Robbery suspect surrenders after standoff

Cal Poly Police find car leading to arrest

By Danielle Samaniego
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITERS

An unnamed bank robbery led to a three-hour standoff at a residence near Murray and Broad streets in San Luis Obispo Thursday afternoon.

Police officers barricaded an estimated four-block radius between Chorro and Murray streets and Broad and Serrano streets after Mark Ward took refuge at 82 Broad Street around 11 a.m. Ward is the only suspect in the Westamerica Bank robbery.

The robbery took place around 10 a.m. Thursday at 145 Higuera St. The male suspect verbally coerced a teller to give him an unspecified amount of cash. During an on-scene press conference, San Luis Police Chief James Gardiner said he had no idea if Thursday morning's robbery was in connection with the previous three bank robberies in the county within the last two weeks.

The suspect vehicle was spotted on Tassajara Street by Cal Poly Police Investigator Ray Bennett, who then notified city police.

"SLOPD put out a be on the lookout," said Bennett.

Two females were apprehended when police arrived at the car. One female tipped police officers to the Broad Street location where Ward was hiding, Gardiner said.

Officers chased in ballistic-jacketed vehicles and on foot, but police were unable to solve the house. Authorities were unsure whether or not Ward was armed at the time. A man was tossed into the home after police broke a window to make communication.

An unidentified ex-wife was brought to the scene to coerce Ward out of the home.

"This was not his residence, and we don't know who it belongs to," Gardiner said.

Ward surrendered and emerged from the home at approximately 3 p.m. Armed officers immediately led him to a nearby police vehicle. No one was injured during the standoff.

"I'm always happy when negotiations settle something without somebody getting hurt," Gardiner said.

Along with the San Luis Police Department, the Cal Poly Police, FBI, Sheriff's department and CHP collaborated to end the standoff.

"One of the good things about this county is that we do work together," Gardiner said.

Brent Jarcik, a Cal Poly business sophomore, lives next door to the house where Ward hid. He was walking home when he discovered armed police officers and negociators immediately led him to a nearby police vehicle. No one was injured during the standoff.

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Symposium brings employers to Poly

By Monica McHugh
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Those who are unemployed know that finding a job, let alone a career, can be a nightmare. Cal Poly's Career Services made life a little easier for students Thursday by bringing 117 employers to the Rec Center for a giant career symposium.

"The career symposium is the best opportunity to meet employers for a variety of purposes, including job seeking, career exploration and contacts," said Shel Bartell, associate director of Career Services and coordinator of the event.

The symposium brought employers, who were mostly Cal Poly alumni, representing 117 employers visited the Rec Center.

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see ROBBERY, page 2

see ACCIDENT, page 2
Bicyclist in stable condition after collision with van

By Kerri Holden
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Two days after he was seriously injured in a bicycle accident, mechanical engineering senior Brandon Wahl is listed in stable condition at Sierra Vista Medical Center.

A van driven by computer science senior Kevin Kischke hit Wahl at the intersection of Fredericks and Kentucky streets as he rode to school Tuesday morning.

According to witnesses, Kischke swerved to avoid Wahl when the bicyclist ran the Kentucky Street stop sign. Wahl, however, had not retained his control.

"He is less and less unconscious as the time goes on," his mother Carol Wahl said Thursday. "Our hope is that he'll have a full recovery because every time we see him he's better."

Carol Wahl mother of Brandon Wahl

Dunstan said he asked her to talk to all his professors to make sure they knew about the accident.

"He's pretty stressed out about school right now," she said.

Despite this, Dunstan said Wahl's attitude has been admirable, especially since he was recently moved out of intensive care.

"He's in the best mood you can be considering he's just lying in a hospital bed," Dunstan said. "But he really wants to get out of there."

Dunstan said there's the possibility Wahl will be released on Monday but that the results of a CAT scan need to be checked first.

El Corral cameras catch thieves

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Two suspects caught on video tape were arrested Tuesday evening on burglary charges for attempting to steal $200 worth of textbooks from El Corral.

