Students use Ritalin for more than disorder

By Sonia Slutzki
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Media reports throughout the nation are indicating that caffeine alone is not what some college students are using to stay up until the wee hours of the night studying.

The new drug of choice is called Ritalin, a Methyphenidate that has helped thousands of individuals with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). ADD is a chronic developmental disorder that creates problems with attention.

Ritalin is being used among college students as a study aid, an appetite suppressor or simply a quick and easy cocaine-like buzz, according to an article in The Boston Herald.

"We have not had any specific information in our campus, but we know there is substantial abuse of Ritalin among college-age students," said Martin Bragg, director of Health and Counseling Services at Cal Poly.

Bragg also said the Health Center is currently prescribing the Quest for the Best award for Ritalin for about 20 to 25 students.

In the shadows

Alum gives rewards to current students

By Matt Smart
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

In an effort to recognize student leaders who excel academically and give back to the community through service, a Cal Poly graduate, in conjunction with the Student Affairs division, is offering awards to deserving students.

Business alumnus Jeff Land and his wife Carla have been offering awards to students at Cal Poly since 1986. Land is eager to support students who serve their community.

"There is very little else that would make a difference in their lives than to invest in the lives of others," he said.

The Quest for the Best award was established by Land and has high praise for the university. "He is really interested in the students at Cal Poly," Harris said. "He really wanted to do something special for the students."

Last year Jessica Boisselle, a mechanical engineering senior, won the Quest for the Best award for her outstanding leadership and community service.

"The award reaffirmed my belief that I was doing good for the university and it pushed me to do even more," Boisselle said.

Nominations will be accepted from Cal Poly faculty, staff, community members and students in leadership positions until March 9. People who are nominating students should write a brief letter outlining the student's achievements and qualifications. Nominations should be addressed to Pat Harris in Student Life and Leadership.

Nominated students who qualify for the award will be asked to write an essay due April 6, outlining their leadership experience and explainin how it reflects the core values of the awards program. The student's involvement can be in campus, religious or charitable organizations.

The essays will be reviewed during April and May by a committee of faculty, staff, student leaders and community members.

"Carla and I will be the final step in the selection process," Land said. "That something we have done every year since 1986."

A reception will be held May 20 at Cal Poly honoring the winners.

Students protest Nike factory

By Karin Driesen
MUSTANG DAILY NEWS EDITOR

Four Cal Poly students and one Cuesta student protested Nike sweatshop practices outside the NikeTown store in San Francisco Saturday.

They joined about 100 other demonstrators from schools such as University of California, Davis, Berkeley, Santa Clara University and University of San Francisco.

The students are part of the United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS) coalition.

They are making several accusations regarding sweatshop conditions at the Kukdong factory in Atlixco, in the State of Puebla, Mexico. The Worker Rights Consortium (WRC), an organization that monitors conduct at factories that produce products for colleges and universities, released a fact-finding report Jan. 24 that outlined several cases of misconduct at Kukdong.

Allegations include unlawful employment of children, physical assault and verbal abuse of workers, unlawful refusal of maternity leave to pregnant workers, locking workers inside factory gates during lunch breaks, providing rancid food that causes illnesses and paying workers below minimum wage.

see PROTEST, page 6
RITALIN continued from page 1

would readily give their prescription away, saying they could always get more from their doctors. "They would take it at parties and when we would hang out," Cornell said.

According to studies and media reports, the illicit use of Ritalin starts at a much earlier age, and students simply take their Ritalin habit with them when they go to college. "Ten to 12 percent of all boys between ages 6 and 14 in the United States have been diagnosed as having ADHD and are being treated with methylphenidate," said Peter Breggin, director of the International Center for the Study of Psychiatry and Psychology, before the U.S. House of Representatives Sept. 29, 2000.

According to an ABC News report May 3, 2000, a study conducted by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration indicated that patients ages 10 to 14 were just as likely to mention Ritalin as cocaine in a drug-related emergency room visit. Nearly 75 percent of patients said they had been using the drug for psychic effects or recreation.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) lists Ritalin as one of the agency's "drugs of concern." In a 1993 press release, the DEA ranked the drug in the top 10 most frequently controlled pharmaceutically stolen from licensed handlers.

