Hi home, hi home:  
Women's basketball starts four-game homestand, 8

**It's the cheese!** Students create two new cheeses, 5

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

**High:** 64°  
**Low:** 42°

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**Mardi Gras still an issue**

Event nets 69 arrests despite restricted celebrating

By Carrie McGourty

Mardi Gras weekend in San Luis Obispo may have been toned down to a small festival in the mission center, but the party atmosphere still emerged as it has in years past.

The Cedar Court apartment complex housed a huge party with a plethora of college students ennaival parties throughout the city.

In fact, the weekend activity kept the San Luis Obispo Police Department busy with 69 arrests and 61 citations, according to a press release.

"There was definitely a party atmosphere throughout the city," said Part Bar. "I didn't think it was going to be as fun as it was."

Students chose from 174 campuses, including five campuses in Canada. The most popular spots are:

- New York, Massachusetts and Hawai'i, said Monica Schechter, associate director of International Education and Programs.
- "Students return from exchange with greater self-confidence and independence, better able to define and plan academic and career objectives, and more appreciative of SLO and Cal Poly," she said.

---

**Initiative seeks to increase campus' environmental awareness**

By Barbara Bowden

More and more students are doing it each year. Those who choose to do it claim it broadens their horizons and helps them expand their minds. It's probably not what you're thinking, though.

Cal Poly's National Student Exchange (NSE) offers students a chance to study at other universities all over the nation. Through NSE, students can study at another school for a semester or even a full year.

Journalism senior Matt Sterling said he studied at the University of Connecticut through NSE because traveling abroad was too expensive.

"I define sustainability as the state of the main goals of the CSI is to increase environmental awareness on our natural resources, our educational orien­

By Justin Ruttkay

The rights of freedom of speech, and privacy often come under fire during times of war. A discussion about this came to campus Monday, to bring students' attention to recent acts of Congress concerning these rights.

James Lafferty, executive director of the National Lawyers Guild on Los Angeles, led the talk. The dis­cussion about civil liberties presented a view different than most Americans are accus­tom to hearing. The people of this country should be concerned with what direction the govern­ment is taking it, he said.

"Right now, the liberties that we are giving up aren't necessarily helping national security," he said.

"A xenophobic form of national­ism" is what he described taking place in the United States. This means that people, in their fear of terrorism, have given more power to the government to stop future terrorism attacks, even though it might take away certain civil libe­ries.
Topham, a captain with the San Luis Obispo Police Department in a press release, "The activity level in San Luis Obispo was well above average."

After a heated battle between the city of San Luis Obispo and the San Luis Obispo Mardi Gras committee, a parade was granted for the annual celebration. A judge had ruled that preventing the parade would violate the First Amendment. Unfortunately, the lawsuit gave organizers no time to prepare the traditional parade, which left them to plan for a mini-parade downtown and a small celebration in the Mission Plaza.

Despite the city's claim that the parade is responsible for the bad behavior and partying that occurred during Mardi Gras weekend, the San Luis Obispo Police Department figures show that there were only a few more arrests and citations last year, when the full-scale parade occurred.

"Mardi Gras is historically a period of time for people to have a big party. People are going to have a good time whether there's a parade or not," said Neil Tardiff, a local attorney who hired the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) on behalf of the Mardi Gras parade.

Nevertheless, city officials still believe that the parade is closely linked to the bad behavior.

"Only the parade is the major problem. It is unfortunate that alcohol and resulting bad behavior can even threaten other Mardi Gras events," said Allen Settle, mayor of San Luis Obispo and a Cal Poly professor of constitutional law.

Amtrak made this weekend included offenses for being drunk in public, driving under the influence, resisting arrest, and assault and battery. Citations included urinating in public, minor in possession of alcohol, and drinking in public. Officers responded to numerous disturbances, calls varying in type and nature. The bars in the downtown area were very crowded and kept officers extremely busy both Friday and Saturday night, Topham said.

Settle's main concern with the Mardi Gras event is liability. Last year, there were more than $70,000 in costs as a result of Mardi Gras and the city is still in litigation over an injury from last year's parade, he said.

