Alien takeover: Should we leave dressing up to the kids? 4

Swallowing Pride: Football takes on Hofstra, 8

Bike rider hit by car on Grand

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

A Cal Poly student received minor injuries after being struck by a car while riding her bicycle on Grand Avenue Thursday morning. According to police reports, the 20-year-old Van Tran was riding her bike at 7:56 a.m. across the crosswalk on the corner of Grand Avenue and Slack Street when she was hit by a Med 626, said Traffic Sgt. Rocky Miller.

The car, driven by Arlette Oxbow, stopped at the stop sign on Grand Avenue and then proceeded forward, colliding with Tran who was coming from her right side, Miller said.

Tran suffered abrasions to her chin and right hand and was taken to Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center. She was treated and released Thursday.

Oxbow received no injuries and had a clean record, said Miller. Miller said their will be no citations in this case.

Hi-tech in Chumash

By Christine Powell

Complaints! Concerns! Now there's a panel that will listen. Inviting your opinion or offering suggestions about issues that affect student life on campus can be a form of participation and intimidation process.

Frequently, students do not know whom to address about how to change or better student life. Eddie Drake, Associated Students Inc. vice president of Student Advocates, has put his idea of offering a more student-friendly approach to effective change to work in what is called the ASI Advocacy Council. The council is composed of the highest-ranking officers in ASI who will listen and work to change situations that are bothersome to the student body.

"The goal of the council is to improve student relations with decision-makers on campus, and to get their voices heard in a less intimidating way," Drake said.

Drake and fellow ASI members have the advantage of a direct and ongoing relationship with faculty members in charge of making decisions that affect students. ASI is now a direct way to access the power of change.

"We'll show them (students) the door," Drake said, "and they'll open it.

Every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the University Union, the Advocacy Council will have a booth set up for students to approach members with their concerns. The sign on the booth will read: 'What's your beef?'

"If we can't help (students) I'll be really surprised," Drake said.

Propositions 38, 39 create controversy in public education

By Kari Christoffels

Education is a major issue facing the nation this election year. Both presidential candidates consider education to be one of their priorities.

Californians are facing two ballot measures focused on education reform this November: Propositions 38 and 39.

Proposition 38

Most of the controversy surrounds Proposition 38, which would offer school vouchers worth $4,000 to students, kindergarten through 12th grade, to attend private school. All public school students (approximately 6 million) would be eligible for these vouchers or scholarships by July 1, 2003.

Students that already attend private school would not be eligible right away. These 640,000 students would be phased into the program over the next four years, beginning with the youngest children first. Vouchers would be administered by each county's office of education.

Many public school officials oppose the measure because they feel it will harm the public school system.

In my personal opinion, I think that public schools need the public and I would be disappointed in any bill that would diminish this support," said Ed Valentine, assistant superintendent of the San Luis Coastal Unified School District. "Our school board has taken a position of opposition to Prop 38."

Presidential candidate George W. Bush supports the school voucher program. His stance is that vouchers will not only give parents a choice in where their children go to school, but also foster healthy competition between public and private schools that will lead to school improvement.

Presidential candidate Al Gore opposes the voucher program. On his campaign Web site, www.algore2000.com, Gore states, "I have always been against school vouchers because they drain public schools of funding for the children who need it most.

The financial impact of Proposition 38 is not definitive because analysts cannot predict how many parents will request and use the vouchers if the bill should pass. Opponents argue that the proposition could cause a major tax increase and take a large amount of money out of public schools if a big percentage of students use the $4,000 vouchers.

"Statewide, the estimated price tag is about $3 billion," said Julian Crocker, superintendent of county schools. "Unfortunately, that will take a large cut from public schools.

Proponents say that Proposition 38 will give students the option of attending better schools and benefit public schools by decreasing their class size and increasing the amount of money spent on each student. The estimated amount of money spent on each public school student is $8,000 per year.

The measure also contains a guaranteed minimum amount of money that must be spent in public schools despite student attendance.

Less controversial aspects of the bill involve academic testing and possible discrimination. Private schools may not discriminate by race, color, ethnicity or national origin, but they can turn away students for other reasons such as test scores, gender or disability. Opponents believe that this will leave needy children without any benefits.