Heather Jawn Robinson and Paul Henry Miramontes were arrested in a vehicle after viewing Robinson and Miramontes on video tape, El Corral Bookstore Security detained the suspects until University Police arrived. The suspects were found with three computer notebooks totaling nearly $200, Schroeder said.

A third person, Joseph Anthony Matthews, was arrested in a vehicle on campus after being detained for a traffic stop, police arrested Miramontes on a $50,000 warrant. All three are local residents but are not registered students.

SYMPOSIUM

continued from page 1

companies ranging from Mervyn's to agriculture and architecture firms. Many high-tech firms attended the symposium and is Career Service's campuswide event, it was open to students of all majors, and with the students being great at what they do."

We like Cal Poly students because they know what they're doing and they're great at what they do.

Doreen Chun
Department of Public Works Auditorium, but Burrell said the symposium outgrew the auditorium. Because the symposium was a campuswide event, it was open to students of all majors, and with the support of Associated Students Inc., it was held in the Rec Center.

In your 20's?

First, the field is not as crowded as it may seem. There are many opportunities, including travel and the chance to work for federal government agencies. Field positions are available in the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, and the Department of Treasury.

"We like Cal Poly students because they know what they're doing and they're great at what they do."

The types of opportunities vary depending on the department. The Department of Agriculture offers positions in research, education, and regulatory roles. The Department of Commerce offers positions in law enforcement, analysis, and policy development. The Department of Treasury offers positions in law enforcement, analysis, and policy development.

Many of these positions are available in the United States, but some are available abroad.

Census Bureau aims to curb miscounting of college students

The Census Bureau is seeking candidates for summer internship and fulltime opportunities. We currently have management positions in our Marketing, Sales, Engineering, and IT departments. Candidates are matched to our various positions. If you are interested in pursuing an internship or fulltime opportunity, please send your resume, expressing your interest to Irene Jorgensen, College Recruiter.
Students brave elements

Nine students endured wind, rain, and a little sunshine all in the name of adventure

By Kelly Hendricks

Mustang Daily Staff Writer

One group on campus didn't let last weekend's rainstorms ruin its fun.
A group of nine Cal Poly students from Poly Escapes went on a backpacking trip to Point Reyes, located above San Francisco.

Due to frequent monsoon-like conditions, the group spent Friday through Monday backpacking and camping in the wilderness.

"The trip went really well," said Jamie Lefroy, a business freshman and trip guide. "Point Reyes is probably one of the most beautiful places I've been to with Poly Escapes."

The trip was headed by two leaders, Lefroy and Michelle Zeidman, and two mentors, Amy Lobinger and Steve Schueneman. Lobinger served as the group leader, and Schueneman was the only student who were training the two younger leaders.

The group's days were filled mostly with hiking, mainly because they had a good distance to cover. They did, however, take time to stop and enjoy the cliffs and ocean views.

But the rain did take its toll. Lobinger said the group spent a lot of time setting up emergency shelters for protection from the rain and wind.

The stormy conditions also provided some entertaining close calls.

"The wind got so bad that it was blowing us over because our backpacks were acting like sails," Lobinger said. "We were on a cliff and one of the guys almost went over. He started bouncing on the edge and we all were saying to ourselves, 'Uh-oh.' Luckily, he eventually regained his balance."

Lobinger said the trip cost $30 per person. The fee covered gas to and from Point Reyes, permits and food for the three campuses and trail. Food was additional.

"The trip was a blast - really, really fun," Lobinger said. "When you get out in the elements, it's a rush to tempt yourself. The rain wasn't going to stop us."

Poly Escapes has many trips, ranging from snowshoeing to ice climbing, planned for upcoming weekends. To get more details, contact Poly Escapes at 716-1287.

Wilderness academy helps build student self-esteem

FRENCH GULCH, Calif. (AP) - Seventeen-year-old Jake Mills had made a habit out of skipping school in his hometown of Danville.