"In general, adolescents who want to use (Ritalin) for any reason ... have little difficulty obtaining it," said the DEA report on the drug. "They don't need to rob a drug store, forge a prescription or make a visit to the local drug dealer."

The drug has acquired many street names, including "Rubs," "Vitamin B," "pile-on's viewpoint," or "skittles," in reference to the pill-stored, multicolored candy.

Users either digest it, snort it or inject it. When used recreationally, the drug can give a sense of euphoria, particularly when it enters the bloodstream rapidly.

According to the ABC News report, even when the drug is taken according to the prescription, it can cause the development of dependency and tolerance. The same report indicated that high doses lead to symptoms such as loss of appetite, tremors and muscle twitching, fever, paranoia, hallucinations and delusion. An irregular heartbeat can even lead to death.

"Theoretically, Ritalin stimulates the underactive portion of the brain," said Randall Ball, San Luis Obispo educational psychologist. Ball said that brain imaging scans and other studies suggest under-activity compared to the rest of the brain in people with ADHD. Ritalin helps maintain the neurotransmitter dopamine, allowing it to be more available in specific areas of the brain believed to be the impulsive control centers, destructability and working memory centers.

Even though much hype has been given to the growing epidemic of Ritalin abuse, experts say that the abuse among college students is relatively rare, and the drug has benefited many people. "There is greater social acceptance and hard data indicating that there is a greater number of people prescribing it," said San Luis Obispo psychologist Dan Hawthorne. "But I attribute the abuse more to the individuals rather than the social trends ... not

**Summer 2001 – Cuernavaca**

Additional Courses in Agribusiness and Culture

General Information Meeting

Wed., March 7, 7:00 p.m.

Thurs., March 8, 11:00 a.m.

Erhart Agriculture Bldg. (10), Rm. 115

For further information, contact:

Dr. James Keese, Resident Director

756-4470 or jkeese@calpoly.edu

Modern Languages and Literature Dept.

756-2750 or wittle@calpoly.edu

Extended Education Program

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**News**

Mustang Daily

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Housing and Residential Life - Alcohol Awareness Week

**Trent Nahas**

art and design junior

like the popular use of psychedelic drugs in the '60s and '70s.

William Bailey, director of Cal Poly's Disability Resource Center, said that those appropriately diagnosed greatly benefit from the use of Ritalin and that it has helped many continue with their education.

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**AUDITIONS**

SLO Little Theatre CABARET

All Roles.

3/12 & 3/13 6:30 p.m.

888 Morro St., SLO

Call Director @ 773-5093

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**Pick up an Election Packet**

at the Student Life and Activities Office

**Get involved in ASI**

- Board of Directors
- Chair of the Board
- President

Packets due March 9th

Hurry!
Islamic groups protest new Israeli government

NETANYA, Israel (AP) — A Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up and killed three Israelis at a bustling intersection Sunday, the second lethal explosion in four days as militant Islamic groups vowed more attacks against Israel's incoming government.

With Prime Minister-elect Ariel Sharon preparing to assume power, possibly this week, the pair of bombings has shown that Israel remains vulnerable despite sealing off Palestinian areas in a bid to keep out militants.

Sharon, a former general who says he will restore security to Israel after five months of fighting, said, "The terror attack is a very serious one that shows that the Palestinian Authority is not taking the necessary steps to halt violence."

"We know very well that the most loyal forces of (Palestinian leader Yasser) Arafat are involved in attacks," Sharon said. However, he did not directly link Arafat loyalists to Sunday's bombing.

The unidentified Palestinian attacker detonated the bomb just before 9 a.m. at a busy street corner in the coastal resort town of Netanya.

The force hurled a car into the air, shattered shop windows and crumpled street stalls in the city's central market area. The Israeli dead included an 85-year-old man and two women, Israeli officials said.

It was horrible, just horrible," said William Weiss, a municipal worker. "There were hands, legs, flesh, and a head thrown around. It turned out that was apparently the terrorist's head."

Police scouted the streets for evidence while a team of volunteer Jewish Orthodox men picked up pieces of flesh from the bloodied street to ensure a proper Jewish burial for the dead Israelis.