Private schools do not have to administer the same standardized tests as public schools and are not required to hire credentialed teachers.

Proposition 39

Proposition 39 also deals with education spending. The measure proposes that school bonds, which raise property taxes to pay for public school costs, will only need a 55 percent majority to be passed. This would overturn an existing law that requires a 2/3 majority to pass bond measures.
Bomb threat scares U.S. investigators

CAMERON AND JERUSALEM — A Palestinian with a backpack of explosives blew himself up Thursday as his bicycle reached the concrete barrier of an Israeli army outpost, heightening fears that Israel could face a renewed wave of suicide bombings.

The suicide bombing pointed to the prospect that terrorists have found an alternative to the violence that has raged during a month of upheaval. A 14-year-old Palestinian boy — in an operation in Sept. 27 roadside explosion that killed a soldier in Gaza — is estimated to have been on the West Bank before scattering in areas designated as high-intensity zones for increased law enforcement.

Palestinian leaders said the attack by the 24-year-old in the Gaza Strip, the first suicide bombing since September, demonstrated that Palestinians could use for cover to fire on the isolated base.

The diplomatic front appeared bleak, with Israel and the Palestinian Authority launching separate initiatives. Israel's army radio said. "In these tough times, I want to tell our citizens that no one can dominate us," said Rajoub, speaking in American Cancer Society and the American Lung Association.

The Cole is to be carried back to the United States on a special channel broadcast from London.

Fathi Shekaki, in an operation in Bahrain, Qatar and Turkey are on the list of suspects.

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Imagine being able to experience the dryness of the desert, the moisture of the rainforest and scuba diving in a 7,000 gallon salt water tank all under one roof. Five Cal Poly students are experiencing first-hand these wonders of the world in California's neighboring state, Arizona, home of Biosphere 2.

Five Cal Poly students are involved with the program that is in partnership with Columbia University. Under this partnership, students get priority placement in the program and get discounted tuition.

The biosphere is used as an educational tool for the students. The program often involves working in partnership teams with other students.

"The program is planned around planetary stewardship and to look to interest people in careers that show respect for the welfare of the planet," said Phil Bailey, dean of science and mathematics at Cal Poly.

Bailey originally signed the agreement between Cal Poly and Columbia University in 1996. "The program is hands-on, so it really goes with the Cal Poly motto of 'Learn by Doing,'" Bailey said.

Students have the possibility of earning 12 to 18 Columbia University credits, all 300 level upper-division courses, which transfer back to their home school.

"The Biosphere 2 compound in Arizona holds the different ecosystems of the world, such as rainforest and desert, so that students can study the variations in each, in an up-close environment.

"I think it is fantastic," Micles said. "I love that the program is so small. We have this camaraderie and we help each other get through it." She explained that many of the students are on first-name basis with their teachers.

"They know our learning styles," Micles said. "They are constantly communicating with us to make sure that everything is okay.

Michael Omiecinski, the director of Student Admissions at Columbia University’s Biosphere 2 Center, said many students come undecided in their major and leave knowing what they want to study ecology or geology.

"Ninety-nine percent of the students have nothing but positive things to say in their exit interviews," he added.

The Biosphere 2 is a research facility that closely resembles a green house. It is three acres long and it is built underground glass and steel. It has five different ecological systems; a rain forest, an ocean, a desert, a savanna and an agricultural biome.

"The Biosphere is a microcosm of the world," Omiecinski. The earth is called a biosphere, so the Biosphere 2 is the mini-replica of the earth.

The biosphere was built 10 years ago, and Columbia University took over management of it in 1996. The university built a campus to house 100 students. Each student is required to do a research project and many students choose to use parts of the biosphere for their research.

This program is open to any undergraduate in the world. The biosphere hosts students from other countries including Asia, Europe and Mexico. Most come from the United States, and more specifically from Columbia University’s 29 partner schools.

When applying, each student must choose from the earth or universe semester.

The earth semester, the first program created, focuses on environmental science and policy, while the universe semester centers on astronomy.

Yvette Maces, a graduating senior at Cal Poly and one of the students in the program, is involved in the universe semester. This is only the second semester it has been offered and 14 students are enrolled in it.

"I have this camaraderie with my entire boat when I hit Bob's major rapid. There would be many silent spectators have nothing but positive things to say in their exit interviews," he added.

