**WITT week to raise respect**

By Ashley Wolf  
**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER**

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr., Student Community Service's Raise the Respect is hosting events to celebrate diversity and awareness next week.

Events for We're In This Together Week start Tuesday and will continue through Saturday for the MLK national day of service. This is the third consecutive year that the program has been running, and students are anticipating the upcoming week.

"Our main goal is to raise awareness about issues that really aren't brought to the forefront on a daily basis," said director for Raise the Respect and social science senior Chaunthy An. "King's ultimate message was basically integrating different people of different backgrounds. People come in different packages but they are still human. We are all connected in some way."

WITT week will kick off with A-wear-ness Day. Students can design T-shirts in the University Union, including statistics and quotations about diversity and respect, then wear them for the remainder of the week.

"A-wear-ness T-shirt day was started from the 'IT campaign' that Student Community Services and the Multicultural Center put on in 2001," said director coordinator of Student Community Services and business administration senior Amanda Chavez said. "The original idea was to integrate 'insensitivity, injustice, inequality and invisibility' and now it is one of the key events of WITT week."

Raise the Respect is also partnering with the Pride Alliance center to show movies about gay rights. The film "Brother Outsider" will be shown on Tuesday night and the film "The Difference Between Us" will be shown Thursday.

The workshop that the directors of Raise the Respect are most looking forward to is the word workshop on Wednesday night. The interactive workshop will be focusing on language that we use on a daily basis that might be offensive to others, and discussing where the words originated from and why people use them in a certain context.

"The words workshop was put on because people like Martin Luther King Jr. that I am able to go to school here."

— Brandon Sims, biology senior

**Missing Poly grad found**

By Jake Ashley  
**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER**

The 29-year-old Cal Poly alumnus who went missing a week ago was located Wednesday, according to the Paso Robles Police Department.

Amie Hynn Burnett graduated in Spring of 2003 and majored in applied art and design. She was found in Needles, Calif., on the Arizona border after having been last seen around 4:30 p.m. by Kerry Smith at the Barnes & Noble bookstore where they both worked.

"I have no comment on the reason of her disappearance on the record, but family and friends are relieved," said director for Raise the Respect and social science senior Chaunthy An. "King's ultimate message was basically integrating different people of different backgrounds. People come in different packages but they are still human. We are all connected in some way."

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**ASI hosts Monterey road trip**

By Katie Schiller  
**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER**

Put a goldfish in their bowl at the thought of a trip to a million-gallon tank swimming with sharks and sea turtles.

But Cal Poly students have a chance to see this and more undersea life. Students can come freely around the aquarium and visit Cannery Row, the outlet shops or the beach.

"We have leisure trips so students can see different historic places that they wouldn't normally go to themselves," said Nicole Lockwood, student supervisor of marketing and public relations for ASI and a business senior.

At the Monterey Bay Aquarium, visitors can watch penguins and sea otters in natural environments — something the average student doesn't witness everyday.

"Some students in SoCal haven't had the opportunity to go to the aquarium, and some in the Bay Area see the Monterey page 2

**Reflecting on a legacy**

Students gathered at Dexter Lawn following a march in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. on Thursday. Participants had the opportunity to reflect on and speak about King's legacy. Biology senior Brandon Sims, above, and animal science senior Tiffani Hamilton held up a banner and honor a moment of silence.

— Photos by Spencer Marley
MONTEREY continued from page 1

from his home in Auburn, Wash. He has not been found yet. "I'm just really glad she's on her way back," said Leigh Tacker, Barnes & Noble department manager. "Quite frankly, I was very worried." Tacker said she hoped that Barnett was sick. "It was very out of character for her not just show up," she said.

The money comes from student fees, so we want them to get their money's worth," she said. After the last fee referendum, ASI was looking for a way to expand their programs and thought the trips were a nice addition, Hammond said.

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"It's nice to have transportation and the logistics coordinated so you can just pay and show up," Hammond said.