But when his parents sent him to NAWA while he was waiting to attend boarding school in French Gulch, he quickly realized his days as a truant were over.

"When I got here, it was like, where am I gonna go?" Mills said of the remote, 556-acre campus at the foot of the Trinity Alps. Imagine his surprise when he discovered that, for the first time, he didn't want to escape from school.

"I'm a lot happier now, a lot more outgoing," said Mills, who has been at NAWA for four months. "I've kind of started over."

Mills is among about 32 students from all over California who study, live and play at the school. And "bored" isn't an adjective you'd hear them use.

When students aren't in class, they're scaling rocks, rappelling down cliffs or crawling through caves. It's all part of a plan to infuse self-confidence and motivation into teens who have been frustrated by the traditional educational system.

Formerly called the North American Wilderness Academy, the school serves seventh-graders through high school seniors. Though a few come to NAWA with high grades, most haven't done well academically in the past, said Jason Hull, NAWA's director of admissions and marketing.

"If your son hasn't made it in public school since kindergarten and he's in 10th grade, he's probably not going to succeed in the 11th," said Hull, who also directs NAWA's wilderness and rescue program and is a training officer for Shasta County Search and Rescue.

Each class has four to 11 students, which is ideal for teens who have spent years hiding in the back of a classroom, Hull said. After the school day ends at 4:30 p.m., students have dinner together and participate in activities that range from snowboarding to fly-fishing before retiring to their dorms. Lights go out at 10 p.m.

"The campus philosophy follows the proverb, 'I heard and I forgot; I saw and I remembered. I did and I understood,'" said Mills.

The boarding school actually has three academic programs - the California Academy, which is in French Gulch; Academy USA, which features 16-day educational trips all over the world; and Snowboard USA near Lake Tahoe, where students train for snowboarding competitions while attending school. The students are registered with the U.S. Amateur Snowboarding Association, Hull said.

"Many of our NAWA students are considered 'unteachable' by their local high school, and that's fine with us," Hull said.

Hull's parents, Dave and Celia, had bought the camp when they were living in Whittier and started running it. They moved to the area in 1980 and opened the California Academy that fall. Hull said they closed Pine Meadows in June 1994 and opened the California Academy that fall. Snowboard USA opened the following fall in Mount Shasta (it moved to Tahoe two years later).

"There's no dude I'd feel safer im," said Heath Hall, a NAWA student.

Hale Hall graduated from Pine Meadows School for severely emotionally disturbed youth there in 1980. From 1988 to 1992, NAWA was a summer school. In fall 1992, the traveling program was founded and it took eight kids in a van all over the country, Hall said.

They closed Pine Meadows in June 1994 and opened the California Academy that fall. Snowboard USA opened the following fall in Mount Shasta (it moved to Tahoe two years later). Hull said he was the president and administrator of the school, his wife, who holds a doctoral degree in psychology, is the dean of students. NAWA also has an "Adventure Summer School," which blends academic and outdoor activities.

Academy USA costs $21,980 per school year, and the other two programs are an additional $3,000. Some $80,000 in financial aid is distributed every year, and a typical financial aid package covers 25 percent of the school's cost. NAWA is accredited through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

The curriculum is based on state standards and the academy also offers vocational education, including landscaping, culinary arts, wood shop and firefighting.

And students learn a variety of outdoor skills, including backpacking, rock climbing (the school has a climbing wall), caving, skiing, mountaineering, kayaking, rappelling, snowboarding and mountain biking. All students take courses in vertical rescue and swift-water rescue. Students spend one day each weekend doing community service or going on an outdoor excursion.

Wilderness activities heighten teens' self-confidence, motivation, leadership skills and study habits, Hull said.

"These little things can do so much for your self-esteem, like, 'Wow, I just climbed that rock,'" said sophomore Heath Hall, 16, of Mill Valley.

Added Mills. "It's a lot of stuff I wouldn't go out and do on my own."