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"I have this camaraderie with my entire boat when I hit Bob's major rapid. There would be many silent
Today’s issue: Halloween weekend hits Cal Poly
Party on, students / Summer down, now

It’s the end of October, and everybody is feeling the heavy weight of midterms, papers and group projects. Here’s some good news for the overwhelmed masses! Halloween is only a few days away — just in time to give your weary brain a rest and bring out your wild side.

It’s time to dress up, get a little crazy and celebrate. If you think you’re too mature to participate in this hedonistic holiday, I beg to differ. Halloween is not just for kids, it is for the young at heart, too. This is the one time each year that everyone has an excuse to wear crazy costumes when parading the streets away.

We’ve had to let Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny go, but we don’t have to let go of the Halloween spirit. There’s a little devil in all of us, and we owe it to ourselves to let it out at least once a year (if not more). With so many ways to have a good time, there’s no excuse to sit around.

There’s always good old-fashioned trick-or-treating. If you and your friends feel too silly to do this at your ripe old age, volunteer at a local school or youth center.

Chaperoning a group of young trick-or-treaters is a great excuse to don a costume, and you’ll also be doing the little rug rats a favor. You can volunteer to work at a haunted house and dress up as one of those creepy creatures that kids love to scare everyone passing through.

But if you’re looking for a wilder night than this, there are plenty of social gatherings. Take this opportunity to indulge in a costume you won’t remember. There will be plenty of places to go both this weekend and next Tuesday. If nobody you know is having a party, throw your own bash for all the ghouls and gals. Carve some pumpkins, buy some of those fake spider webs and warn your neighbors — because Halloween is an all night affair.

If you ever wondered where this spooky holiday came from, you can thank an ancient group of Celts. The beginning of Halloween can be traced 2,000 years back to the Celtic New Year, which was called Samhain in Ireland, and means "end of summer." The ritual included a sacred fire and fire rituals. The celebration marked the third and final harvest and storage of provisions for the winter.

It was believed that the worlds of the living and the dead were at their thinnest point of the year during these festivities. The devil, witches and other spirits were also thought to have their greatest supernatural powers on this night. We have continued this celebration into the present day by observing All Hallow’s Eve on Oct. 31. All Hallow’s Day, or All Saint’s Day follows on Nov. 1, often placed with a hangover from the night before.

Even if the idea of participating in ancient tradition doesn’t inspire you, there are still plenty of reasons to take part in this year’s festivities. Most importantly, take the opportunity to act like a kid, let loose and forget about your oh-so-sophisticated self. You have the rest of your life to act like an adult.

If you are one of those who frequent the weekend parties and downtown scene, just throw on a costume. It won’t cramp your style. Don’t be afraid. Take some risks and tap into that wild side. You have the rest of your life to act like an adult.

Halloween is on a Tuesday this year. Most of the time, a Tuesday night would be pretty tame in San Luis Obispo. But, since Halloween gives college students an excuse to party, this Tuesday will be loud and rambunctious.

I guarantee that on Wednesday morning, pumpkins will be smashed on the street, and beer bottles and cans will litter doorways and sidewalks. These are not the usual remnants left by trick-or-treaters in non-college towns. Usually, the only trash left behind is a Snickers bar wrapper and empty Nerds.

In Mexico, the holiday El Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) is the equivalent of our Halloween. But their celebration is not as shallow. Their celebration revolves around loved ones who have died. They cook food, light candles and enjoy the company of family. Their belief is that loved ones they have lost will come back to Earth for one night to enjoy a meal with their family and friends. Their celebration is deep-rooted in their heritage and beliefs. It’s not just an excuse to get drunk and act foolish.

College students can get drunk and act foolish anytime they want. We should give Halloween to the children who deserve a safe and fun night.

College students should stay home with plenty of candy and greet every child in a costume with a friendly “trick or treat.” Not only will it make their Halloween better, but it will make us feel better knowing that no one bag of candy got stolen.

It is our responsibility as mature adults to make Halloween fun for the children of the town.