The first leisure trip was to the Getty in Fall Quarter and was sold out before the deadline. Lockwood said. The trips are open to the general public, but most of the seats are reserved for Cal Poly students, she said.

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After the trip to the Getty, ASI asked those who attended for suggestions for future trips. They plan to have one each quarter.

"For Spring Quarter, the destination hasn't been decided," Hammond said. "But suggestions have been for museums, Broadway shows, sporting events and concerts."

There are only around 15 spots left on the bus, Lockwood said. Students need to register by Friday, Jan. 16 in the UP student center.

Sources must be willing to use their name and major, and discuss their experience with cosmetic surgery

Mustang Daily is looking for people who have had cosmetic surgery

Please contact Andrea or Andrea
asvoboda@calpoly.edu
acoberly@calpoly.edu
756-1796

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by fellow students and co-directors of the Raise the Respect program," An said. "I believe that this workshop will give the most impact to students and faculty. Putting the workshop together made me more aware of the words that I use and I think people will learn a lot. Words are used everyday, but people don't usually think about the possible consequences of the ones they use."

On Friday, a speaker from the AIDS Support Network will be talking in Trinity Hall to wrap up WITT Week. Saturday will be The Community Center's children's cultural craft carnival at the Senior Center on Santa Rosa Street.

"Now more than ever we need this type of awareness," An said. "Cal Poly is a very studious campus and students don't necessarily think about world issues. Our main goal is to reach out to students to be aware of the outside world. I think it's important for people to come out to at least one event during WITT Week."
Mustang Daily

National/International News

Friday, January 16, 2004

National Roundup

ATLANTA — Looking for election-year support from black voters in the South, President Bush was greeted at Martin Luther King's grave here Thursday by noisy demonstrators who chanted "Go home, Bush!" after he received a warmer reception at a Shabbat church in New Orleans.

As Bush placed a wreath on King's crypt, a low chorus of boos could be heard from across the street where 700 protesters beat drums and waved signs bearing slogans such as "War is not the answer" and "It's not a photo-op, George."

WASHINGTON — Consumer and health groups asked Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman on Thursday to immediately increase testing of cattle for mad cow disease and establish a mandatory animal identification system for tracking cows and beef cattle.

In a meeting with Vermont's consumer groups said testing for mad cow should include animals as young as 20 months. USDA has said it would focus on animals 30 months and older in long incubation periods — four to five years — meaning mad cow typically doesn't show up in younger animals.

In response to the nation's fast-food and meat chains, Vermont and last month she will accelerate a joint government-agency effort to establish an electronic identification program for tracing every cow in the country.

GRANTS PASS, Ore. — The Bush administration said Thursday it hopes turning small trees and brush into ethanol, methanol and other energy products will eventually help pay for thinning 28 million acres of Western forests considered at risk.

Paying for thinning 28 million acres of Western forests considered at risk for wildfire has been a problem because the small trees and brush that need to be removed aren't big enough for traditional lumber.

SEATTLE — Wild chinook salmon in Puget Sound are contaminated with similar levels of long-lived industrial chemicals as those in the Great Lakes, according to a study released Tuesday.

The scientists, writing in The Lancet medical journal, accused WHO of ignoring the health risk of salmon a year after it advised that the fish.

WASHINGTON — Environmentalists and other aid agencies are undermining the battle against malaria by funding cheaper and less-effective drugs, contributing to tens of thousands of deaths of children in Africa, researchers asserted.

The scientists, writing in The Lancet medical journal, accused WHO and the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria of promoting programs that use the wrong drugs because they are a tenth the cost of better medicines.

Both agencies defended their positions, saying they cannot dictate countries' drug policies and that many are changing to the new drugs.

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi leaders and U.S. authorities hope next week's meeting with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan will help resolve the impasse over a Shiite Muslim leader's objections to key parts of an American-backed political plan for Iraq.

At stake is the July 1 deadline for the United States to transfer power to a provisional Iraqi government and the international legitimacy that U.S. troop withdrawal would confer on the political plan — something Iraqi leaders need to counter skepticism at home.