"In a technical constitutional perspective on the narrow ground of freedom of expression, the ACLU action was relevant," Settle said. "However, expression is not entirely free or absolute. The ACLU court litigation must kill Mardi Gras more than anything the city would do or would want to happen. A new ordinance will be necessary because, again, the concerns of liability and insurance costs. But the costs of security will remain and may result in costs that exceed what any future Mardi Gras organizer may be able to afford."

Tardiff said he believes that the city's claim that the parade is a stimulus for bad behavior is false and also believes that the city is not responsible for any liability issues that are a result of Mardi Gras.

"There's insurance for everything," Tardiff said. "If someone gets hurt because of the city, then the city is responsible. If someone gets hurt because of Mardi Gras, then the Mardi Gras organization is responsible."

The Mardi Gras event in San Luis Obispo for 2002 included the annual fortuities, the wild parties and the replication of the New Orleans tradition. The lawsuit between the ACLU and the city of San Luis Obispo established that Mardi Gras cannot be prevented, but future celebrations will involve more discussion of issues regarding responsibility of liability and insurance. The significance of this year is that more communication and agreement between the Mardi Gras organizers and the City of San Luis Obispo will be a reality for future festivities.

"NSE is often a stepping stone to doing a study abroad program — it opens the door to many new academic opportunities and broadens a student's perspective," Schechter said. "While in a new city, students are also able to visit and compare graduate schools.

NSE was founded in 1968 and more than 70,000 students have been placed. Of those who apply, 97 percent are placed in one of their choices," Schechter said. "It's affordable with the main costs being travel and the cost of living. Because of the high cost of living in San Luis Obispo, it is sometimes cheaper to study and live in other places," Schechter added. "It opens the door to many new academic, cultural and social opportunities and broadens a student's perspective," Schechter said.

Applications for the National Student Exchange are due Feb. 19. For more information, visit the study abroad office in Blg. 38, room 106.
National Briefs

30 homes destroyed in San Diego blaze
FULL BUCK, Calif. — Thirty homes have been lost and 11 people have been slightly injured in a fire that erupted at about 11 a.m. Sunday. The blaze, which was still burning, was only 5 percent contained by the end of Monday. It has covered at least 4,000 acres. At least 100 people have been displaced by the fire.

The fire was complicated by changing dry winds and unseasonably hot weather.

The fire, which started in Full Buck, has spread toward the town of Dlucq and on to Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base. Some of the residential areas on the base may be evacuated.

Six people escaped from the flames by jumping in their swimming pool, said Capt. Andy Menshek of the San Diego Consolidated Fire Protection District. "In some cases, as it burned up the ridge, it was going 35 miles per hour. You can't outrun that."

The six were hospitalized for smoke inhalation and hypothermia from the pool's 60-degree water. The other five injured people were also hospitalized.

Last year in the state of California, more than 1,000 acres were burned and more than 100 homes were destroyed by wildfires. In January 2001, 10,353 acres and 16 homes in the eastern part of San Diego Country were also burned in an out-of-season fire.

— USA Today

U.S. lining up support for Iraq war
WASHINGTON — U.S. officials and diplomats from the Middle East said that President George W. Bush is preparing for military action against Iraq and is lining up support from allies in the region.

Vice President Dick Cheney is expected to discuss efforts to get rid of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein when he visits 10 Middle Eastern countries in March, a White House official said.

No decision has been made about the timing or the scope of the campaign, said U.S. officials.

The United Nations Security Council will vote on new sanctions against Iraq in May, making military action before then unlikely. If Hussein refuses to re-admit U.N. weapons inspectors, a conflict could erupt.

Iraqi officials have said to "mass out of evil" that is trying to develop nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, Bush has said.

Other signs of a possible conflict are visible: U.S. military commanders in the region have been transforming their headquarters from U.S. locations to the Russian city of St. Petersburg before last year.

Also, Israeli Defense Minister Benshemen Ben-Elior said Israel might respond to a Iraqi retaliatory attack last week. The neighbors of Iraq have been reluctantly accepting action against Iraq, but, according to a Western source, Saudi Arabian officials have said they would back a realistic plan to get rid of Baghdad. Also, Turkey has said they would support military action, as long as they were consulted, and the administration has announced that it will give $2.4 million to the anti-Saddam Iraqi National Congress.