Israel has been hit by multiple bombings since the Israel-Palestinian fighting began in September, contributing to a general sense of vulnerability. Sunday's attack came on the heels of a taxi van bombing Thursday in northern Israel that killed an Israeli man and wounded nine others, including the bomber.

No one has claimed responsibility for the latest blast, but the two leading Islamic militant groups, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, both have said they would come out to attack underlines Sharon's government.

"Resistance will continue until we push the occupiers out of our land," said Mahmood Zaid, a spokesman for Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

Mexico faces energy crisis; seeks help

MEXICO CITY (AP) — President Vicente Fox on Saturday repeated pledges to allow more private investment in the country's state-run electricity commission, saying that without it Mexico will be "almost on its knees" asking the United States for help.

During his meeting last month with President Bush, Fox agreed to work toward a common energy policy for the region stretching from Panama to Canada. Both the United States and Mexico are struggling to meet their growing energy needs.

Speaking Saturday to a meeting of energy leaders in the beach resort of Guanajuato in central Mexico, Fox said he had no plans to privatize the nation's state-run electricity commission or the state-run oil company.

But he said he would present a program to allow more private investment that would help modernize the country's energy industry.

Without that, Fox said, in six years Mexico "would be almost on its knees asking the United States for help in the supply of electricity, diesel fuel, gasoline and natural gas that we don't have." Mexico, with the second-largest proven oil reserves in the Western Hemisphere after Venezuela, has the natural resources, but lacks the money and expertise to develop them rapidly, Fox said.

Although Mexico is having trouble meeting its own energy needs, Fox also said future development of the country's energy sector could help bring much-needed revenue.

The United States has faced its own energy crisis, with Blackouts leaving parts of California in the dark and residents across the country struggling to pay soaring energy bills.

Bush has asked Mexico to help by allowing private U.S. capital to build electricity plants and transmission lines south of the border that would send power north.
Racism still happens every day in America

A February ended, so ended Black History Month, a time when the nation honors all the contributions that an oppressed part of our society has made.

Unfortunately, racism is still not history; it is very much in the present tense. This quarter, more than others, I have learned of our racist past in California and America. During the Gold Rush, one city paid $5 for every Indian scalp, encouraging what was basically genocide of the native Californians. African Americans have had to fight for every right they have. The Supreme Court, for the first time, said that the government could not pay anyone for the damage they had done. But this violence didn't happen any more. Then I remember the lynching of a black man in Texas a couple years ago and all the burned black churches around the same time. But this violence isn't the only form of racism minorities face in America.

Racism tends to be thought of as overt acts against some group because of their nationality and/or skin color. Violence, vandalism and hate mail are pointed towards or not. This quarter, more than others, I have learned of our racist past in California and America. During the Gold Rush, one city paid $5 for every Indian scalp, encouraging what was basically genocide of the native Californians. African Americans have had to fight for every right they have. The Supreme Court, for the first time, said that the government could not pay anyone for the damage they had done. But this violence didn't happen any more. Then I remember the lynching of a black man in Texas a couple years ago and all the burned black churches around the same time. But this violence isn't the only form of racism minorities face in America.

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Andrew Paulsen

I wouldn't want to be in that situation in the first place.

I can't really put a price on my lungs, or any other necessary and dear part of me. This stubborn mentality to keep my perfectly functioning organs instead of seeking cash compensation for losing one. A large lump sum of money would probably go a long way to make me feel better about losing half of my breathing capability, but...

Commentary

I would much rather have full use of both my lungs than some sort of monetary compensation for losing one. A large lump sum of money would probably go a long way to make me feel better about losing half of my breathing capability, but I wouldn't want to be in that situation in the first place.

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Letters to the editor

Homosexuals are equal to everyone else

Editor,

Monday, March 5, 2001

Mustang Daily

Well, Mike, I'm not going to hate you because you live a homosexual lifestyle, but I am going to hate the things you're doing. The reason I'm writing this is to hopefully let you know what's going on in my world. God has called all of us to live in honor of him. I live from day to day laying it down for him. He's done more than words can express for me, so the least I can do is repay him with my life. It only I could give more.

Luke Cherry is an architectural engineering freshman.