Keri Christoffels is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Jasyn Rowley is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Opinion

4 Friday, October 27, 2000

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Printed by University Graphic Systems

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ad manager nick mcclure
national ad director: jerry farrar
classified ad manager shannon brunelle
circulation claudia claffey
ad reps will elkins, alex garrett, michelle kerr,
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"that's wonderful! and i wasn't being condescending that time."
Letters to the editor

Columnist should follow own advice

Editor,

I’ve been an unabashed supporter of Eddie Drake’s philosophy—such as his many diatribes against all things Republican (and republican)—since I was immediately able to ascertain his learning by reading his latest column ("Gore, Chenery aren’t bright enough to dip in").

In the column, Drake refers to George W. Bush as a dimwitted yokel who can’t pronounce “subliminal” and also possesses "terrible qualities.

Then, unbidden by the column of irony, he proceeds to plead that writing respondents to his column “have the intelligence to write a response that doesn’t attack [him]."

Ad hominem attacks are vali- dated simply because they appear in a column containing selected facts and figures. Also, when writing a column against character attacks, it might be a good idea to give a title that doesn’t refer to others as stupid.

Ty Wardhaugh is a computer sci- ence sophomore.

College marriages take courage

Editor,

My very favorite friend is going to have her bridal gown in her wed- ding this December, in the middle of our fourth year at Cal Poly. I have watched with pride and admiration at Robin and her fiancé Jeff’s relationship, since the beginning when they were freshmen. As they commit their relationship to mar- riage in a few months, they are a tar- get of much criticism. It was Jennifer Hansen’s commentary, “Students should want to be wed” that encouraged me to stand up and applaud her for much criticism. It was Jenifer Hansen’s commentary, “Students should want to be wed” that encouraged me to stand up and applaud her for much criticism. It was Jenifer Hansen’s commentary, “Students should want to be wed” that encouraged me to stand up and applaud her for much criticism.

The future is uncertain for everyone, those wearing rings and those without. Though waiting to marry may be the right decision for some people, those who are ready to commit should receive respect as they do what they know is best for their relationship. As a close friend of Robin’s, I support her with much enthusiasm for her decision and Jeff, and I am humbly honored to be a bridesmaid in their wedding.

Timarie Zabio is a modern lan- guages and literatures junior.

Police, firefighters get plenty of money

Editor,

You can’t go anywhere in San Luis Obispo without seeing large blue and white signs promoting the idea of “supporting our police and firefighters” by voting yes on Measure S. Although I disagree with the idea of supporting our police and firefighters, for better or worse, this definition is derived from stances on issues. While people’s opinions change, the need for accountability and transparency does not.

I find it ironic that Al Gore says parents should not have a choice between state and public schools because public schools are far bet­ ter, yet he attended private school and has four children to private schools. In terms of promoting racial diversity, Gore claims to increase diversity in the staff that follows him daily, especially among blacks. But black members of the Secret Service are suing because they claim they are not being pro­ moted to positions guarding the vice president! I guess he does fol­ low his own advice, at least as to how Al Gore, Sr. voted against the Civil Rights Act in 1964.

And then there’s always the cre­ ation of the Internet issue—we’ve all heard that line before.

It is difficult to predict from one day to the next where Gore will stand on a number of key issues—the most consistent predictor of his position is his desire to change the direction the group he happens to be speak­ ing to. This is not what I see as a good character trait for a leader of our nation, but rather a human reflec­ tion of the miraculously changing colors of our reptilian friend, the chameleon. Maybe he is waiting until he gets elected to take a firm stance on the issues; you know, saving his strength.

While Gore is strategizing on what his “Position du Jour” will be, Bush is busy reforming one of the nation's largest and most populous states. As it turns out, Bush has quite an impressive record to reform. Texas is one of the two states in the country that has made the greatest recent progress in edu­ cation. It ranks No. 1 in teacher certification. It ranks No. 1 in teacher certification. It ranks No. 1 in teacher certification. It ranks No. 1 in teacher certification. It ranks No. 1 in teacher certification. It ranks No. 1 in teacher certification. It ranks No. 1 in teacher certification.