— USA Today

International Briefs

Middle East
TEHRAN, Iran — An Iranian passenger plane crashed Tuesday in the mountains of western Iran, officials said. It was carrying at least 115 passengers. No immediate information was released regarding the number of people killed or injured, nor was information on the cause of the crash.

A spokesman for the Civil Aviation Organization of Iran said that search teams were sent to the site. The teams were having difficulty reaching the area due to heavy snow.

The Tu-154 is a Russian-built Tupolev that is state-owned and operated. It left Tehran at 7:30 a.m. and was headed to Khorramabad, about 250 miles from the capital.

Residents of a village close to the crash site reported a large explosion and fire. Dozens of residents of the area were gathered at the Tehran airport by midday, seeking information on their missing loved ones.

There have been 21 crashes involving Tu-154 airplanes since they entered service in the late 1970s. It is the most widely used jetliner in Russia and is used in many other countries. Altogether, 137 people were killed.

— Associated Press

Middle East
REESHEBA, Israel — Two soldiers were killed and fire was serious­ly wounded when two Palestinian gun­ men sprang from a car and sprayed automatic gunfire at Israeli tourists outside a military base Sunday. The gunmen were shot dead by military troops. One was shot while trying to detonate a bomb. No group has claimed responsi­ bility for the attack.

Israelis warplanes dropped three bombs on the main Palestinian security installation in the Gaza City settlement of Nasser retaliation. The building was devast­ ated before the attack.

The attack on Beersheba came hours before Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon returned home from a U.S. visit, during which the Americans said they would press Yasir Arafat to clamp down on mili­ tants, but declined Sharon's request to cut contact with the Palestinian leader.

Israel's military said Palestinians fired a rocket into Israel from the Gaza Strip. It landed in a farm field and no one was injured. It was apparently launched by remote control. The use of rockets could constitute a new level of fighting and bring a strong reaction, Israeli officials said.

Before dawn Sunday, Israeli troops in tanks briefly entered the West Bank city of Nablus and exchanged heavy fire with Palestinians. The incursion came hours after a Saturday night raid on the Gaza Strip, in which one Palestinian killed a 7-year-old Israeli woman and injured her son.

Seven Palestinians were wounded, two seriously. Palestinian hospital offi­ cials said.

— Associated Press

Europe
LONDON — On Monday, British scientists announced that they dis­ covered what they believe to be the world's oldest fossilised vomit from a large, rare shell that lived 160 million years ago.

The vomit was found in a clay quarry in northern England. It will help reveal the diet and eating habits of the ichthyosaur — a Jurassic Age fish­ like reptile with a long head, broad body and four flippers, said Professor Peter Doyle of the University of Osnabrueck in London.

"We believe that this is the first time the existence of fossil vomit on a grand scale has been proven beyond reasonable doubt," Doyle said.

Other fossilized vomit samples have been found, but Doyle said that this later discovery is the oldest.

The vomit contains shells of blemnites, tiny shells that were found in abundance in the water around Britain. The way the blemen­ tite shells were scattered in the sample has convinced the scientists that the substance truly is vomit. A microscopic examination showed the shells had been eaten by stomach acid.

— Reuters

Briefs compiled from various news services by Mustang Daily contribu­ tor Anne Guilford.

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World Service & Distribution of Ashes
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Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a major season of the Christian Catholic calendar. Lent is a time of renewal of our faith, a time of sacrifice and reflection, in reflection of the 40-day fast and 40-day of ressurection of Jesus Christ, our savior. We receive ashes on our foreheads, ashes that are sprinkled on the forehead as a sign of the Christian Catholic faith signifying the cross upon which Jesus died; we too carly that cross throughout our lives. The ashes remind us of the dust we will become before rising to eternal life with God.

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Located on the first floor of the Vista Grande Restaurant.
Food

New Poly cheeses are smokin’

By Cynthia Neff
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

From the outside, it looks like an ordinary slice of cheddar cheese. The texture is soft and pliable, the color light and unassuming. However, once you lift the slice to your lips, the rich, smoky smell rushes to greet you. The taste, though, proves to be subtle—a slight smoky flavor that completely permeates the cheddar. It is a classic example of Cal Poly cheese at its best: a combination of already-perfected Gouda and cheddar cheese, smoked naturally to create two new delicious cheeses.

