Early voters beat Election Day rush

Erica Drummond

Cal Poly's Society of Women Engineers took home five awards from the SWE National Conference on Oct. 16.

The Cal Poly SWE chapter was awarded first place in the Outstanding Student Section for the third year in a row, an unprecedented accomplishment. The chapter also received national collegiate awards for membership programs, multicultural programs, career guidance and project engineering.

"This is fantastic evidence of how outstanding the students in SWE are," said Helene Finger, a Cal Poly engineering instructor and SWE faculty adviser. "It's nice to get confirmation by getting recognition from the outside."

Cal Poly is a part of more than 1,000 SWE sections in the country. Last year, Cal Poly chapter had 40 members, making it the biggest student section in the United States.

"We offer so many programs through the club," Finger said. "So people from non-engineering majors are joining and even 20 percent of our membership is male."

Last year the Cal Poly SWE chapter gave $30,000 in scholarships to students within the program.

At the Milwaukee, Wis., Conference, the chapter won Best Multicultural Program, Best Membership Program, Career Guidance Audio Visual Award and second place in the Team Tech competition.

Team Tech began in 1992 as a result of a Cal Poly recommendation. The competition involves working with an established company to create a product.

Taskforce seeks change at Poly

Nicole Stivers

The Taskforce on Women's Safety and Campus Climate wants women to feel safer and more comfortable at Cal Poly.

Since last spring, taskforce members have been discussing the effect that an adverse atmosphere can have on female students at Cal Poly. One of the taskforce's main goals is to serve as a catalyst for social change.

"If this sort of change is going to happen, it's going to happen here on a college campus," said Alexoth. "And the taskforce is being created in response to that."

Front: Joanna Ignacio, Tracy Leavens, Heather Heiman, Helene Finger. Rocky Kelly, Sictor, Andrea Sherron, Jennifer Harris, Malia Francisco, Kristin Salinas, Jennifer Ongerg and Betsy Sale.

Disney Imaginingering was so pleased with the team, they want to sponsor Cal Poly again next year.

"This is the ultimate testament to these student's hard work and dedication," Garcia said. "It's the beginning of a new relationship between Walt Disney Imaginingering and Cal Poly's SWE."

Cal Poly also received first place for best membership program in the large student sections category.

The students officers (in SWE) are student officers, and the new relationship with Disney Imaginingering is the beginning of a new relationship with Disney Imaginingering.

Nancy Benac

WASHINGTON — Early voters are casting ballots at a runaway pace in Arizona's biggest county.

They've exhausted absentee ballots in some towns in Maine. They're far outpacing 2000 in Florida hot spots.

With 32 states now offering some form of early voting, an AP/ Ipsos poll taken last weekend found 11 percent of voters across the United States already had cast ballots, and another 11 percent intended to beat the Election Day rush as well. Coast to coast, including highly contested states such as Iowa, Florida, Arizona and Nevada, anecdotal evidence points to increased interest in early voting, a trend that both parties are tracking day by day and county by county as they try to turn it to their advantage.

In Florida's Leon County, for example, the focus of intense litigation during the recount dispute of four years ago, nearly 31,000 people cast absentee ballots by Tuesday, compared with a little more than 10,000 absentee ballots cast throughout the 2000 race. As well, 8,000 people as the county have taken advantage of in-person early voting, an option that wasn't available four years ago.

In Washington state, another battleground, 60 to 65 percent of the total vote is expected to come in early; in some cases simply because voters want to be left alone.

"Lots of folks have made up their minds, and they figure that if they send in their ballots, the campaign will stop pestering them," said Snohomish County Auditor Bob Terverill.

An ABC News poll released Tuesday, found that among people who had already voted, 51 percent said they'd backed Bush and 47 percent Kerry, a difference that was within the margin of sampling error.

"There's a basic rule here: More is better," said Terverill.

