thyself.” Believe it or not, I believe this is the message that “Fight Club” was trying to render to us. This movie is about violence. Violence and murder are merely the medium through which the message was sent. The movie was trying to reach all of us with a dilapidated sense of identity, and attempting to reflect the way that our culture identifies itself. We are a nation of consumers. Or as Brad Pitt’s character puts it, “We are byproducts of a lifestyle obsession... We work jobs we hate to buy things we don’t need.”

This message orbits around the movie’s narrator who is never named. This char­

acter is an insomniac who identifies him­

self with a support group of eunuchs recovering from narcotic cancer. If any­

one needs help, this man does.
Mustang Daily | Tuesday, November 9, 1999

More adults are lighting up

Poly health educators offer classes to combat statistics

By Melissa McFarland
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Officials for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated Thursday that they have made "virtual­ly no progress whatsoever" during the 1990s in reducing the smoking rate among American adults.

"Even though they don't advertise so much in com­mercially, it's all over the TV and in movies," said peer health educator Laura Malone. "They always show kids smoking like crazy in all the young movies, like in 'Realities Bites.' And even on 'Friends,' there was an episode where (Rachel) had to smoke to get in with her boss. So people are influenced that way."

Despite the surge in health warnings, bans and laws, 24.7 percent of Americans smoked cigarettes in 1997, the same amount as in 1995. The rate was 25.5 per­cent in 1990.

The study, which surveyed 35,000 people nationwide, found that the smoking rate among most adult age groups decreased from 1990 to 1997. However, the rate among 18 to 24-year-olds climbed from 24.5 percent to 28.7 per­cent.

Peer health educators in Cal Poly's Health Center offer workshops and one-on-one counseling to students wanting information or hoping to quit.

"I think it's accepted in college because some students are just party smokers," said peer health educator Kristy Long. "I don't think in general people accept chain smoking still."

Malone said many believe that if a smoker quits after only a couple years, the body will repair itself.

"There are always stories about people who smoke for five or 10 years, then you're more likely to have permanent damage," the nutrition senior said. "People think when they're young it's not so bad, once they realize they'll just smoke for a couple years and then quit. It's the image. I think people still think it looks good — it gives them more of a reckless image."

Architectural graduate student Yvonne Michael lost her grandfather to smoking-related causes. Her father, who has smoked four packs a day without filters since age 16, has also encountered problems.

"I hate smoking," Michael said. "I think college stu­dents do it because of the freedom they now have. You don't have to worry about going home and smelling like cigarette smoke, if your parents care about that. I think the younger generation just doesn't care about their health. They can't think that far ahead."

Grady Corbitt, a construction management freshman, said many between the ages of 18 and 24 believe they're invincible.

"They just try it, and they either like it or don't," Corbitt said. "They don't know how it's going to take a toll on them in 20 years. If they start when they're 13, they're not going to stop."

Health officials predict lower smoking statistics in 1999 due to higher prices. Cigarette makers raised their prices more than 70 percent in many states.

"The bottom line on this is it just speaks to how tough people think it is to quit and how addictive tobacco is," said Michael Erken, director of the CDC's Office of Smoking and Health.

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Kitchens may be hazardous to health

Have you ever walked through a friendly kitchen and saw green powderly bread sitting on the counter? Have you ever been afraid to open the refrigerator door, not knowing what creatures will be propagating your leftovers?

We've all witnessed some sort of food spoilage in kitchens. Sometimes it may just be moldy cheese, but unsanitary kitchen practices can be extremely dangerous to your health.

While food-borne disease outbreaks appear more common at restaurants and fast food establish­ments, the fact is most food-borne diseases originate at home. A large percentage of people attribute gas­tromoninal problems to the flora when the real cause is improper food handling.

For the following safe food han­dling list on your refrigerator door as a guide to follow: (You may also want to keep these points in mind when preparing Thanksgiving din­ner.)

1. Keep foods out of the "danger zone" (between 40 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit). Either refrigerate or freeze food until it is below 40 or above 140 F.

2. Refrigerated leftovers should be eaten within three to four days after the food was prepared. Put leftovers in shallow containers to cool rapidly in the refrigerator.