The two newest cheeses, smoked gouda and smoked cheddar, were created by Cal Poly students at the university's creamery. "It's just never been reported on when you ripen for a long time," said Farkye, who also manages the creamery. "It's never been reported on when you ripen for a long time," said Farkye, who also manages the creamery. "It has to be just right." He said. "It has to be just right." The next challenge was to decide how long the chunks of cheese should be smoked. Cheddar comes in 20-pound blocks, and gouda in 12-pound wheels. If the entire block or wheel is smoked at once, it has to age for one month post-smoked.

The smoked flavor can be obtained by using either liquid smoke, which is added to the milk while making the cheese, or natural smoke. Gisler said the naturally smoked process is more popular.

The next step is important, and possibly, the most vital part of the process—the smoking. The cheese is tasted after smoking, Farkye said. "You don't want too much (smoke flavor) or too little," he said. "It has to be just right."

Students taste all of the cheeses after commercial production, he said. "You have to taste it before you sell it."

Recipe of the Week

Valentine’s Day strawberry shortcake

1 cup water
1 cup sugar
Peel of 1 orange, all white pith removed
1 pound cake
1 can whipped cream
2 pints fresh strawberries, washed, sliced
(5 reserved whole for garnish)

Bring water and sugar to a boil in a small saucepan over medium heat. Add orange peel and cook for one minute or until sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat and let stand until mixture is room temperature. Remove orange peel and refrigerate until ready to use.

Slice the pound cake into 1/2-inch slices and fit one layer of the slices into an 8-by-8-inch baking dish. Spread a thin layer of orange peel syrup over the slices. Spread a thick layer of whipped cream on the cake. Sprinkle with sliced strawberries. Repeat with another layer of cake, orange sugar syrup, whipped cream and strawberries. Top with three reserved strawberries.

Refrigerate for at least two hours before serving.

EATING RIGHT

By Wendi Leke

Are you getting enough calcium?

This mineral is the most plentiful one found in our bodies. It helps form strong, healthy bones and teeth. It's necessary for conducting nerve impulses, aids in blood clotting, stimulates secretion of hormones, and is essential in muscle contraction. Calcium is a critical component of our daily diet.

About 99 percent of the calcium in our bodies is found in the mother's milk, and bone, where it helps to form these rigid structures. But calcium in bones also serves an important role as a calcium reserve if blood calcium levels fall below a healthy range. In the blood, calcium ions are used for muscle contraction, activating enzymes, blood clotting and conducting nerve impulses. In other words, calcium is essential for life.

Preventing osteoporosis requires a lifetime commitment for both men and women.

Calcium has been noted for its role in preventing osteoporosis, a bone disease marked by the gradual weakening of bones due to mineral loss. Preventing osteoporosis requires a lifetime commitment for both men and women. Peaks bone mass varies per person but, in general, it is reached by age 30. Therefore, eating a balanced, healthy diet with adequate amounts of calcium, performing weight-bearing exercise, avoiding smoking and excessive alcohol consumption now, all help to decrease the risk of developing osteoporosis.

Calcium absorption from food occurs in the small intestine and depends on several factors: the presence of vitamin D and phosphorus, stomach acid and factors needed to enhance calcium absorption. Vitamin D helps to make calcium-binding protein so that our small intestine can absorb it later on in the kidneys. This is why foods are fortified with vitamin D and calcium. Popular calcium-fortified foods are orange juice, cereals, healthy food sources loaded with calcium to choose from. Dairy products such as low-fat and non-fat milk, yogurt and cheeses offer the most calcium per serving. Adding non-fat dry milk to oatmeal, soups, sauces and pasta dishes boosts calcium content. Vegetable sources of calcium are dark leafy greens such as kale, bok choy, parsley, turnip greens, brussels sprouts, watercress and broccoli which offer 50 to 100 mg of calcium per serving. Salmon, canned sardines and oysters are also rich sources of calcium.