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The issue: Political character bashing

Stick to important issues

In kindergarten, we all learned that name calling was wrong. Our teachers patiently taught us, “If you don’t have something nice to say about somebody, don’t say anything at all.” We even turned our lessons into rhymes that could be chanted when some bully picked on us on the playground: Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me.

This theme carried through high school and college, where we learned to criticize issues — not speakers or writers — in our critical thinking classes. We learned that ad hominem attacks, points made against the appearance or character of an opponent, were fallacies, poor arguments and signs of a weak thinker.

I wonder, then, if people who get involved with modern politics sleep through those classes. There is more to campaigning than the character bashing that seems to be so prevalent in our nation’s political practices.

From bashing President Clinton to discounting David Blakey’s character in columns and opinion letters printed in past issues of the Mustang Daily, character-based campaigns and arguments miss what should be the core of political debates and events.

Character-bashing tactics are readily apparent in virtually every election letter sent in by backers of candidates. Candidates themselves are also responsible for a good portion of muddling and attacks. Today’s campaign speeches seem to be comprised more of attacks on opponents, and responses to allegations made by opponents and the media, than actual talk on important issues.

Money spent on making television commercials that portray a candidate’s opponents as blood-thirsty wolves is money wasted. Such startling visual images and allegations of flaws in an opponent’s character are effective for gut-level emotional appeal, but lack the substance that should be devoted to the worthy and public matter of politics.

Instead of spending time and resources investigating each other’s pasts and creating cheesy television spots, candidates should devote their energy to exploring relevant issues and developing productive solutions to problems our society faces.

While a good character is a strong and necessary quality for campaigners to have, character-bashing campaigns say that our society has become shallow. When voters begin devoting their attention to the people instead of the issues, they are guilty of seeing only the surface of the issues.

Voters should care less about how many times a candidate may have done a certain drug in high school and more about what that candidate will actually do if elected or appointed. Since these candidates will most likely not be reliving their pasts in their newly appointed offices, it makes more sense to judge them on what they will actually be doing with the power they may hold.

The past does have a place, but instead of digging it up, candidates and supporters alike should acknowledge it, learn from it and move on. Campaigners should stop looking for weaknesses in everyone around them.

A candidate, and society as a whole, would benefit from efforts to focus on his or her own ideals and how to apply them to the future. Leave the name-calling for the ballads on the playground.

Ryan Miller is a journalism junior and a Mustang Daily staff writer.

True character is essential

The election of public officials is one of the most important processes in our country, and no aspect of it should be taken lightly. Unfortunately, many people have accepted the belief that a person’s character should not be a prime consideration, and that is a very dangerous mindset.

When voting, people choose the candidates who best represent their opinions and interests. They choose someone who they feel will do the job and lead the community or nation as a positive direction. Obviously, a candidate’s experience and abilities are crucial factors, but his or her character is just as important.

When President Clinton made some very questionable decisions regarding his personal life, many people argued that it was none of the public’s business and should have no effect on his ability to do his job. Such character offenses, personal or public, should not be permitted.

The leader of a country should be an exemplary citizen. There are plenty of people who could run the country as well as Clinton, but have much higher moral standards. A person in such a position should be above reproach because he holds our trust to lead the nation, and behavior such as oral sex on taxpayer property is an outright disregard for our trust.

Of course, we all make mistakes. Clinton made a mistake. Actually, he made many mistakes of the same nature that, when brought to the public’s attention, should have prevented him from being voted into office in the first place, much less a second time.

However, in the economic prosperity that everyone but me seems to be enjoying, Americans overlooked his overwhelming character flaws.

As a consequence, the position of president has been made a laughing stock of the world, and the standard has been dramatically lowered for future leaders.

Locally, we have seen the character issue in the county supervisor’s race between Mike Ryan and David Blakey. A recent article by Tamas Simon stated that Blakey has a less than perfect character and lists faults such as past drug use. Questions voters should ask themselves are: If the allegations are true, is that the kind of person we want in office? Or has he mended his ways enough to be an acceptable choice?

