Walking in the shoes of the homeless in SLO

Ashley Wolf

As the sun rises on a bright, crisp weekend morning, citizens and students against homelessness will leave their car keys hanging by the door. Plans for the beach or a drive up the coast will be set aside to walk the path of a homeless person living in San Luis Obispo.

On Saturday, San Luis Obispo citizens will travel the route of the homeless from the Maxine Lewis Shelter to the Prado Day Center. The walk, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, when Chumash Park is part of Homelessness Awareness Week, an annual event sponsored by Beyond Shelter and Student Community Services.

Almost 3,000 homeless people visit San Luis Obispo County shelters each day. Cal Poly student groups are working to bring the reality of homelessness in San Luis Obispo into the comfort zone of the community and to show support of local organizations that help the homeless, by donating items and money.

"Since we don't have shelters located centrally in town, most people don't see homelessness as an issue in SLO."

— CHARLENE ROSALES
SCS program assistant

Almost 3,000 homeless people visit San Luis Obispo County shelters each day.

Alex Madonna, 85, dies of a heart attack

He was a prominent figure in SLO and a supporter of students and faculty, notably the Cal Poly rodeo

Jake Ashley

Alex Madonna, San Luis Obispo native and successful developer, died Thursday at about 1:15 a.m. of a heart attack. He was 85.

He was most noted for the Madonna Inn, located off Highway 101. The hotel was designed by Madonna and featured theme-styled rooms such as the gypsy room.

"Alex Madonna was a stalwart supporter of individual students and faculty at Cal Poly as well as university programs, especially the Cal Poly Rodeo," Cal Poly President Warren Baker said. "He was also an engaged, active and committed citizen of San Luis Obispo and he will be missed."

Though he had a well-known adversarial relationship with the city, Madonna's works have marked San Luis Obispo for years. Most of his construction projects are taken for granted by the casual observer, from the Marsh Street reconstruction and the underground storm drains in Higuera Street to the Brink Street parking structure. He was also the developer of the Home Depot on Los Osos Valley Road.

"This was one of the first people I came to San Luis Obispo in 1956," Romero said. At that time, Romero was a city engineer.

Bike with Baker: Injury hinders ride

The Cal Poly Wheelman club hosted Bike with Baker, an opportunity to get a free picture with the president. The event included a free barbecue for participants who biked from the Santa Lucia lawn to Dexter Lawn at 11 a.m. Thursday.

Baker was scheduled to ride with the students but over the weekend he tripped and fell on concrete flooring at work, fracturing both elbows. He was unable to ride a bike but still attended the event.

Baker rode in a "Think Vehicle" — a go-cart style car — as an alternative mode of transportation.

INSIDE

Testing the atmosphere
The Top 5 places to study
IN ON THE ROCKS, page 4

New season, same rival
Cal Poly faces Long Beach State
IN SPORTS, page 8

WEATHER REPORT

Tides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Today</td>
<td>72°</td>
<td>Sunny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>72°</td>
<td>Sunny</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUNRISE: 6:20 A.M.  SUNSET: 7:42 P.M.
Homeless Awareness Week continues from page 1

Organization. Students, faculty and community members can register and pick up pledge forms in the office in UU 217 or sign-up at the website at scs.calpoly.edu or call the SCS office at 750-5854.

Assault panel addresses myths

Aimee Anderson  

The Cal Poly Women’s Center hosted a sexual assault panel discussion in the University Union Wednesday night as part of ReMenRer Week.

The meeting was organized to address student questions, educate the public and discuss how sexual assault cases are handled in San Luis Obispo.

“A big focus is addressing myths and misconceptions about sexual assault and educating the public,” said panel member Jenny Adams, a representative of the Sexual Assault and Prevention Center.

Adams was joined by Karen Coffey of the Victim/Witness Assistance Program, a department of the district attorney’s office that assists crime victims and tries to “prevent witnesses from being re-victimized,” San Luis Obispo Police Chief Deborah Linden and University Police Chief Tony Aceituno.

Each panel member discussed his or her organization and how they serve the community, and then allowed attendees to ask questions and suggest ways to prevent and handle sexual assault cases.

“This is not a comfortable topic,” Coffey said. “Ultimately, we need to get into prevention.”

One attendee told the panel that many students do not believe the district attorney’s office adequately handles sexual assault cases because they rarely produce a conviction.