It is true that calcium is essential for maintaining strong bones throughout our lifetime. Calcium also plays a critical role in muscle contraction (important for exercising), optimal functioning of the central nervous system, and blood clotting. If you are concerned with the status of your current calcium intake, meet with a registered dietitian (RD) or a medical doctor.
Opinion

Letters to the editor

What definition of atheism are you using?
Editor,

This is in response to Ben Earl’s response “Some definitions of religion include atheism” (Feb. 12). Since Mr. Earl didn’t include a definition of atheism in his response, I can only assume (and I hate to assume that he’s using the same definition as myself) I’ll restore it for anyone who did not read Athanasius without them, or simply put, without belief in gods. Mr. Earl gave the definition of religion: a belief in two things: 1) something "unconditionally non-dependent," (something that is divorced and 2) to stand in proper relationship to that "unconditionally non-dependent" divinity. First, that definition is flawed since divinity is inserted into the first statement but fails to be in the first statement. I found this odd. First, one must believe in “A” and then believe in how to stand in proper relationship to “B” (A and B being two different things).

Secondly, who is Roy Clauer and why should his definition be taken over the Webster’s Dictionary definition? I would also like to point out that mathematics can’t be described as unconditional (unconditional conditionality) or limited since mathematics relies on certain assumptions, conditions and limits (this brought up in the works of a mathematician named Kurt Godel). Also, how are numbers divine? Divine implies that they are in relationship with God. Even if Roy Clauer’s basic definitions are correct, is that the definition of atheism still can’t be considered religious. Atheism without belief. Religion: belief in two things. Nowhere in the definition of atheism does it state that there is a belief. Finally, Mr. Earl claimed that because I used the word “should,” I’m appealing to authority, not their God’s word and therefore I’m not religious. What is this “higher code” that I’m appealing to? Mr. Earl, your logic and definitions don’t work. Don’t see me divesting my Catholicism and why they’re saying “The pattern of use for Ester is similar to that of coke in the late 1970s.” So if you haven’t had much to contribute, why should you be expected to sit around and look pretty?

It’s not enough, though, to blame society; let’s also blame the bystanders who are commenting on eating habits and cell phones. I am hanging out with these clowns, the Frolic Dollys. Are these women chasing men in engineering humor societies of which I belong in 1 Feltha Thug! Don’t ask me to feel sorry for female eating disorders who is as superficial as the game she’s dating. Dr. Olivera Bradfield’s Veritas speech on “The scientific evidence for an intelligent creator” was head-scratching, he ratted off a series of statistical statements that occurred in the history of the universe and then claimed to have found his evidence for “our savior,” Jesus Christ. It was blind faith in full effect.

Justin Fraga is an electrical engineering junior.

Wear what you want and don’t care what people think
Editor,

My first question to Miss Nadea Mina (“Students are just GAP clones,” Feb. 12) is what great function could you be attending that everyone is dressed the same all the time? I know very few people with fashions from granite and plenty of other people将在 grooming habits that don’t buy their clothes from GAP. Perhaps the problem lies in what you’re looking for. I don’t notice the people you speak of because to me they are nondescript. I notice dude weariny the T-shirt that reads, “Got a sister?” and the girl with the pink wig on.

As for me, I’ve gazed on my feet, baggy pants hanging below my butt, an untucked collar -larded with shirt with MY ST BUT to the back. Who am I? What gives you the right to judge this book by its cover and say I’ve lost my individuality for dressing this way or that way? And even if we’re annoyed, or whatever it is you are, with so many people dressing alike, why do you think these students are coming to Cal Poly to entertain your. That’s not why any of my friends are here.

My point is why do you believe college freshmen know what “cool” is or was?

Justin Llata is a computer science senior.

Catholic bubble sustained by closed minds
Editor,

I’d like to congratulate Justin Ruttkay for his commentary, “The never-ending war for Truth” (Feb. 11). While the article itself was an admission of logic and an embarrassment to the department of journalism, it has helped clarify the roots of this recent clash between the Catholic Christians and non-Christians.

I couldn’t agree to Ruttkay’s truT so much. ‘OK for so. He then claims that the existence of this absolute truth is a crucial defense of Christianity. Did Ruttkay think his O.E. require­ment philosophy class? Christianity isn’t the only thing out there making the claim that truth is eternal. But more than that, even if one doesn’t support his Bible fervently over any other claim. You won’t see such ridiculous argument coming from the opposing side of this debate.