As for Ryan, there aren’t the same kinds of allegations against his character as there are with Blakey, but voters still need to find out what kind of character he had before they make a decision.

Character attacks are also prevalent in advertising for current presidential candidates. “Negative advertising” is fair enough if the allegations are absolutely true. Often voters learn things about candidates through ads they might not hear from other media. Sometimes they can be informative, but when they deteriorate to immature character bashing, they can easily get out of hand. No one wants to see two candidates going back and forth trying to get even with each other.

The bottom line is, character is an important consideration in an election. Every effort should be made to find the truth about the candidates, and to consider whether the person is an example to other communities or nations and today’s children.

Do not belittle the importance of character.

Karin Orenien is a journalism sophomore and a Mustang Daily staff writer.

Opinion

Mustang Daily
A new twist on locals' old downtown attitude

It has always puzzled me why the citizens of San Luis Obispo are against corporate America. They claim that allowing large chain stores to open for business, the company's in essence, be invading the way of life that they value so much. Their feelings were only too clear about this when feathers were ruffled over the new Carl's Jr. restaurant that opened in their precious downtown. I find this funny, as a block away, Higgins is lined with chains that we all know what I mean. I revisited the downtown shopping experience a few years back.

"They'll run the mom-and-pop stores out of business," they scream. Apparently, these citizens have never set foot into a Carl's Jr. restaurant before. I doubt there is a local eatery downtown that is seriously threatened by the production of a Western Bacon Cheeseburger close by. I'd love someone to time me at the restaurant that is immediately around with them. Certainly not Big Sky or F. McClintock's or even Daddys. Maybe it's the Chumash that is an immediate competition with them. Certainly not Big Sky or F. McClintock's or even Daddys. Maybe it's the Chumash that is an immediate competition with them. I'm sure that all of the downtown's treasured businesses will be inadvertently affected. No? Then, what's the problem?

"They'll ruin the mom-and-pop stores out of business," they scream. Apparently, these citizens have never set foot into a Carl's Jr. restaurant before. I doubt there is a local eatery downtown that is seriously threatened by the production of a Western Bacon Cheeseburger close by. I'd love someone to time me at the restaurant that is immediately around with them. Certainly not Big Sky or F. McClintock's or even Daddys. Maybe it's the Chumash that is an immediate competition with them. Certainly not Big Sky or F. McClintock's or even Daddys. Maybe it's the Chumash that is an immediate competition with them. I'm sure that all of the downtown's treasured businesses will be inadvertently affected. No? Then, what's the problem?

I think of the citizens of this town need to step back and take a deep breath. Look at how successful the downtown mall has become. It has become a prime example of how corporate America and the smaller companies can work together for the revitalization of a particular area. Apparantly, to the opposition of Carl's Jr. is eating the Happy Star logo and an eye-sore, and too generic for the specialization of downtown - yet there lies the logical reasoning. Each downtown retailer has already established a niche in the marketplace. That's right, the big-box retailers won't be able to capture the exquisite home furnishings of Meridain, or the superior quality and serene environment of Lnanoa's, or the mixture of new and vintage that you'll find in Pinko's Records. Think of the tourists, and how they will rationalize the situation. They'll probably choose a local entry over Carl's Jr. anymore. Why? They can get Carl's Jr. at home, and they'll probably prefer to sample the local flavors of San Luis Obispo. The addition of a fast-food outlet will only bring more variety to downtown.

Mustang Daily

Letters to the editor

Prop 22 is short but far from sweet

Editor, March 7: California voters will vote on Prop 22. The measure is a surprisingly short and sweet 14 word proposal that reads: "Proposition 22 would make the legitimate physician-patient relationship the only valid or recognized in California." But what seemingly simple sentence lies the key to an extremely dangerous Pandora's box of legal and civil rights issues. Let us not fool ourselves. Proposition 22 is addressing gay marriage. Its purpose is to limit the definition of marriage to exclude same-sex marriages.