SINGAPORE — Singapore has the highest execution rate in the world relative to its population, surpassing China, Saudi Arabia and Iran, Amnesty International said in a report released Thursday.

More than 400 prisoners have been hanged since 1991 in the Southeast Asian city-state of 4 million people, the London-based rights organization said in a report on Singapore entitled "A Hidden Toll of Execution.

Most executions were for drug offenses while some were for murder and firearms offenses, all of which carry mandatory death sentences in Singapore, the report said.

PARIS — Starbucks has finally arrived in the country that likes to think it invented the cafe.

Almost six years after it began establishing itself in Europe — starting with France, Switzerland and Austria — Starbucks Corp. inaugurated its first Paris store Thursday with Spanish partner Grupo VIPS.

The king of Frappuccinos-to-go nevertheless accepts it may not be easy to make ends meet right away in a country where people still like to sit down to drink their "express," preferred short, black, bitter — and above all, cheap.

— Associated Press

World Roundup

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— Associated Press

College Roundup

KINGSTON, R.I. — As college students face the dark void of post-college life, thousands of dollars in student loans hang heavily over their heads. To help alleviate the burden, the University of Rhode Island Alumni Association has joined Student Trust Inc. in an effort to help alumni pay off their undergraduate loans.

"Go home, George!" after he received a warmer reception at a shabby church in New Orleans.

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— Associated Press

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Summer 2004 - Cuernavaca
It’s mid-January. By now, New Year’s resolutions have dropped faster than prices in after-Christmas candy cane sales. Magazines with glossy, optimistic articles saluting resolutions are off the racks. Until next December, here is one final journalistic nod to those self-improvement vows. Here are the top five ways to keep resolutions.

“People think New Year’s resolutions are more like wishes,” civil engineering freshman Teri Hales said. “You don’t actually do it because you just think it’s just going to happen. It sounds obvious, but one must realize that resolutions are not made possible by fairy godmothers but by commitments.”

Architectural freshman Linnea Clark has resolved to do better in school.

“I’m going to go to class every single day,” Clark said. “Last night I studied until 4 a.m. I didn’t go out, and I always go out on Thursdays.”

Clark, in giving up her Thursday evening, has grasped what many of us fail to understand — that resolutions require some degree of sacrifice.

For example, if you set out to learn the guitar, your fingertips are going to be calloused and sore, and plucking out scale after scale will at times, be boring. Examine exactly what your goal entails and other steps you can take to help or get out of the kitchen.

If still determined to tackle your resolution, customize a specific plan of action. Microbiology junior Amber Van Hoosen has stopped making New Year’s resolutions altogether because, “She ones I’ve made were too general to be useful,” she said.

Architecture senior Suzanne Hansen, who resolved to lose weight, has already shed two pounds. Hansen is on her way to resolution bliss because she took the lofty, impersonal “lose weight” and broke it down into definite actions. She said to focus on one aspect of your resolution at a time, “Try changing one thing a week... increase one more vegetable per day,” she said.

Each time, a major step in the right direction. Hansen is on her way to resolution bliss because she took the lofty, impersonal “lose weight” and broke it down into definite actions. She said to focus on one aspect of your resolution at a time, “Try changing one thing a week... increase one more vegetable per day,” she said.

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SPAM — The ultimate mystery

By Meghan Reerslev
ASSOCIATE DAILY STAFF WRITER

"Spat and Ham," "Squirrel, Possum and Mouse, and "Specially Processed Army Meat" are some of the creative acronyms found online to describe the mystery that is SPAM. No, not the stuff found in nitrate."