In another brilliant proclamation, Ruttkay says that “Being open-minded in the sense that all ideas are fair game is going to help anyone find truth.” This sort of mentality is exactly what sustains the Christian bubble. 

NEW

Letter policy
Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit let­ters for their form, substance, and length. Please limit length to 250 words. All letters must include the writer’s full name, phone number, major and class standing.

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Editor, Mustang Daily

Letters to the editor

Figure skating is not a real sport
(U-WIRE) STORRS, Conn. — Hate to break it to you, women, or men, if they do actually watch.
Figure skating isn’t a sport, it’s glamorous ballet dancing. There is no move that can be seen at the recit­tal hall or the warehouses that mat­ters. Who does it seem like more time goes into getting that pink dress and up with an inventive routine, all you see is the same thing over and over again and the actor’s attire seems to receive more hype than the actual competition itself.

Figure skating is a sport when it gets more coverage in the tabloids than it does in the newspaper and TV. That’s practically a soap opera. People who watch this Olympic “sport” care more about theSkating with the pink ones than who is on top of their game.

All you ever hear when people talk about figure skating is the rivalry. It sounds more like just another example of why you’d about it’s datatype who than who is

Soprano would have let Kerriyan story, entirely overshad­mviny all the professional attractive skater who everyone of a mathematician named Kurt Godel. Also, since numbers are divine! Divine implies that they are in relationship with God. Even if Roy Clauer’s basic definitions are correct, is that the definition of atheism still can’t be considered religious. Atheism without belief. Religion: belief in two things. Nowhere in the definition of atheism does it state that there is a belief. Finally, Mr. Earl claimed that because I used the word “should,” I’m appealing to authority, not their God’s word and therefore I’m not religious. What is this “higher code” that I’m appealing to? Mr. Earl, your logic and definitions don’t work. Don’t see me divesting my Catholicism and why they’re saying “The pattern of use for Ester is similar to that of coke in the late 1970s.” So if you haven’t had much to contribute, why should you be expected to sit around and look pretty?

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Lafferty said.

An example that he used to illus­

trate this point was the way suspec­

ted territories have been treated.

Some of these people have had their rights

withheld, even before being found guilty, Lafferty said.

Cal Poly students have recognized

this as well and see the precautions of

national security being taken too far.

“We, as citizens, have to take our

own precautions toward the govern­

ment to guard our own personal

rights and privacy,” said Sam

Paschall, a history junior “But, on

the other hand, we need government

to protect that which we freely enjoy

in our country.”

Lafferty said the Middle Eastern

countries don’t like America for the

policies that it implements in their
countries, not because of the policies
we carry out in America. He
described it as a line being drawn in

the sand that is continuously shifted by the United

States.

The next issue at questions is

whether or not the American people

mind having such restrictions on

their civil liberties in the name of

war.

“The most important thing is that

we the people have an influence on

public policy makers,” said Craig

Arceneaux, a political science pro­

fessor. “As a democracy, we need to

think through other policy alterna­
tives.”

Lafferty’s main point during the
discussion was that America’s inflat­

ed nationalism since Sept. 11 has

caused many Americans to accept

such restrictions on their rights.

On campus, 59 percent of 51 sur­

veyed Cal Poly students support the

United States-led war against terror­
or, and 32 percent don’t mind hav­

ing their civil liberties restricted for

the sake of national security.

“The government is going to have

its way eventually, and it’s for our

own good in the end,” one student

commented on the survey.

Lafferty is the author of “The Only

Thing You Know for Sure is That You Never

Know.”

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1-909-438-3080.
Cal Poly women's basketball team plays host to a non-conference game against the Portland State Vikings at 7 p.m. in Mott Gym. The game begins a four-game home stretch for the Mustangs, followed by conference games against UCSD on Sunday, versus UC Irvine on Feb. 22, and against Long Beach State on Feb. 24.

The team is coming off a two-game losing streak on the road last weekend. On Sunday, the Mustangs fell to Pacific in Stockton, 80-73, dropping their record to 7-14 and game losing streak despite a strong effort from freshman Molly Richards, who scored a season-high 18 points. Sophomore Katte Paterson followed in scoring with 11 points and sophomore Lucy Tisenhuth had a team-high nine rebounds.