Operation Just Cause and Operation Just Cause are not the reason for this improvement. Instead, Bush has increased funding for public schools by $5.3 billion, a per pupil increase of 37 percent. He has increased funding for public schools by $5.3 billion, a per pupil increase of 37 percent. He has increased funding for public schools by $5.3 billion, a per pupil increase of 37 percent. He has increased funding for public schools by $5.3 billion, a per pupil increase of 37 percent. He has increased funding for public schools by $5.3 billion, a per pupil increase of 37 percent. He has increased funding for public schools by $5.3 billion, a per pupil increase of 37 percent. He has increased funding for public schools by $5.3 billion, a per pupil increase of 37 percent.

While Eddie Drake has been busy bash­ing Bush’s bash-buming column? When it comes to sexual activity, I would agree that Clinten beam -out his former challenger hands down, but I fail to see the relevance of this issue in today's presidential race.

Jennifer Rosner is a political sci­ ence senior.

Letter policy

Columnists and letter writers reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Mustang Daily.

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

Mustang Daily encourages community comment and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten and signed with name and address. Preference is given to e-mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to ajmane@calpoly.edu.
Experiment relieves Parkinson's symptoms

WASHINGTON (AP) — A gene therapy experiment relieved severe symptoms of Parkinson's disease in monkeys, experts say the technique offers promise for treating the 1.2 million Americans who suffer from the disease.

A virus that had been joined with a gene that prompts production of dopamine, a chemical neurotransmitter, was injected into the brains of monkeys who had chemically induced Parkinson's disease.

Three monkeys that had severe symptoms of Parkinson's were restored to near normal by the gene therapy, said Jeffrey H. Kordower, first author of a study appearing Friday in the journal Science.

"We are able to stop the disease in its tracks and to keep it from progressing," said Kordower, director of the Research Center for Brain Repair at the Rush Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago.

"The experiment showed dramatic protective effects," said Dr. Ted M. Dawson, head of the Parkinson's Disease Research Center at Johns Hopkins University Medical Center. "It is cautiously optimistic."

Parkinson's disease, which affects about 1.2 million Americans, is a degenerative disorder that affects brain cells that make dopamine. The loss of dopamine causes the classic Parkinson's symptoms: trembling, slow and stiff movement of limbs, a shuffling gait, speech difficulties and loss of balance. Cause of the disease is unknown and there is currently no cure.

Before the gene therapy could be tried in humans, questions about safety would have to be answered, Dawson said.

Dr. Mark H. Tuszynski, head of a brain disorder research center at the University of California, San Diego, said the experiment in monkeys was "fascinating" and offers the promise of "a very attractive therapy."

He said, however, that it is not known whether the brain cells affected by the chemically induced Parkinson's in monkeys are precisely the same as those affected by the actual disease in humans.

"It is promising, but I would be only cautiously optimistic."

Dr. Ted M. Dawson, Parkinson's researcher

Number of school violence incidents down, report says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite recent headlines making occurrences of school violence, the number of such incidents is falling and children are more likely to be hurt off campus, the government reported Thursday.

"America's schools are safe places," said Attorney General Janet Reno, releasing the report by the Education and Justice departments. It said schoolchildren are twice as likely to be victims of serious violent crime away from school.

In the 1997-98 school year, 42 of the 3,000 children who were murdered or attempted suicide, or 1.4 percent, died at school, the report said. In the same year, 233,000 students ages 12 to 18 were victims of serious crimes such as rape and robbery at school, compared with 550,000 children who were victims of such crimes away from school.

"When we drop our children off at school or when we walk them to the school bus, we parents can know that our children are safer than they had been in the past," said Frank Hollemann, a deputy to Education Secretary Richard Riley.

The report, based on information reported by students and principals to conclude that crime declined in the nation's schools since the Columbine High School shooting, in which two boys killed 12 schoolmates and a teacher before fatally shooting themselves.

The new report was intended to create a national database to track school crime. Its very existence has come under some criticism from those who say students and principals alike might be unwilling to report all the troubles that occur in their schools.

The percentage of children who reported they were victims of crime at school dropped from 10 percent in 1995 to 8 percent in 1999, the government said. About the same percentage of children reporting fights remained the same over that time period.

Between 1993 and 1997, the proportion of high schools bringing in weapons dropped 25 percent, the report said.

Attention Students, Faculty & Staff: Has Cal Poly ever scared you? Tell us about it ... tell us about your POLYFrights Mustang Daily is presenting Cal Poly's Scariest in the Halloween edition. Vote on the following and return it to Mustang Daily (Bldg. 26, Room 226), fax it to 756-6784 or e-mail responses to editor@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu.