"It makes me wonder if they just transformed into virtually any food. A Yahoo search returned 247,000 pages of SPAM recipes that were easy to follow," said with a Spaghetti Carbonara for lunch and ended it all with a California Sausage Hamburger for dinner, all courtesy of SPAM. And if original SPAM does not suit your taste, there is "Oven Roasted Turkey SPAM," "Smoke-flavored SPAM," "Lute" and "Less Sodium SPAM," and "SPAM breakfast steps." For a mysterious canned meat, SPAM has enjoyed great success for the past 60 years. Everything it lacks in sales it can certainly make up for in pure commercialism.

"Students will accidentally leave something here at night," general manager Bob Kuntz said. "When they come by the office the next day, they see that The Grad is also a restaurant and are surprised." The Grad offered a wide variety of food, as well as a large quantity of soup and salad. The menu offered an array of appetizers and meals including sandwiches, burgers, salads and steaks. Every meal comes with the choice of fries, soup or salad. The prices are fair, and you get a lot of food," Kuntz said without SPAM his Russian army would have been starved. For all of this SPAM was created "the Miracle Meat" of that era. Today, SPAM's most tried is a registered trademark in more than 90 countries. Want to make some extra money? Sliced SPAM can be sold on the Korean Black market as a gourmet treat. People in Hawaii eat the most SPAM four cans per person, per year. And still, SPAM is the most popular canned meat of U.S. grocery stores with more than 60 million U.S. citizens eating it.

"Comparing other restaurants, the prices are fair, and you get a lot of food," Claussen said. "However, you could get just as good food, if it is not as pure and picky eaters can be transformed into virtually any food. A Yahoo search returned 247,000 pages of SPAM recipes that were easy to follow," said with a Spaghetti Carbonara for lunch and ended it all with a California Sausage Hamburger for dinner, all courtesy of SPAM. And if original SPAM does not suit your taste, there is "Oven Roasted Turkey SPAM," "Smoke-flavored SPAM," "Lute" and "Less Sodium SPAM," and "SPAM breakfast steps." For a mysterious canned meat, SPAM has enjoyed great success for the past 60 years. Everything it lacks in sales it can certainly make up for in pure commercialism.

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The Amazing SPAM Page, claims that during World War II, SPAM saved the American dinner table, as it became the only meat that did not need to be rationed. In addition, Nikita Khrushchev said without SPAM his Russian army would have starved. For all of this SPAM was created "the Miracle Meat" of that era. Today, SPAM's most tried is a registered trademark in more than 90 countries. Want to make some extra money? Sliced SPAM can be sold on the Korean Black market as a gourmet treat. People in Hawaii eat the most SPAM four cans per person, per year. And still, SPAM is the most popular canned meat of U.S. grocery stores with more than 60 million U.S. citizens eating it.

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SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court ruled Thursday the U.S. Department of Agriculture could not hand over documents containing trade secrets and the USDA identified nine years ago to one of its competitors.

California's court ruled the USDA's exemptions under which it withheld documents would interfere with the ongoing criminal investigation of the company. The company appealed the decision.

The court remanded the matter to the lower court to issue the injunctive relief that was granted.

"The USDA's decision to exempt specific documents and the USDA's actions in that regard have frustrated the court's order to vacate the injunctive relief," the court wrote.

Under the trade secrets exemption, the USDA argued that sharing other companies' inspection sheets with one company would harm competition in the industry. Under the law enforcement exemption, the USDA argued that allowing Lion to see the internal records would interfere with the ongoing criminal investigation of the company.

The dissenting judges noted that the company had the right to see the documents and the Ninth Circuit would allow for the ongoing criminal investigation.

The court ordered the Ninth Circuit to consider the case's factors, including the public interest and the likelihood the court's order will be vacated, before issuing an order on the case.

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Opinion

Beware of the sales vixens

As any guy of the saleswoman who helped him pick out his clothes was flirting with him, and he'll tell you she was all over him. To an untrained eye this might look like a perfectly common event. Girl likes guy, guy helps girl look better, guy gets date. Everyone wins.

Sadly, for all the times I've been helped by a saleswoman, I've never had the infamous date or phone number. Last year in the Holy Grail, it's a quest that seems to have eluded not only me but most of the male population.