Voters cast early ballots electronically in downtown Miami. Lawyers in Florida have already begun to argue a lawsuit over the lack of paper backup on the electronic machines.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

"This is not something one person can do, but one person can take a stand and speak up."

— DENISE CAMPBELL

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brigid Doherty

Los Angeles, Oct. 29 — The 2004 general election is expected to be devoured by polls and data. A new survey found a growing interest in early voting.

- The AP-Ipsos poll, based on interviews with a representative national sample of 1,000 people, found that 11 percent of Americans have already voted, and 11 more percent plan to do so.

- The poll, released Tuesday, also found that 51 percent of voters support Bush, 47 percent support Kerry.

- Among early voters, 51 percent support Bush, 47 percent support Kerry.

- The poll also found that 60 to 65 percent of the total vote is expected to come in early.

- The survey was conducted from Oct. 19 to 21.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The taskforce is made up of a new relationship between Walt Disney Imaginingering and Cal Poly's SWE.
Voting

continued from page 1

better,” said Charlie Baker, captain of the Democrats’ early-vote operation. “We are seeing, in a number of states, significantly higher vote-by-mail and early-vote numbers than historically has been the case and that has to be a good thing for the Democrats.”

While interest in this year’s right presidential race is clearly a factor driving the vigorous early voting, other forces are at work, too.

After all the disputed ballots of 2000, voters seem particularly concerned about making sure their choices are properly tallied. In New Jersey’s Somerset County, for example, elections administrator Janice Hoffman reports, “I see more people walking their ballots in, actually physically in, than in past years.”

Taskforce

continued from page 1

the quarter, members meet in sub-committees to further explore issues they are specifically interested in.

“This is not something one person can do but one person can take a stand and speak up,” said Denise Campbell, associate vice president of student affairs and a taskforce member.

Women’s safety in regards to sexual assault is one of the issues they are currently exploring.

The taskforce would like to introduce “safe zones” to encourage women to come forward if they have been sexually assaulted. Victims would be able to share their experiences with designated campus community members.

The taskforce plans on sponsoring speakers on safety and gender issues.

Another activity the taskforce will promote are workshops for faculty addressing classroom climate. A number of students have spoken to Axelroth and her colleagues about the challenges they face in some classes because of their gender.

Computer engineering senior, Jennifer Overgaag is a student representative on the taskforce. She is a member of the Polycon club, which is involved in many activities, such as giving speakers, on safety and gender issues.

The taskforce plans on sponsoring forums where faculty can discuss the adverse climate of some classrooms.

“A lot of professors don’t even know they have an impact of diverse students,” Overgaag said. “I want to get students and faculty on the same page.”

To join the taskforce, contact Elle Axelroth at 756-2511.

MUSTANG DAILY

CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your feedback and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

• Front page story published Monday Oct. 25 incorrectly stated that the Polcom club has a video game convention. The Polcom club has a yearly gaming convention that consists of role playing games, board games, card games and miniature wargaming, but no video games are involved.

Computer supported a good thing for the Democrats.”

The Polycon club has a yearly video game convention. The Polycon club has a yearly gaming convention that consists of role playing games, board games, card games and miniature wargaming, but no video games are involved.

The taskforce would like to introduce “safe zones” to encourage women to come forward if they have been sexually assaulted. Victims would be able to share their experiences with designated campus community members.

Another activity the taskforce will promote are workshops for faculty addressing classroom climate. A number of students have spoken to Axelroth and her colleagues about the challenges they face in some classes because of their gender.

Computer engineering senior, Jennifer Overgaag is a student representative on the taskforce. She is a member of the Polycon club, which is involved in many activities, such as giving speakers, on safety and gender issues.

The taskforce plans on sponsoring forums where faculty can discuss the adverse climate of some classrooms.

“A lot of professors don’t even know they have an impact of diverse students,” Overgaag said. “I want to get students and faculty on the same page.”