DON'T FORGET, JUST ON-CAMPUS ITEMS AND PLACES.

Cal Poly's scariest ...

Building
Course
Elevator
Food item
Major
Place to eat
Place to live
Place to study
Place to work
Rest room
Other

Also ...

Tell us about Cal Poly urban legends and ghost stories. Anything you've heard, seen or wondered about just might be a POLYFright. Don't hold back ... we can take it. Give us your responses and they just might appear in the Halloween edition.
**SPORTS**

Friday, October 27, 2000

**SOCCER**

continued from page 8

"We need to come together on offense," junior forward Sandy Oceguera said. "We've been good on defense, but we need to have everyone come together on offense."

Oceguera, second on the team in scoring, netted two scores Sunday against Utah State. Megan Schlegel currently leads the team with seven goals.

"It's gonna take a tremendous game from our ladies to knock off SJSU," said Steve Jack, head coach at Ast Mi,I. "I'm surprised by their low position in the standings because they're an excellent team."

The Mustangs, 3-2 in conference and 8-6-1 overall, are coming in with plenty of momentum after a 3-0 win over Utah State on Sunday.

"They have their backs against the wall with a lot of expectations," Mistr said. "If we catch them looking away Sunday they'll be in trouble."

"We've been good on defense, but we need to have everyone come together on offense."

Sandy Oceguera
Mustang forward

Cal Poly is 5-1 all-time against Fullerton and beat the Titans 2-1 a year ago.

"We're focusing on one game at a time because we need all three," senior midfielder Kim Silva said. "Obviously Irvine is in the back of our minds, but right now we're focusing on Fullerton."

The Mustangs are an even 4-4-2 all-time versus Irvine, who is 4-1 in conference and 9-3-2 overall.

**VOLLEYBALL**

continued from page 8

7 in conference play, Bronco head coach Fred Sturm has a clear view of his team's status.

"The morale varies," he said. "We are not going to win every match and it's not having an off-day. We must play well. I expect the effort to be the same. Beyond that, it's a matter of how well we play and execute."

Utah State is a different team altogether. The Aggies are experiencing their best start since 1979 when they began 20-1. This year they are 17-5 and 7-2 in conference play. They are currently ranked No. 19 in the USA Today/AVCA poll.

**FOOTBALL**

continued from page 8

Quarterback Rocky Barker has completed 106 of 192 passes for 1,596 yards, this year including 13 touchdown passes.

"Everybody on defense will be pressed a little bit," Welch said. "They have four wide-outs every time. It's challenging."

Pride wide receiver Charlie Adams has 799 yards receiving and seven touchdowns and is averaging just under 100 yards receiving per game. Horta received some bad news when receiver Steve Jackson, the school's all-time leader in catches and receiving yards, suffered a broken right collarbone last Saturday.

They are tied for second in the Big West with UCSC, who they are playing on Friday. Aggies head coach Tom Peterson is aware of the strain back to back matches can bring.

"We can't spend too much energy on defense, but we need to have an offensive explosion on wind and rain in the weekend forecast," Welch said. "It's gonna take a quarter and a half for any team to get us to where we want to be."}

**BIG WEST VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS**

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**SANCHEZ**

continued from page 8

the NFL in offense and 18th in defense, and will beat the second-best offense in the NFL at home. Denver's offensive line is the best, highlighted by Jason Elam's game last week.

The Colts will be without some key defensive players this week - Elvis Johnson and Jason Belser are both questionable this week and two of their linemates will also be out. The Lions will run all over the Colts this Sunday. My Take: Detroit NY Jets (6-3) at Buffalo (1-4): This will be the other big upset of the week. This is a must win game for Buffalo and they will win at home. Buffalo almost beat the undefeated Vikings last week on the road, and will beat an overrated Jets team this week. The Jets have four fourth quarter come from behind wins this year, including last week's 30 point outburst in the fourth quarter to beat Miami. Their luck will run out this week as they face a Bills defense that only allows 76 rushing yards a game. Also, the Bills are a better team with Doug Flutie at quarterback. My Take: Buffalo