“A lot of women on this campus have the impression that the DA won’t take their cases,” said psychology junior and Women’s Center staff member Becca Swanson.

Much of the discussion dealt with how the district attorney’s office and local police departments handle such cases and why they have such little success setting them.

“We’ve had several cases fall apart after pressing charges,” admitted Coffey. “It’s frustrating.”

Members of the panel said that the lack of evidence or witnesses and too little jury education make their jobs difficult.

“It may sound like we never convict anybody, but we do,” Linden said. “Cases are most successful when we have witnesses and a confession. We like putting people away for as long as they deserve.”

Attendees seemed interested in hearing how legal professionals view sexual assault cases.

“It was important to hear their side,” said biology senior Tina Naitz. “I just wish there were more people here.”

The panel also took a moment to acknowledge the men in the audience and thank them for their concern.

“We’re not saying that all men are rapists, but unfortunately 98 percent of rapists are men,” Linden said. “This is not a women’s issue, it’s a men’s issue.”

 kraze1er  MUSTANG DAILY PHOTOGRAPHER

ReMenRer Week coordinator Jenn Yost talks to a student during “Take Back the Night,” an event held in the UU on Thursday.

Creative women & men needed...

All majors welcome  

We’re here when you need us!

We’re here when you need us!

GRADUATING?  

Stay Connected to Cal Poly after graduation with an Alumni Grad Pack

Grad Packs Include:
  - Alumni Association membership
  - Class of 2004 T-shirt
  - Alumni license plate frame
  - Entry into daily raffle drawing!

Pick up your Grad Pack at the special price of $2.04 during Cal Poly Grad Days April 15-17, 2004
El Corral Bookstore: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Questions? Call 756-2586 or see www.almostalumni.calpoly.edu

Madonna continued from page 1

next. Though they had their differences regarding development issues, Romero said they always resolved them in a friendly manner.

"Over the years, we became friends," Romero said. "And I’m just devastated that he’s passed on."

Cheri Humphrey, gift shop manager and the one who has worked for Madonna for the past 23 years. More than an employer, Humphrey regarded Madonna as a mentor.

"He brought out the best in people, he brought out the best in me," Humphrey said. "I feel I’m a much better person because of him."

Madonna is survived by her wife, Phyllis, her children Baton, John, Karen and Connie, and 10 grandchildren.

There will be a rosary service at the Old Mission church on Wednesday at 7 p.m. and a funeral on Thursday morning will be followed by a private burial. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to either Hospice or the Women’s Shelter of San Luis Obispo County.

Madonna continued from page 1

Katherine Humphrey, gift shop manager and the one who has worked for Madonna for the past 23 years. More than an employer, Humphrey regarded Madonna as a mentor.

"He brought out the best in people, he brought out the best in me," Humphrey said. "I feel I’m a much better person because of him."

Madonna is survived by her wife, Phyllis, her children Baton, John, Karen and Connie, and 10 grandchildren.

There will be a rosary service at the Old Mission church on Wednesday at 7 p.m. and a funeral on Thursday morning will be followed by a private burial. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to either Hospice or the Women’s Shelter of San Luis Obispo County.
SACRAMENTO — Local governments will accept deeper funding cuts this year and next in exchange for a bigger share of property taxes and a promise from the state not to raid their coffers in the future, negotiators of a proposed budget deal said Thursday.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed in January that cities, counties and special districts provide a permanent annu­al contribution to the state of $1.3 billion. The governor has apparently agreed to sunset the contribution after two years, but no final accord has been reached.

Officials close to the talks say local leaders have won a pledge from Schwarzenegger not to seek additional money in the future and has promised to sign a constitutional amendment that would solidify the agreement.

SACRAMENTO — California should ban the use of 15,000 touch-screen voting machines made by Diebold Election Systems from the Nov. 2 general election, an advisory panel to Secretary of State Kevin Shelley recommended Thursday.

By an 8-0 vote, the state's Voting Systems and Procedures Panel recommended that the state cease the use of the machines, saying that Texas-based Diebold has performed poorly in California and its machines malfunctioned in the March 2 primary election, turning away many voters in San Diego County.

SAN FRANCISCO — State power regulators cleared the way Thursday for Pacific Gas and Electric Co. to distribute one-time customer refunds totaling $100 million.

The rebates, ranging from an average of $10.64 for the biggest users to $68.48 for the smallest, equal about $434 million in lost revenue for PG&E, which is returning the money as part of a previously approved $799 million, or 8 percent, reduction in its electricity rates.