Having thought about it, it seems other guys always have the luck. I decided to ask the only woman I know who'd been through the truth behind the vast opacity of saleswoman flirtation. Knowing she was a saleswoman and inevitably had flouted her goods on some unsuspecting shopper at once before, I asked her point blank, "Why do salesgirls always flirt with me while I'm buying clothes but never show any interest afterwards?"

Through her historical analysis I managed to translate a few words from her lynx gant and what I heard surprised me. She said, "You're an idiot. She's not flirting with you. She flirts for some other reason. She found out it was never me the woman wanted, but the commission from my new-shorts.

Recently I went home, looked through my clothes and found they were so horribly mismatched that Derek Zeilhardt would've had a seizure cursing my name if he were to see them. I had been tracked by the most powerful of energies — my libido and a brunette named Heather.

Keeping up with the trends of throw-back jerseys and retro shorts is a daunting task, even for the queue for the Straight Guy. But I thought it if I ever succeeded in wooing Heather or maybe the Owen twins, I'd have to learn how to tell a saleswoman my best friends, Benjamin and Lincoln, thought she was a vulture.

Not wanting anyone else to fall prey to the mistake of bad judgment I devised a sure-fire method for whom not to trust when shopping for new clothes.

1. The saleswoman: Behind that smile and "hello" lies a sly attempt to flatter you into paying more than you can afford to wander through her store unprepared. If an encounter is impossible to avoid, it is best to act and slowly back away, not make eye contact or allow your wallet.

2. Your mom: She's a great woman, and she makes the best chicken-and-stars soup that's ever come out of a can. But to her you'll always be her little boy. Just remind yourself she thinks you're charming no matter what you do.

3. Your girlfriend: Unless you want to start wearing what she ex-boyfriend wore or want to be a key-hind knock off dump the girl and tell her you went drinking with the guys. Her being angry with you for one day is better than causing trouble in your home.

4. Your best friend: It's an unwritten rule that if a guy likes a girl so does one of his friends. What better way to stack the odds in his favor than for him to say, "You look good in a camouflage and hot pink short shirts."

The only person you can trust in yourself. Even if everyone thinks you're wrong it's still your choice. Everyone knows what they like and dislike but not everyone can share their opinions without feeling the need to ask permission. The cliché "Don't judge a book by its cover" is a perfect way of saying, "Don't ask for advice simply to ask."

In my case the minor setback of a few hilarious shirts and an ego-destroying validation that I'm not as popular as I thought is a small price to pay for learning how to trust myself and not rely on someone else's opinion.

The only advice I can give to those who haven't yet learned to trust themselves is to always bring a wingman and offer him to the Jezebel in aisle four. If he makes it alive, remind him he looks good in the baggy shorts.

David Cross is a writer for The Lantern at Ohio State University.

Letter to the editor

Holbus used flawed logic in column Editor,

I am writing in response to John Holbus's column "Media holds a racist double standard." (Jan. 13). Holbus once again displays his ignorance for all to see. Holbus, as a political science major, wants you to think he's a friend of Howard Dean that he is the governor of Vermont, a pre-eminently white populated state.

First, Hillary Clinton has since apologized for her bad joke. I didn't see an apology anywhere in your column. So, how can you demand an apology or recognition be hypocritical?

Second, don't try to pass George W. Bush off as some sort of civil rights activist. Yes, he has appointed many women and minorities to his cabinet. Congratulations, you actually used a fact correctly. But you fail to realize in your criticism of Howard Dean that he is the governor of Vermont, a pre-eminently white populated state.

Last, you try to defend racist comments from prominent Republicans. Bush Dunking didn't just say that Donna McNabb is an overrated quarterback. With a little research, you could find the entire quote. "McNabb is overrated ... what we have here is a little social concern in the NFL. The media has been very destructive that a black quarterback can do well — black coaches and black quarterbacks doing well." (http://date.msn.com). This quote goes a bit further than just a critique of his social performance.