California law, however, has no provision prohibiting same-sex unions. Section 300 of the California Family Code reads: "Marriage is a personal relation arising out of a civil contract between a man and a woman." Those 17 words sound pretty familiar, don't they? Proposition 22 doesn't say anything different from what California law currently says, it is simply adding something to the law books, except more ink.

The obvious and harmless proposi­tion's purpose is a springboard for future legislation and court rulings that would challenge California's fundamental rights. In other states, similar laws, which were sexual marriage or the "gay lifestyle" have been used to limit hospitalization, visitation, health insurance and inheritance benefits.

More importantly, the passing of Proposition 22 would make the legitimate and judicial climate in California friendly to more disturbing forms of legislation. If initiatives like Proposition 22 are allowed to pass, who is to say we won't be facing a proposition tomorrow that limits marriage to only those who have not been previously married? Or maybe only those with children?

If the Knight Initiative were to pass, the possibilities become endless, and the issue is not merely the irritating limitations and conditions become blurred. Carl's Jr. has said about this issue, "I have always opposed same-sex marriage. (I) also oppose segregation of any kind. I have divid­ed one California from another." You don't have to support same sex marriage or the "gay lifestyle" to vote "no" on Proposition 22.

Carrie Carden is an ecology senior.
Destinations & Diversions

Popular Mexican cantina offers great food

A favorite haunt for local residents and a popular tourist choice, Old Juan's Cantina offers a traditional Mexican meal in a casual environment that reflects the ambiance of an old Mexican cantina.

Old Juan's is at Highway 1 and Pier Avenue in Oceano Beach, the gateway to the Ocean Dunes State Vehicular Recreation area. A lot of people are still unaware of the location and its proximity to recreational opportunities like surfing, swimming, surf-fishing, camping, hiking, and off-roading. The entrance to Oceano Dunes is just down the street at the end of Pier Avenue where one can drive right out onto the sand and, with the right equipment, all over the dunes trail. Many park visitors use Old Juan's as a place to re-fuel the body with the best Mexican food in the county and cool off with a Gold Tequila Margarita. (In truth, Old Juan's offers a number of Tequilas and fruit flavors to choose from, as well as a 48 oz. Jumbo Margarita!)

Old Juan's Cantina in Oceano Beach has traditional meals in a casual atmosphere. The restaurant is at Highway 1 and Pier Avenue.

Old Juan's Cantina is a new concept. As a matter of fact, the public overwhelmingly Old Juan's right from the first day it re-opened, even though the restaurant was unadvertised. The staff hoped to keep it a relative secret in order to get used to the new place, but apparently a lot of locals wanted to get used to it as well.

Old Juan's Cantina has a variety of Mexican dishes and a Sunday Ranchero Breakfast. The staff has been overwhelmed Old Juan's right from the beginning. The fifteen months of rebuilding after the devastating fire was a trying time for customers and staff members. Customers still talk about making do without the restaurant. Loyal staff members can recall the transition from serving food to tearing down walls (ever seen a foodserver wield a saw?)! The resulting sophisticated, yet rustic, ambiance along with the palate-pleasing offerings have made the restaurant/cantina an even greater success.

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Newcomers, however, may be under the impression that Old Juan's Cantina is a new concept. Both cases are true. The current chef/owner purchased Carl's Spanish Seas Restaurant back in the mid ’70s and has been running it ever since. Although Spanish Seas had a good reputation and enjoyed strong customer support, the desire to renovate Spanish Seas and transform it into a rustic “cantina” started right from the beginning.

A fire nearly gutted the building in November of 1993, and it was not until the spring of 1995 that the restaurant re-opened with its new digs and new name. The fifteen months of rebuilding after the devastating fire was a trying time for customers and staff members. Customers still talk about making do without the restaurant. Loyal staff members
WRESTLING continued from page 8

quality for the NCAA Championships. My goal is to make it to the finals and hopefully be a Pac-10 champion," Reta said. "I just want to get out there and show what I can do."