The Mustangs' defense is allowing 65.5 points a game and is forcing around 22 turnovers a game. Offensively, Cal Poly is shooting 40.6 percent from the field, 28 percent from the three-point range and 66.5 percent from the charity stripe.

Senior Odessa Jenkins and Paterson lead the scoring column with 10.9 and 10.8 points-per-game, respectively. Duperon puts in 9.2 points a night and averages at team-high 14.6 rebounds-per-game. Tennenberg also averages over five rebounds a game for the Mustangs. Jenkins leads in assists with 76, while Duperon leads the team with 49 steals.

The Vikings are coming off one of their biggest Big Sky wins of all time, after beating previously unbeaten Montana State. However, Portland lost to another top Big Sky team, Montana State, on Saturday. It was tonight.

The Vikings are currently in fifth place in the Big Sky standings with a 4-6 conference mark, with four league games remaining. Portland State is one and a half games behind Northern Arizona for fourth place in the league. The Vikings are holding a one-game advantage over Eastern Washington and a one-and-a-half-game lead over Idaho State in the race for the final two Big Sky Conference tournament spots.

The game at Cal Poly is the Vikings last non-league game this year. The Vikings will continue their three-game road trip with a key Big Sky match-up at Eastern Washington. Last year Cal Poly beat the Vikings 49-44 in Portland.

By Bridgette Vanherweg

All-Star games just mindless entertainment

By lan Lindsey

Last week left the avid sports fan with plenty to watch from the sports world, with the Winter Olympics, the NFL, All-Star game, the NFL Pro Bowl, and the NBA All-Star game all on television. Some fans probably thought this lineup was too good to be true, with these three major events available for viewing, and at least for me the Olympics have lived up to their billing.

However, the other two games have left since their latter as marquis sporting events. A few years ago, the Dunk Contest was canceled at the NBA All-Star weekend because there wasn't much left to do without a slam dunk contest. Since then, the NBA All-Star game has become more about showing off individual talent and showmanship than anything else. It's the occasion that guys will try to make outrageous plays that are coach would bench them for during the regular season. Tracy McGrady had no business throwing himself a pass off the backboard. He thought he was being flashy, but to me he was just burning for everyone to look at him because his ego needed it. I'm tired of watching passes sail into the seats and guys missing easy shots by trying to make them look good. This isn't the Rookie Game, and it doesn't look like an All-Star Game to me anymore.

The problem with the Pro Bowl is that it is extremely different simply because football requires intricate, complicated teamwork. Players can't possibly play at full speed and up to their All-League potential when they have had only one practice together. In the end, it generally looks like the players are loafsing and don't care. Watching the Pro Bowl is like watching Pop Warner football; everything is unorganized and nobody really knows exactly what is going on.

Nothing stirs the blood more than mixing a little nationalism with major sporting events. That's why the Olympics are always such a big deal. The U.S. Olympic athletes always have class enough for Alex Rodriguez to send Cal Ripken Jr. a photo of Ripken's last All-Star game this past year, and enough skill that Cal hit a home run off of Chan Ho Park. No one has even thought of canceling the Home Run Derby, because everyone loves it. Year after year, and the big players continue to produce excitement at the contest. The game repeatedly honors its past, with recent games paying tribute to ballplayers such as Ted Williams, Jackie Robinson, and Hank Aaron.

Watching baseball's best play their best will never get old, mainly because they tend to field the world with grace as they play their hardest throughout the fun contest. Baseball will endure, and maybe some of the other leagues should look to it for some tips on how to run their All-Star games.

Ian Lindsey is aeronautical engineering senior, and his writing is always like a Pop Warner game. E-mail him at lindsey@calpoly.edu

By Ian Lindsey

Ian Lindsey is a sports columnist who has always been a big fan of the NBA All-Star game. However, he doesn't think it's as good as it used to be. In this week's column, he discusses the problems with the NBA All-Star game, such as the lack of competition and the lack of interest from the players. He also mentions the problems with the Pro Bowl and the Winter Olympics. Despite these issues, he still enjoys watching the Winter Olympics, the NFL, and the NBA All-Star game. He thinks that these events are mindless entertainment and not as good as they used to be. He also talks about the Olympic Games and how they are always like a Pop Warner game. He e-mails his column to lindsey@calpoly.edu.