The California Public Utilities Commission approved this year's line electricity allowance won't receive a refund.

Michael Jackson's secret indictment revealed too much of the people entering the building.

— Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government Thursday approved a joint drug discovery program between medical states that has saved millions of dollars in prescription costs, a decision that could lead other states to form similar agreements.

"This is the first time in the history of the Medicaid pro­gram that states have been able to work together like this to negotiate lower drug costs," said Mark McClellan, administra­tor of the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Michigan, Vermont, New Hampshire, Nevada, and Alaska are now participating in the program, McClellan said, and Hawaii has applied to join it.

The program requires states to adopt a list of drugs that doc­tors should use when treating low-income Medicaid patients.

— Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Senate bill to create a multi­billion-dollar trust fund for people suffering from asbestos-related diseases failed in a test vote Thursday, but Senate leaders hope that discussions with a mediator could revive the legislation later this year.

Republicans were not able to muster enough support in the Senate to force Democrat to consider a plan to give businesses immunity from asbestos lawsuits in exchange for a $124 billion trust fund to speed money to sick people.

Sixty votes were needed to force a debate, but the vote was 50-47. Senators left open the possibility of reviving the legislation, however. "It certainly doesn't mean this legisla­tion is dead for all time," said Sen. Tom Carper, D-Del.

— Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Airport security screeners per­form poorly, whether they're government or private­ly contracted, the Homeland Security Department's chief investigator told Congress on Thursday.

The House aviation subcommittee received reports from Inspector General Clark Kent Ervin, the General Accounting Office and a private firm. The government reports found air­port security is lax and all three described the Transportation Security Administration as overly bureaucratic.

— Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Fearing that terrorists might target Congress, the House on Thursday approved a bill to set up speedy special elections if 100 or more of its members are killed.

The House, in a 306-97 vote, put aside for now the larg­er issue of whether Congress should be attended to allow for temporary appointments in the event that an attack caused mass fatalities among lawmakers.

— Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal appeals court in Virginia on Thursday allowed the government's case against terrorism suspect Zacarias Moussaou to proceed and lifted a ban on prosecutors presenting evidence related to the Sept. 11 attacks.

The three-judge panel ordered U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema to work out a compromise on the key issue: whether Moussaou should have access to al Qaeda witness­es who could help his case.

— Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Michael Jackson's secret indictment charge of child molestation came to the surface Thursday after a grand jury rejected it.

The few arms that have been surrendered so far were "junk," Marine commanders said.

The Stark warning by Lt. Gen. James Conway came two days after an agreement was reached in which city leaders returned for a U.S. pledge to hold back on plans to storm the city and allow the return of remains that died the city.

— Associated Press
Crystal Phend
MUSTANG DAILY

It's 8 p.m., the night before a big test. If you have to study at home one more minute you will a) let your heavy lids drop to their final closed door or b) have to shove the earplugs into your ear canal to avoid the cheerful domestic din penetrating the tightly closed door.

For many students the choice is obvious: Go somewhere else. If your timing is right, the department lounge or study area can be a great study spot. It is near the faculty offices and is likely to have students of that major hanging around to help you through tough homework. Ecology junior Carine Zoellner said she usually studies at the Higuera Street location. The reserve room, though the vend- otor said, "There are a lot of people here studying and you join in the flow."

Starbucks is known for its Joe but even on open mike or live band nights, just as many students come to study, Linnæa's employee Jason Joyce said. The coffee shop is open until 11 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday and until midnight the rest of the week. If Starbucks and Linnæa's aren’t enough to prop up your eyelids, then it’s time to wave the white flag and make peace with your pillow.
Get good karma and have a little feng too

Rachel Musqu

Hopeless love life? Struggling in school? No one shows up at your party? You must have negative Chi flowing in your personal space. If you think you're doing everything right and still not happy with the status of your life, maybe it's time to rearrange your room.

Whoa, whoa. Back up there. Yes, you read correctly. Feng shui (pronounced fung schway), the ancient Chinese art of placement, can improve all aspects of life, from family and relationships to work and money, by optimizing the surrounding environment. The position of furniture and design of the environmental influences balance and comfort every level of life and every moment, whether intentional or not. In short, every person has control over their life by controlling the placement of the objects around them.

"Your environment is a reflection of who you are. If it's chaotic, then your life will be unnecessarily chaotic," recreation administration junior Ashley Wood said.