I again urge you to rethink your career choice. If a career means the ignorance you can say you would like this image what a professional politician could do.

Todd Duncan is a construction management senior.

Beware of the sales vixens

As any guy of the saleswoman who helped him pick out his clothes was flirting with him, and he'll tell you she was all over him. To an untrained eye this might look like a perfectly common event. Girl likes guy, guy helps girl look better, guy gets date. Everyone wins.

Sadly, for all the times I've been helped by a saleswoman, I've never had the infamous date or phone number. Last year in the Holy Grail, it's a quest that seems to have eluded not only me but most of the male population.

Having thought about it, it seems other guys always have the luck. I decided to ask the only woman I know who'd been through the truth behind the vast opacity of saleswoman flirtation. Knowing she was a saleswoman and inevitably had flouted her goods on some unsuspecting shopper at once before, I asked her point blank, "Why do salesgirls always flirt with me while I'm buying clothes but never show any interest afterwards?"

Through her historical analysis I managed to translate a few words from her lynx gant and what I heard surprised me. She said, "You're an idiot. She's not flirting with you. She flirts for some other reason. She found out it was never me the woman wanted, but the commission from my new-shorts.

Recently I went home, looked through my clothes and found they were so horribly mismatched that Derek Zeilhardt would've had a seizure cursing my name if he were to see them. I had been tracked by the most powerful of energies — my libido and a brunette named Heather.

Keeping up with the trends of throw-back jerseys and retro shorts is a daunting task, even for the queue for the Straight Guy. But I thought it if I ever succeeded in wooing Heather or maybe the Owen twins, I'd have to learn how to tell a saleswoman my best friends, Benjamin and Lincoln, thought she was a vulture.

Not wanting anyone else to fall prey to the mistake of bad judgment I devised a sure-fire method for whom not to trust when shopping for new clothes.

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Rivalry heating up as Mustangs head into key conference game against UCSB

By Dan Watson

So which Mustang team are we going to see Saturday when those contemptible UC Santa Barbara Gauchos take on a promisingly raucous sold-out Matt Gym? Thus far in the Cal Poly basketball season, predictability hasn't exactly been the hallmark.

Sure, the Mustangs (6-6 overall, 1-3 in Big West Conference) have had their moments including routting USC, defeating Cal and earning their first conference win against Idaho last Thursday. But then there's the breakdown at Long Beach State and the dejà vu to Utah State last Saturday.

And now the curtain opens to a battle against Central Coast rival Santa Barbara.

"I don't too much care for them," said Mustang senior forward Varrie Dennis at a press conference Tuesday.

"Dennis' dislike for the Gauchos seems to primarily rest in his relationship, or lack thereof, with Santa Barbara's starting senior guard, Brandon Fullove.

"Dennis and Fullove aren't going to have a picnic anytime soon," said "He's a prick," Dennis said bluntly.

Last year the two battled it out for the Big West Player of the Year, with Fullove winning the honor in a controversial decision.

Manley said Dennis, who leads the conference in rebounds, points and block shots, deserved the award instead.

Fullove comes in averaging 11 points per game, down 1.6 points from last year.

"Any smart remarks from Fullove will just motivate us more," said Dennis on the verbal sparring between the Mustangs and Gauchos. "It's always something personal.

Ironically, Cal Poly coaches Kevin Bromley and Santa Barbara coach Bob Williams couldn't be closer friends.

"When I first got the job here, they were the biggest nemesis," Bromley said. "A lot of times I take a lot personal in this business. But Bob's a guy I've learned to appreciate more than any coach in the conference.

"The Cal Poly-Santa Barbara rivalry goes back to 1947 when the teams first tossed up the ball. Since then the record has been in Santa Barbara's favor substantially 26-46.

"Last year things stirred up," Bromley said.

The Mustangs had dropped 11 straight to the Gauchos before taking two out of three wins last year. The second knocked Santa Barbara out of the Big West Tournament.