Pittsburgh (4-3) at Baltimore (3-3): Before this year started, this looked like a horrid game to watch and well, it still is. Both teams have finished the last two weeks, and allowing only six points in that same period. Four of the worst quarterbacks to start a game in the NFL this year will be in this game: Trent Dilfer, Tony Banks, Kordell Stewart and Kent Graham. Don't be surprised to see them all play. This is a very important game, though both teams are fighting for a playoff spot. The only reason Baltimore will win the game is that they are playing at home. Look for a final score to be 3-1 in this soccer or football? My Take: Baltimore

The Rest:

- Carolina over Atlanta
- Cincinnati over Cleveland
- Miami over Green Bay
- Minnesota over Tampa Bay
- NY Giants over Philadelphia
- New Orleans over Arizona
- St. Louis over San Francisco
- Jacksonville over Dallas
- Kansas City over Seattle
- Oakland over San Diego

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Sports

Volleyball faces crucial matches

By Matt Smart
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The women's volleyball team is regrouping both their morale and their confidence after two disappointing losses last weekend. The Mustangs take hope in the fact they will be playing in Mont Gruy with their crowd after the past four away matches.

Last week, the Mustangs traveled to Long Beach State and then to University of the Pacific, losing both matches in three games. In hindsight, captain Melanie Hathaway has gained insight from the losses.

"It started with the atmosphere in the gym," she said. "I think we still have a very young team. It's hard to play when people are yelling at you. It was real frustrating out there. I felt like I kept on saying, 'come on!' and probably should have asked, 'how can I help you?'"

Sports can be a great metaphor for life, and Hathaway's insights may ring true to many. When things are getting tough, it is easy to focus on disappointment on others rather than ask how others can be helped.

The Mustangs are 11-7 and 5-4 in Big West Conference play and will need to work better together heading into this week's matches against Boise State and Utah State. Cal Poly currently stands tied for fourth in the conference.

Earlier this season Cal Poly traveled to both schools, beating Boise State and losing to Utah State. Both matches took the full five games to determine the winner.

With this in mind, head coach Steve Schick is preparing for both matches to be competitive.

"We have a little more depth than Boise," he said. "They will try to neutralize us with a quicker offense. Utah State has more height and has lots of zones at the net, and they diversity who gets the ball so it's hard to defend against them."

Boise State lost won on the road against Cal State Fullerton on Sept. 23 and has not settled into a comfortable groove. The team is 7-11 and 3-4 Big West Conference.

The women's volleyball team is 7-1-1 and 5-4 Big West Conference.

Picking the NFL upsets

Well, last week I went 9-5, which isn't too bad considering it was a crazy week it was in the NFL. Miami's vaunted defense gave up 30 points in the fourth quarter, and the inpt Bengals finally won behind Corey Dillon's 278 rushing yards, a new NFL record. Dillon's new record is ironic considering he's been benched all season.

Matt Sanchez

Cal Poly faces off with Liberty this weekend.

Matt Sanchez

The Titans lost to Liberty (42-14). Their two losses be shown on Fox Sports West. Cal Poly has not had television on this year."

By Brian Millie
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The next three teams bring simple, but strong offensive attacks.

Liberty - a better defensive team - has had a tough time putting the ball in the back of the net this season. Midfielder Terrell Ulrey leads the way with five goals and three assists, while sweeper Danielle Tamrazi has notched four goals and four assists. Monica Reade has chalked up three goals and two assists for the Titans.

Women's soccer goes for broke on road

By Brian Millie
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Cal Poly women's soccer team has put themselves in a tough position to defend its Big West Conference title, but the Mustangs still have a chance to win the conference.

Tonight, the Mustangs travel to Cal State Fullerton followed by another key game Sunday with Big West Conference front-runner UC Irvine.

Cal Poly needs to win its final three games to have any shot at back-to-back Big West crowns and their third trip to the NCAA Tournament. "It's a must-win weekend for us," said head coach Alex Coon. "They're all must win games for us."

The next three teams bring simple, but strong offensive attacks.

Fullerton - a better defensive team - has had a tough time putting the ball in the back of the net this season. Midfielder Terrell Ulrey leads the way with five goals and three assists, while sweeper Danielle Tamrazi has notched four goals and four assists. Monica Reade has chalked up three goals and two assists for the Titans.