"Creating harmony reflects positively on you." Wood spent fall quarter stressed out which she attributes to the arrangement of her room. After moving her bed and furniture, she has found that being in her room is now peaceful and relaxing. Before getting lost in this Eastern art of placement, it is important to know that feng shui is simple in nature. It provides immediate results in bringing balance, comfort and harmony. Even Winston Churchill once said, "We shape our dwellings; and afterwards, our dwellings shape us."

Feng shui is an interaction of humans with their environment. The main concept of feng shui states that everything is comprised of energy called Chi (pronounced chee). The flow of Chi is affected by the placement of objects in the environment their interaction with personal energy flow. Chi moves like the flow of traffic.

"Anytime you have congestion in your environment, you have congestion in some area of your life," feng shui consultant Suey Irvine said.

The dilemma with college living is that it is the small space, having multipurpose rooms and sharing living space with too many inhabitants. "In a small area, you should have something you like and are excited about," Irvine said.

Getting a new roommate is a better choice than having one that parents this, she said. There are easy yet incredibly important steps to immediately improve feng shui.

"When you walk into a room, you can tell if it is balanced," Wood said. "You can see immediate results by moving things around or adding a plant or peaceful colors."

The best room to start with is the room where the most time is spent — the bedroom. Clutter is the single, most sure sign that there is disharmony. Downsizing "stuff" is the easiest way to make the most of a small space. Adding mirrors wherever possible expands the space by creating an illusion of more room. Placing the desk in the commanding position of the room will make work more efficient. A messy desk or work space will have an effect on academics while the placement of the bed can wreck a potential love life. Also, the pathway to and from the front door is the primary factor in how the Chi will flow in the living area.

The next room to work on should be the living room. It symbolizes and reflects a person's life and goals. Having symbols or negative imagery in the living room can have a powerful effect. One example of this comes from a couple who called Irvine to aid their feng shui. The couple had their wedding picture hanging over a trashcan and in turn was having relationship problems. Symbolically, they were throwing away their relationship. Test out feng shui at your next party. Before the guests arrive, play classical music to cleanse the energy of the room. It is not necessary to play the entire evening, but the music will lift the Chi of the room while clearing negativity.

While rocking out to some classics, arrange the furniture in a way to all of life's problems, simple changes will enhance the quality of living by finding romance, prosperity and harmony.
**Summer Camp働いています。** 805-544-7499 3121 South Higuera • SLO

**Classified Advertising**

**HELP WANTED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer Camps</th>
<th><a href="http://www.daycampjobs.com">www.daycampjobs.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Models needed for 2005 swimsuit calendar. Call local propeller mfr. Piranha Props for more info at 781-3848</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CLASSIFIED**

**RENTAL HOUSING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5 Cities Swim Club</th>
<th>5 Cities Swim Club</th>
<th>5 Cities Swim Club</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>winner</td>
<td>winner</td>
<td>winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Cities Swim Club</td>
<td>5 Cities Swim Club</td>
<td>5 Cities Swim Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>winner</td>
<td>winner</td>
<td>winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Cities Swim Club</td>
<td>5 Cities Swim Club</td>
<td>5 Cities Swim Club</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attention Child Development, Social Science, and Pacific Majors**

| Teacher and Instructional Aide Substitutes Needed! Gain valuable hands-on experience working for EOC in their State Child Care or Head Start Program. Positions located throughout San Luis Obispo County. To view a complete job description or to obtain an EOC application visit our website, www.ecsob.org or stop by our office at: 1030 Southwood Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 805-544-4355 EOE/M/F/D/V/Drug Free Workplace |

**Bartender Trainees Needed**

| Earn $100-$500/shift; Int'l Bartender back in town one week only. Day/ eve. classes, limited seating, call today 800-859-4109 www.bartendeme.is Part and full time positions available! |

** Considering Abortion??**

| Let's Talk. Maureen 805-238-7472 |

**Green Party of SLO**

| www.sloGREENS.ORG |

**NEW IN M.B.**

| 2bd, 2.5 ba, fully furnished, avail. 8/1 $2200/mo., dep. 559-905-8899 |

**TOP GUN!!!**

| Fremont Theater Today, Thursday 4/22 8:30pm $7 |

**HOMES FOR SALE**

| Free list of all houses and condos for sale in SLO call Nelson Real Estate 546-1990 or email steve@nslhomes.com |