3. When serving food, it should be left out for no more than two hours before being thrown away or refrigerated.

4. Soup and hot water together, must be used when wash­ing dishes, utensils, counters, etc.

5. Never leave meat out on the counter to de­frost. Defrost meat in the refrig­erator. Keep raw meat and poultry away from other foods.

6. Sanitize cutting boards and utensils between food preparation to avoid cross-contamination. Wash your hands often when cook­ing.

7. Make new bleach water solu­tions each time you use it, since the potency of the bleach only lasts a short while — otherwise it oxidizes and becomes ineffective against microorganisms.

For more information, check out www.foodsafety.gov or call 1-800- 535-4555 for meat and poultry, or 1-800-FDA-4010 for seafood safe­handling questions.

Erin Silva is a nutritional science senior and writes a weekly Mustang Daily column.
already treading water. At the height of their dominance — the mid '90s to the mid '90s — 49er-haters continually hashed the team for numerous reasons other than their play on the field. Bad fans, even worse weather and questionable off-field practices by management have all been used to belittle the 49ers franchise.

Critical stat. Their offensive line is quite offensive; just ask Steve Young if he has awakened from his monthlong concussion. And the staple of the team’s offense, the passing game, has been nonexistent. So talk your trash and kick the 49ers while they’re down. I won’t argue. I can’t argue.

Adam Russo, whose Mustang Daily salary couldn’t buy the 49ers a new bag of sweat socks, could be reached by e-mail at sports@polymail.calpoly.edu.
Watende steps into Favorable position

Junior must fill large shoes of injured Beeson

By Joe Nolan

Plagued by injuries, Watende Favors didn’t fit in last year. He missed the beginning of the year with a broken jaw and later injured his ankle, reducing his minutes from 602 his freshman year to just 257 last year.

When Favors was available, head coach Jeff Schneider used him sparingly at the shooting guard and third guard (or small forward) positions. Favors simply wasn’t in the same shape as he was his freshman year when he scored 10 points per game.

“He broke his jaw and had to eat through a straw. That’s not the best conditioning,” Schneider said. “Then he goes down with a sprained ankle. I think he had about as good a year as he could have had.”

The injury bug is playing a big role again this year, forcing Favors to replace injured Brandon Beeson at the starting small forward position, instead of backing up Mike Wozniak at shooting guard.

So this year, the 6’2” swingman has to fit in, despite that his size doesn’t fill the traditional small forward role again this year, forcing Favors to replace injured Brandon Beeson at the starting small forward position, instead of backing up Mike Wozniak at shooting guard.

See FAVORS, page 7

Watende Favors is expected to replace Brandon Beeson at small forward.

WATER POLO

The water polo team took a dip in the pool after securing the National Championship on Sunday.

It’s open season on 49er fans

Go ahead and crack your jokes. Make your rude comments and run your smack. They’ve 20 years in the making.

After two decades of football dominance, the San Francisco 49ers are everything people have been trying to say they were for years — a middling football team. I hang my head in shame.

Plainly, the 49ers are not even a mediocre football team.

In a league where parity has put all teams at an even watermark, the 49ers are struggling to keep their heads above water.

Finally 49er haters have a legitimate reason to bash their favorite target. And rightfully so — the 49ers have failed to even compete in five of their eight games this season. To say the team barely squeaked out their three victories this year would be an understatement.

For years I have heard football fans trash the 49ers. People have called for the franchise’s demise the past decade, and yet the team defied the naysayers.

Instead of sacrificing a year or two to help the team rebuild with youth, the 49ers kept their usual goal of winning the Super Bowl and sought older talent. The strategy paid off in January 1995, but also contributed to the problem that’s crippling the San Francisco franchise today.

The strategy to reload rather than rebuild has caused a salary cap nightmare. Former general manager Dwight Clark bolted to Cleveland, taking 49er personnel with him — putting cement boots on a team

Sports Trivia

Yesterday’s Answer:

Joe Ducky Medwick was the last National League player to win the Triple Crown.

Congrats Chad Kecy!

Today’s Question:

How many combined interceptions did Joe Montana throw in his four Super Bowl appearances?

Please submit sports trivia answers to sports@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu.

Please include your name. The first correct answer received via e-mail will be printed in the next issue of the paper.