Letter to the editor

What makes the news

Readers,

Recently, there have been a few letters to the editor critiquing the work of Mustang Daily. We always take responsibility for factual errors we have made, but want to take this opportunity to clear up some misconceptions about the newspaper.

First, we feel it is important for everyone to understand that, as a staff, it is our job to survey the campus community and make what is newsworthy.

Our definition of newsworthiness is often different than that of campus organizations. We determine whether stories are newsworthy by how timely they are, the impact to the reader, unique, interesting, and among other considerations. We never selectively exclude any campus club or organization from coverage.

Often times, readers are not happy with the way we cover some of their events. This stems from a couple reasons. Members of organizations look at their coverage as an insider with a preconception of how the story should read. As a newspaper staff, we look at the event objectively and look for what aspect of the event best meets the aforementioned criteria.

Also, readers are sometimes unhappy that we have to make these decisions, and we welcome criticism of our work.

Thanks to our local Planned Parenthood, we can obtain low-cost, if not free, reproductive health care. Others in the world are not so fortunate.

In 185 countries, out of a total 194 in the world, 6100 women and men like myself rely on the services offered through the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), among other family planning agencies around the world. The United Nations, being the major contributor to the U.N., supplies the biggest contributions. However, under the new Bush legislation, they are working to withhold all funding to the IPPF and other family planning agencies around the world. This is a sad regression in reproductive responsibility, choice and rights. Claiming to keep U.S. taxpayers' money out of abortion-related activities is how President George W. Bush legitimizes the withholding of these funds. Ironically, only about 25 percent, a miniscule amount, is actually used on abortion-related activities such as counseling and safe clinical services. The rest of the money is necessary to reduce the number of abortions worldwide by providing family planning services such as contraceptive and education.

Understanding the issue at stake here is half the battle. IPPF and related agencies around the world dedicate themselves to helping women avoid abortions. Abortions will only increase with limited access to public family planning services. Please help President Bush to understand this by sending an e-mail of protest to the International Planned Parenthood Federation Web site. Go to "Your say on the Bush decision," then go to "petition." The whole address is http://ppf.org/ippf/jsp/pub/IPPF_BushGagPetition/Default.asp.

Tiffany Barry is a modern languages and literatures junior.

Letter to the reader

March Specials

EL CORRAL BOOKSTORE

T- shirt

General Merchandise is wrong

Editor,

Mike Sullivan started his column commenting on how God didn't intend for intermarriage relationships, and that the Bible and that intermarriage relationships were wrong ("Ugly couples deserve every right to marry," Feb. 28). Well, Mike, just to let you know - neither God nor the Bible ever said that intermarriage relationships were wrong. In fact, the key people who restored African-American rights across this fine country were Christians Martin Luther King and Abraham Lincoln. But if you're going to comment on how God feels about relationships, he does say that homosexuality is an abomination. An abomination! Wow, that's heavy.

Well, since you're using the Bible as a reference I'll go ahead and use it too. The Bible strictly prohibits any union of two males or two females. God created man and woman to come together and enjoy each other, to love each other. If you join male and male or female and female then you're taking what God made to be pure and beautiful and turning it into an abomination against God. In short: you're using it out of context. I guess that argument is circular and logically valid. You then state that there was an argument against homosexuality that stated that marriage was created for the sole purpose of procreation. Well, I've got a surprise for you - it's not true.

If you read Song of Songs (in the Bible), it was a tale of romance and love shared between a husband and wife. You'll see passion and poetry that overflows from the heart. These two people loved each other and enjoyed one another's bodies. It's a huge love story that must have slipped under your nose. When I get married I can wait until I get my body as a gift to my bride. If I didn't love God I wouldn't do that. If you enjoy God in us enjoying one another's romance.

In your second point you continued on how rights and murderers are doing something wrong and yet the government allows them to get married. Well the government doesn't allow them to rape or murder, because that is wrong. But they are allowed to marry because they are living in male and female together. Homosexuals should be allowed to marry because that would be wrong. Are you starting to get it? Murderers murder. Rapists rape. Homosexuals marry. In the Bible these are grouped together; they're all called sin.

Well, Mike, I'm not going to hate you because you live a homosexual lifestyle, but I am going to hate the things you're doing. The reason I'm writing this is to hopefully let you know what's going on in my world. God has called all of us to live in honor of him. I live from day to day laying it down for him. He's done more than words can express for me, so the least I can do is repay him with my life. It only I could give more.