**RENTAL HOUSING**

| Condos & Apartments Available 3 bed/2.5 bath luxury condo near Poly @ $1900; 2 bed w/garage & hardwood floors @ $1100; Cedar Creek and Carhill condos; Alta Vista Park Condo w/2 car garage $11700; 1 bed $975 www.slothomes.com |

**LARGE PIZZA**

| w/ ANY & ALL TOPPINGS (includes tax, tip & delivery) 805.544.7499 3121 South Higuera • SLO |

**LOST AND FOUND**

| Lost phone pendant w/ green petals and blue center. Means a great deal to me. Lost at UIU Plaza during water finals. Means a great deal to me. Return to one online at nytimes.com/solving. Crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. For answers, call 1-800-286-5656, $1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5544. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords ($34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/solving. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/words. |
PR biking event won't help the environment

Commentary

We are familiar with messy public relations events put on by prominent politicians to show just how much they care about certain issues (elaborate aircraft carrier landings come to mind). Normally, we have to wait the nightly news to see these well-crafted affairs, but Thursday Cal Poly got to see one live, in the form of Associated Students Inc.'s "Bike With Baker" event.

The event, a "bike ride" to promote alternative transportation, was supposed to feature President Warren Baker riding a bicycle, with a group of students and staff, from the Santa Lucia residence halls all the way down to Dexter Labs. An epic journey designed to be less than one-quarter of a mile and all downhill in order to minimize both time and effort.

In reality, Baker didn't ride a bike at all. After a trip-and-fall accident in his home, Baker suffered two fractured ankles and was deemed unable to navigate a bicycle. Instead, he rode in a "Think Vehicle" go-kart, arguably another form of "alternative" transportation.

At the end of the ride, participants had the opportunity to get their picture taken with the much-talked about, but rarely seen Baker. They also enjoyed a free barbeque and bike tune-ups.

In a 30-second clip on the local news it may look like Baker is genuinely concerned about alternative transportation, just what PR events are intended for.

Unfortunately, like most events of this nature, it seems only to mask the fact that little has actually been done for the environment. One can only hope that issues of alternative transportation will not be forgotten after the event.

For real changes to take place at Cal Poly, there needs to be an inclination to ride buses. Roads on campus so students could use that efficient way of getting to school.

Many students who drive to school live within easy walk- or bike-riding distance of campus, as they could easily ride a bike or walk.

Cal Poly should not sell parking permits to students who live within a two-mile radius of campus, as they could easily ride a bike or walk.

The terms "patriot" and "patriotism" have been thrown around so much since Sept. 11 that it has come to mean anything, or nothing, to anyone of any politician's daily vocabulary. On Monday, Patriot Day, was celebrated in many ways by the United States. But what does the term mean, anyway?

According to Dictionary.com, the definition of patriot includes the person "who loves, supports, and defends one's country." Admittedly that is a very broad definition, which probably is why the term is used so often. It is difficult to say a person does not love his or her country. How do you prove that? Maybe the person is of the honest opinion that what he or she says is in the interest of the country.

Threw in the snipper from the Constitution — assigned reading for any self-proclaimed patriot (except John Ashcroft, who brought a letter from his parent to school from that rule) — that guarantees free speech to anybody; and it seems that open discourse and even dissent was built into the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

So there you have it. A country that is allowed to speak out, but everybody is also allowed to disagree with them. Both are equally patriotic.

Then there is the oath taken by troops and many officers of the U.S. government. It includes the line "I will support and defend the Constitution States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

The logic of the oath is followed, it means every politician, no matter what his or her role, can be deemed a patriot to the Constitution if they moved to revoke essential parts of the Bill of Rights. This includes all ranks of senators or the president and opens them up for criticism.

But criticism is the name's sake in an easy trap to fall into.

As the election campaign is heating up, the Bush campaign has already run a bunch of assumed Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry to have voted against "higher combat pay for our troops." What could be more unpatriotic than not supporting the people that fight for our country and protect our freedom?

But President George W. Bush, while running on his record as a "war president," did the same thing of which he is accusing Kerry. More specifically, he proposed to cut veteran's pay as well as decrease pay and benefits for current troops.

When the president visited troops at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., in December he said, "We have made a commitment to the troops ... we will provide excellent health care — all of you who are soldiers, make me proud of the country."