Coons Alberto and Jaime Garza will also be looking to qualify for their respective NCAA berths. Alberto Garza wrestles in the 133-pound class and enters the tournament looking to up her record to 4-1. She now has 21 strikeouts in 23 1/3 innings.

For her tournament performance, freshman Holly Ballard earned the title of Big West Softball Player of the Week. Ballard hit .314 with runners in scoring position, bringing in seven runs during the five games. She leads the team so far with a .452 average (14 hits) and 11 RBI. Ballard said her college success is both overwhelming and surprising. "I really didn't think I was going to get to that level," she said. "It was an honor."

She said the team has about a 75-percentage confidence level going into the UCSB game. "We were very frustrated with ourselves (after the first two games), but the last three games pumped us up for this tournament," Ballard said. "As long as we stay focused and relaxed, we'll be able to do our job well.

The Mustangs will face Iowa State on Friday before playing San Diego State and Purdue on Saturday. They will play the Aztecs again on Sunday. "As a whole, we can improve on coming out focused and kept up that intensity level," Haley said. "We can't sit on that comfort zone, especially if we come off the first day with a win."

While the Mustangs continue to battle quality teams, junior Kasey Poet said she is fighting a mental battle of her own. Poet, who injured her right shoulder toward the end of last year, has yet to return to the field. "I want to play so bad," the third baseman said. "It makes you realize how much you take things for granted. I really thought I gave everything I had, but sometimes even the little things end up making you think. I'm going to appreciate the game so much more when I come back."

What will she do to prepare for the question. Poet admits to trying to speed up the healing process at first. Now, she said, she's taking it one day at a time.

"My doctor said we should take a little longer than we thought, and not to worry about making a deadline; I just can't push it," she said. "I'm about 62 percent right now. My hitting is coming along, but I have to work on stretching out my back. The hardest part is picking up the ball and bat, and then having to put them down.

Despite the setback, Poet is able to continue her leadership role on the field. "The team is doing so good," she said. "I know if they don't take it all this year, they will next year."

The Mustangs took one of four games in the UCSB Easton Invitational last year, and plan to come out with a strong finish this year.

"Iowa State will be a good team to go after," Haley said. "We really don't have a rivalry with any of them, we just need to have a good weekend and keep the level of play up."
New life for Mustang wrestlers

By Christian von Treskow

Cal Poly wrestlers must put their tough season behind them this weekend at UC Davis to compete in the Pac-10 Championships. The Mustangs' last planner 3-6 conference record is irrelevant. The tournament's results are the sole deciding factor on who will travel to the NCAA tournament next month.

A major obstacle the Mustangs must overcome are injuries plaguing three of the team's freshmen wrestlers. Greg Hendrickson, wrestling in the 197-pound weight class, and 157-pound wrestler Josh Blagg will both likely sit out due to knee and neck injuries, respectively. Nate Knutson, wrestling at 184 pounds, is also questionable with a neck injury.

While a banged-up Cal Poly roster will hurt chances for a team championship, it doesn't influence the ability of individual wrestlers to qualify for the NCAA Championships. Senior camper is the only returner from last year's tournament. Including 15 of his 16-match winning streak, he has a good shot at beating Fullerton in the last game," said Mimnaugh. "If all that happens and Irvine loses to who we think they will, we'll go." While the Mustangs hope for possible scenarios, one thing remains constant: Tonight's game against bitter rival Santa Barbara will be tough. If the Mustangs hope to keep the game close, they will have to shut down the Gauchos.

Scores

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Scores</th>
<th>VOLLEYBALL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cal Poly</td>
<td>69</td>
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<td>UC Santa Barbara</td>
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Briefs

Former Cal Poly star signs with Vikings

After losing the first two UNLV Classic games — one to nationally ranked Nebraska 9-1 and the other to UNLV 7-4 — the Mustangs quickly powered back. The next day they beat Florida International 5-4 and Portland State 8-0. Success came again on day three, with a 7-2 win over Southern Utah.

"We weren't on the field for two weeks because of the rain, and to the