"I don't have as much of a chip on my shoulder," said Dennis, who's seen the tables turn in his four years as a Mustang. "It's one of those games you get up for. We have more talent and more heart.

Last week Dennis finished with 52 points total in two games. He has been a part of three players who have shouldered the load offensive—such as many of the season. After Dennis (39.7 points/game), Shane Schilling (17.2 points/game) and Kameron Gray (13.4 points/game), there is a significant drop off in scoring for the Mustangs who look to get more offense from other areas.

"I don't have much of a chip on my shoulder," Dennis mentioned.

"I've always said opportunity is preparation," Bromley tried to prepare his team to address the problem of the lack of free throws last week and it seemed to work as the team shot 31 free throws in a runaway win against Idaho. Unfortunately, the problem flared up again against Utah State when the team mustered only two free throws total.

Bromley said he also hopes to have more of a rebounding effort from some of his Mustangs, especially Enzweiler.

"We just need to jump," Bromley said. "Nick's got to jump. We need good athletes that can get it.

The Mustangs are 4-1 when they outrebound their opponents and 1-5 on the flip side. The team is also 1-2 when it has more free throw attempts than the opposition and 3-6 when it does not.

Bromley knows injuries have contributed to some rebounding woes.

"He said Dennis' knee remains a concern according to Bromley though he's continued to play significant time including two 40-minute efforts last week.

Schilling was expected to miss a game or two with a sprained ankle but instead made a shootaround decision to play against Idaho - he then tanked on one of the games early going.

Starting guard Eric Jackson hopes to return before the end of the season and Phil Johnson remains on the bench with an injury.

Injuries or not, Cal Poly doesn't have time to complain.

"If we want to win conference, we gotta win this game," Bromley said.

Shane Schilling will be a key player again this year against UCSB.

On the road: Women look for big win

By Leah Mori

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Cal Poly women's hasn't just been looking for its first road win of the season when it travels to Santa Barbara on Saturday.

The Mustangs will also be trying to get a win against their bitter rival and one of the country's best.

The Mustangs (6-7, 2-2 Big West) will face the Big West-leading Gauchos (9-5, 3-1 Big West), who were picked in media polls to capture a ninth straight conference title.

The undersized Mustangs will have a height advantage against their opponent. Santa Barbara's starting lineup features several women taller than six feet.

The Gauchos' center, Lindsay Taylor, is 6 feet, 8 inches and averages 15 points per game. She is the first-year conference Player of the Year and an honorable mention All-American. Kristen Mann, a 6-foot, 2-inch forward and an all-Big West honorable mention in 2003, regularly scores in double figures as well. Both women represent the United States in international competition last season.

Although the Mustangs can't match the size of the Gauchos, they have other things to offer, like a strong defensive unit that is shown in their full court defense.

Cal Poly's 5-foot-2-inch freshman point guard, Sparkle Anderson, isn't intimidated by the height difference.

"I don't think too much about it," Anderson said. "It's a factor, but I look over that — I look to see my advantages against their disadvantages."

Anderson is coming off a strong performance in her last game. She scored 21 points and had 3 steals in the team's loss to Utah State. She is third in the Big West Conference in steals.

"Playing on the road also has its challenges, especially for the Mustangs, who are 0-7 on the road this season.

"There's a difference between playing at home and on the road," said head coach Faith Mimnaugh. "A proper night's rest is one of the keys, and sometimes officiating takes on the flavor of the home crowd, although they don't intend for it to happen, you tend to get a couple more calls when you're at home."

The Mustangs definitely have their strong points in spite of the disadvantages they face.

"The team is very athletic," Mimnaugh said. "We have a point guard position that is super-duper quick. We have guard quickness, which makes it tough for our opponents."

In addition to their speed, the Mustangs have a tough full court defense, a few strong 3-point shooters and a good offense.

Anderson looks to her first game against the Gauchos with anticipation.

"I'm a little excited," Anderson said. "(Santa Barbara) is a nationally ranked team, it'll be something new and different.""