But later he proposed to cut $1.5 billion from funding for military family housing and medical facilities, a cut of 14 percent of the total budget, according to the IndependentBudget.com, a site created by Paralyzed Veterans of America to represent the interest of veterans and troops.

If this teaches us anything, it is that pointing a finger at somebody and pro-"patriotism" is more than just making it, it does not make it. So it also does not mean the person pointing the finger is, by default, any more patriotic than the person they are criticizing.

Some shortfalls of self-proclaimed patriots can only be overcome through open discourse. Only if such things are discussed in the open can it be ensured that the interests of the people, and therefore the country, are put above everything else.

This of course is not always convenient, but it includes not only tolerating, but treasuring those who hold a different opinion.

Bush, on his first trip to Washington, D.C., as president-elect, said, "If this were a dictatorship, it'd be a heck of a lot easier — just as long as I'm the dictator.

A dictatorship in which nobody can state their opinion without their "patriotism" being called into question is one of the reasons why democracies will always outpace the United States to become. Focusing more on the issues at hand rather than the hollow platitudes of patriotism will do so much more than any amount of flag waving.

Sebastian Meyer is a writer for The Oracle at the University of South Florida.

Lett. to the Editor

Reference guidelines were not followed

This week's letter for referendum was conducted was very disconcerting. As addressed in statements from other groups outlined in the document "University Policy & Guidelines: Advisory Student Referendum For Campus Fee Amendments." The administration "must publish the Referendum Fee referenda are governed by the policies outlined in the document "University Policy & Guidelines: Advisory Student Referendum For Campus Fee Amendments." The administration "must publish the Referendum Fee amendments to the Web site [www.fees.calpoly.edu/polici­

These policies require that a fee referenda be announced 30 days prior to the scheduled election. Additionally, "The 30-day notice period shall exclude the scheduled election. Additionally, the Referendum Fee amendments to the Web site [www.fees.calpoly.edu/polici­

By email:
By fax: (805) 756-6784
By email: mustangdaily@hotmail.com

Leters Policy

Letters become the property of the Mustang Daily. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and length. Letters, commentaries and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit letters to 250 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, phone number, major and class standing. Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of the email. Your letter will not be printed unless you submit it in the correct format.

Mustang Daily

Graphic Arts Building, Suite 226
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
editorial: (805) 756-1796
advertising: (805) 756-1143
fax: (805) 756-1784
mustangdaily@calpoly.edu

"Too bad he is a molester, because otherwise he is pretty damn cool."
Baseball to play No. 7 Long Beach St.

Dan Watson

MUSTANG DAILY

Deep in the files of Mustang athletics, there is a baseball boxcore from 2002 that reads: Mustangs 8, Long Beach State 2.

The winning pitcher for the Mustangs was Jered Weaver, now a member of the San Francisco Giants triple-A organization. The losing pitcher was Jered Weaver. Weaver gave up seven earned runs and was knocked out early.

Going back to the first mission is simple: Beat Weaver.

The No. 31/32 Mustangs get their chance Friday when Weaver (11-1, 1.00 ERA) takes the mound for No. 7 Long Beach State in the first game of a three-game series.

It will be the Mustangs' most important series of the season.

Thrusting for a top-25 rating, the Mustangs must get a couple wins from Long Beach and Cal State Fullerton to break the barrier.

Long Beach will send out Weaver Friday, sophomore southpaw Cesar Ramos (7-2, 2.00 ERA) on Saturday and junior southpaw Jason Vargas (5-3, 3.63 ERA) Sunday.

The Mustangs should counter with Jimmy Shidl (8-3, 3.93 ERA) for Friday, Garrett Olson (7-3, 3.76 ERA) Saturday and Tony Suape (2-1, 2.67 ERA) Sunday.

Big Ben can hit off the stellar Long Beach State pitching, it might be the Mustangs (3-23) for the second time in the last three years.

Only one of the Mustangs expected to start in the series is not hitting above .300.

Leading the Long Beach offense is sophomore outfielder John Hekker who is hitting .339, junior Vargas (.327) and catcher Brad Davis (.335).

Over the weekend, Long Beach State swept No. 7 UC Irvine, winning 3-0, 4-2 and 6-3.

Cal Poly is coming off a sweep of its own over Pacific last weekend-end at home and is hoping to average taking the losing end of a three-game sweep by Long Beach last year.