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Also, readers are sometimes unhappy that their event or meeting does not get covered on a continual basis. This is to say, if there is an ongoing issue in a specific college, we may not report on every step of the process, but only when something significant happens or an outcome is decided. This is to keep the readers up to date without making them apathetic because they read the same information everyday.

Finally, readers often get confused that we cover some events before they happen and others after they happen. It's important to distinguish between a previous story and a review story. It's not the function of a newspaper to promote everyone's events, so our consideration falls primarily on whether the readers are best served knowing what will happen or what did happen. In "as selected cases, when an event has great impact, do we run a story before and after. The fact that a small club will do community service is necessarily interesting, but after they complete it, what they did makes a good story.

As editors, it's our job to make these decisions, and we welcome criticism of our work.

Letter to the reader are written by the editorial staff.

EL CORRAL BOOKSTORE

At our friendly sales associates for more details

March Specials

T-shirt

Computer

EPSON 777 Printer

Need a nice new printer? How about a colorful new Epson one! The Epson 777 Printer was $99, now $89. Save $10.00!

General Books

Cookbooks 25% off

Cookbooks 25% off! It's time for some new recipes. A great selection to fit your every cooking occasion.

General Merchandise

T-shirt

on sale for $9.99

Spring is around the corner. Get your spring apparel out. And get a Lansport screen print basic t-shirt for a sale price of $9.99.

$3 off regular price.

School Supplies

Binders 20% off

Are your binders falling apart? This is a great chance to purchase new binders at 20% off. Available in a wide variety of styles.

ALL SPECIALS SERVED DAILY.

Mon. - Thurs. 7:45am - 6:00pm

Friday 7:45am - 4:30pm

Saturday 10:00am - 3:00pm

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Opinion

Homosexuality is wrong

Editor,

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Letter to the reader
PROTEST
continued from page 1

Jesse McGowan, a political science junior and president of the United Students Against Sweatshops, attended a California Students Against Sweatshops statewide conference two weeks ago. He said that in light of the WRC’s findings, the students decided to take action. Saturday, students from Southern California protested at the Nike store in Beverly Hills, while the Northern California students demonstrated in San Francisco. Students at the protest participated in civil disobedience and street theater performances.

"Police barricaded Post Street near Union Square at Niketown," said Clayton Whitt, a social science freshman. "Lines of demonstrators congregated in front of the store protesting business practices of the store. Seven people locked arms and blocked the entrance. All of them were arrested for disrupting business."

Whitt said the entire group marched to the police station where the seven were booked.

Sahiga Basrai, an art and design freshman, said the experience was mostly positive.

"People with bullhorns were giving information to people and leading chants," she said. "There was a lot of positive reaction from people. Everyone there was really passionate, and when you believe something so strongly it is real inspiring."

About 67 schools belong to the WRC. Member schools pay $1,000 a year in dues. This means WRC is free to monitor factories that manufacture clothing for that school. Also, workers at those factories can file complaints through the WRC.

Cal Poly’s chapter of USA S has been trying to get the university to join the WRC since last year, McGowan said. Provost Paul Zingg organized an advisory committee to study the issue and make a recommendation to President Warren Baker. The committee, which includes professors Harvey Greenwald, Leslie Labhard and Myron Hood, recommended signing the proposal. It is now up to Baker to sign it.

"Provost Zingg told me he expects a favorable decision by the president, but we’re not sure yet," McGowan said. "Phil Fetzer also told me the faculty association wants to support it."

The Associated Students Inc. Board of Directors will discuss the issue today at its weekly workshop. USA S members who participated in the protest said they did it because they were tired of apathy.

"Cal Poly students don’t tend to get involved in protests," Whitt said. "I feel this is one of the reasons I am here — to make a difference."

Basrai also said she hated being apathetic.

"It is an awful feeling," she said. The WRC's preliminary report on Kukdong describes information the delegation collected in Mexico, including interviews with workers and managers at the factory. A full report with detailed evidence is expected to be released soon. The preliminary report by the WRC can be viewed at www.workersrights.org/investigations.html.