Since the series at Nevada where Cal Poly batted .413, the team has batted .321. Long Beach State has also stepped up its offense early in the season when it is batting .369. It is batting only .287 for the season overall.

The Mustangs last beat the 49ers and Jered Weaver in 2002. They will go against him Friday. Weaver is 11-0 this season.

NFL DRAFT

A trio of can't-miss QBs in this year’s draft

Dave Goldberg

NEW YORK — This year’s draft has three “can’t-miss” quarterbacks: Eli Manning, Ben Roethlisberger and Philip Rivers.

Buyer beware?

Think of Ryan Leaf.

And remember that Todd Marinovich and Dan (Mark’s brother) McGwire were drafted ahead of a guy named Brett Favre in 1991.

Leaf, of course, is not the only quarterly quarterback. Rich Miren, Jon Druckenmiller, Akili Smith, Cade McNabb, Dave Brown, Marinovich and McGwire are all long gone or at the end of some bench.

Yes, drafting is a guessing game as much as an exact science, especially when it comes to quarterbacks.

How else to explain that two-time Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady went in the sixth round in 2000, while two other current starters, Marc Bulger and Tim Rattay, were chosen in the sixth and seventh rounds.

“There’s so much focus on the top two or three quarterbacks that a lot of people forget there are more than that who can play very well,” St. Louis Rams coach Mike Martz said. “There are 10 of them in this year’s bunch that I would really like to have.”

Martz has some credibility on the subject.

In the summer of 2000, he remarked during a casual chat that New Orleans had “a kid named Bulger I really like.” A few weeks later, the Saints obtained Aaron Brooks and eventually released Bulger, who ended up with the Rams and now starts.

This year’s top three QBs would seem to have a better shot at success than most first rounders.

Manning coming with a great pedigree — brother Peyton was this year’s co-MVP, and father Archie was an outstanding player stuck on a dismal team in New Orleans. But horse breeders can tell you that pedigrees are no guarantee against injury or simply failure.

The rap on Roethlisberger is still struggling, and the other two are bust. Brooks, drafted in the fourth round by Green Bay before being traded to the Saints, is the third-best quarterback this year.

— In 2000, Chad Pennington was the only quarterback taken in the first round and seems ready for stardom with the Jets. The next QBs chosen were Giovanni Carmazzi (San Francisco, third round); Chris Redman (Baltimore, third) and Tee Martin (Pittsburgh, fifth).

Then New Orleans took Bulger with the 166th overall pick, and New England got Brady at 199.

The next round, the 49ers took Rattay, who almost immediately showed more promise than Carmazzi and probably will enter next season as San Francisco’s starter.

“The thing about quarterbacks that nobody really knows is work ethic,” Baltimore coach Brian Billick said of the trio.

“I have fallen in love with these kids,” Tony Petruzella said. “If we keep building, we’ve got nothing to lose.”

After an impressive victory of then-ranked No. 3 Brigham Young University, Cal Poly earned a spot in the Final Four for the first time in history. Currently ranked No. 1, Cal Poly will face off against the Naval Academy Academy. The winners of the two games will meet on the field on Saturday to determine who are the 2004 champions.

“We’re not satisfied until we win the national championship,” senior Tony Petruzella said. “If we keep working the way we are, we have a very good shot.”

Cal Poly’s simple strategy so far has been to put pressure on their opponents. By breaking their rivals from the start, Cal Poly earned control of the field for every game. The plan has been successful and resulted in four shutout victories and heavily lopsided wins. The rugby team has an undefeated record of 8-0. The total amount of points scored as of the last league game was 597 while the total scored against them was a trifling 34 points.

At the core of the team are individuals who have been starting together for three years, and a few of seniors have five years of starting experience.

“Other teams in nationals don’t even have a good time,” Petruzella said. “Off the field, we are best friends, we even don’t speak.”

One thing the other teams have that Cal Poly lacks is university funding.

Cal Poly is the only non-varsity team in the championships.

“We don’t get that much respect from big-name school,” Koller said.

“As a club sport, people don’t expect us to be as good as we are.”

The support of family and alumni have been a strength to the team. Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.

Another travel expense included a trip during spring break. About 30 players traveled to Ireland to compete. There Cal Poly beat Trinity College, an American team. Fresh from their return, the team traveled to California to compete for the Sweet 16 games.

Players spent $500 traveling to California for the Sweet 16 games alone.

“People can’t believe we’re paying for everything ourselves,” Petruzella said.