Mustang Daily staff writer Matt Smart contributed to this article.

**Should student fees be adjusted to keep pace with inflation?**

We have already had seven open forums and turnout had been low! This issue affects EVERY Cal Poly student! It is vital that you come, get educated, and use your voice. You have THREE more chances to get your voice heard. Questions? Call the ASI Student Govt Office at 756-1291 or come by UU 202, M-F, 8am-5pm.

Remaining Open Forum Schedule

**Tuesday, March 6:** 6pm — Bldg 33-286

**Thursday, March 8:** 11am — Bldg 52-E27

Remember, you must attend one of the sessions for your voice to be heard! This is your opportunity...your voice...USE IT!
The energy and excitement are building as the Housing Staff prepares for the 2001-2002 Academic Year. Since residence hall housing is limited in supply, take advantage of the on-line reassignment process to reapply for campus housing in the North Mountain Halls. Here is a line-up of programs and services you may want to factor into your decision making about where you will live next year.

**March Thru May**

- No Parking Hassles
- Telephone Service including Voice Mail
- No additional Utility Charges
- Large room
- Convenient and affordable Laundry Facilities
- Microfridge in room
- No additional Utility Charges
- Larger room
- Quiet environment
- Returning Students Community
- Ethernet Computer Connectivity with RezNet Services
- Cable TV
- Telephone Service including Voice Mail
- No extra charge
- Stay connected to campus
- The winner will play No. 4 UC Irvine or Long Beach State in Friday’s semifinals at noon.

**SUPPLEMENT DIRECT**

**If you like Metabolife You’ll Love Xenadrine**

*Yes, that’s really me in both these pictures. Before Xenadrine I was too heavy to look at in the mirror. One week later, I feel like a new person. I’m proof that Xenadrine works! Try it for yourself!*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **I Hate Hamlet**
  - 8pm Cal Poly Theatre
  - March 1-3, 8-10
  - PAC Tai Office
  - Call: 756-2787

- **Roughing It Day Camp**
  - SF East Bay
  - Horsebackriding
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- **If we get to score runs,” she said.**
  - “What we saw today is what we need to win No. 11, the most since the 1991-92 season.”

- **Kari Upperson added nine points, seven rebounds and four steals.**
  - The 49ers won the battle on the boards, outrebounding Cal Poly 45-34.

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Women's hoops secures No. 6 seed

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Cal Poly women's basketball team on Saturday got a sweet peak at the postseason. The Mustangs didn't like what they saw.

After an impressive upset Thursday over the former Big West Conference leader Long Beach State, the Mustangs shot just 27.8 percent in a 69-45 loss to Pacific.

The loss finishes the Mustangs' regular season at sixth in the Big West Conference (11-16 overall). Pacific finishes third at 16-4 (11-7). All eight teams in the conference will advance to the Big West Tournament in Anaheim later this week, but the Mustangs will have to face third-seeded Pacific again in the first round on Wednesday.

Forward Caroline Rowles was the only Mustang to find a rhythm against the Tigers on Saturday. The sophomore forward recorded her third double-double of the year, pouring in a season-high 20 points to go along with 13 rebounds.

Guard Carma Taylor added seven points and three rebounds.

Selena Ho led the way for the Tigers, scoring 18 points and grabbing seven rebounds.

The Mustangs hurt themselves with 14 turnovers in the first half, while the Tigers hit 12 of 15 free throws and jumped out to a 45-12 lead at halftime.

Pacific led by at least 21 points the rest of the game, including 5-6-11 from beyond the arc.

On Thursday, the Mustangs knocked off a Big West conference leader on their home floor for the second time this season. The Mustangs upset UC Santa Barbara 79-69 in a series that was once again dictated by the weather. Loyola Marymount took two of three games from Cal Poly this weekend at Baggett Stadium.

The teams played a doubleheader on Friday. The Mustangs won the first game 11-10 in 11 innings, but the Lions triumphed in the nightcap 5-4.

Saturday's game was interrupted by two rain delays, but Loyola Marymount came out with a 7-5 win on Feb. 27.

After the weekend series, Cal Poly's record falls to 8-3 on the season while Loyola Marymount improves to 11-8.

Baseball drops two to LMU

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