To join the taskforce, contact Elle Axelroth at 756-2511.
STATE NEWS

SANTA ANA — A Riverside company has admitted dumping polluted water into a sewer that discharged into the Pacific Ocean by way of the Santa Ana River and agreed to pay a fine in a plea bargain, authorities said Thursday.

Triple H Food Processors Inc. and company Vice President Richard Joseph Harris admitted violating the Clean Water Act by knowingly discharging acidic wastewater into the Riverside sewer system, the U.S. attorney's office said.

SACRAMENTO — A star witness in a March Senate hearing who ran into problems within the state prison system, has settled his whistle-blower lawsuit against the Department of Corrections for $500,000.

Richard Knupp testified that he first drew attention to the department's skyrocketing overtime and sick leave costs, a key factor in massive routine budget overruns there.

He soon was diverted to a series of dead-end jobs, including one where for 15 months the $72,000-a-year employee said he occupied himself mainly by reading more than 200 books in an attempt at self-improvement.

SAN FRANCISCO — The employment records of Roman Catholic priests accused of sexual abuse in dozens of civil cases should remain confidential before trial, according to an order by the judge overseeing cases in Northern California.

The order modifies a ruling the judge issued earlier this month, when he recommended priests’ personnel records be made public.

The records are important because they could reveal what actions dioceses took against priests accused of sexual molestation.

IN OTHER NEWS

A polar bear at the San Diego Zoo plays with a toy jack-o'-lantern Thursday.

NEW YORK — A polar bear at the San Diego Zoo got into the holiday spirit on Thursday by playing with a large plastic pumpkin.

Kalluk, an enthusiastic 735-pound sub-adult male, amused himself for several hours by tacking, hugging and pawing on the large plastic jack-o'-lantern.

Kalluk is the largest of four bears at the zoo's Polar Bear Plunge. The two acre exhibit features 130,000 gallons of water cooled to 58 degrees Fahrenheit complete with an underwater viewing room. The bears also have a sandbox where they can dig or take a nap.
So the Clash is back. Yes, shortly after front-man Joe Strummer’s untimely death, the pioneers of punk rock have returned with the re-release of their magnum opus, "London Calling." This celebrates the 25th anniversary of its conception.

Between the original album, the previously unheard and unrehearsed "Vanilla Tapes" and the DVD which follows the making of the album, it’s easy to see that this three-disc epic is long overdue. At a loss for words, nothing in the past quarter-century has come close to touching their bona fide tribute to middle-class politics and glorious rock and roll.

Simply put, "London Calling" is a liberating 19-track epic that manages to capture adolescence, definitive punk rock and the past, present and future of every movement from reggae to modern rock.

"The Vanilla Tapes" have minimal production quality and some songs show only small resemblances to the final product on the actual album. Yet, hearing the loose rhythms makes it easy to notice that this is how the Clash wanted to be heard, as striving youngsters and the modest gods of average citizens.

What the Tapes manage to do is expand one’s appreciation for the disc. The disc captures exactly where they were as a band in the late 1970s, pushing forward after their self-titled debut in 1977. Either songs, such as "Where You Going to (Soweto)," find the four Brit in a much more relaxed zone that they never really delve into in the album itself.

Such range was never fully realized with track selections and musical rewrites. Granted, nothing’s missing from "London Calling," but when you hear the previously unknown gold that is "The Vanilla Tapes," one starts to wonder if there was anything the Clash couldn’t do.
We want to know... which local businesses are best for Cal Poly students' needs. Vote for your favorite business in each category and turn in the survey to the Mustang Daily for a chance to win gift certificates from your favorite restaurants and clothing stores.

Drop off location:
Mustang Daily office, Graphic Arts Building 26, Room 226
OR Vote Online: www.mustangdaily.net

Deadline:
November 15th, 5 pm

Best Sushi  Best Ice Cream  Best Surf Shop  Best Late Night
Best Surf Shop  Best Sushi  Best Keg Deal  Best Craft Store
Best Keg Deal  Best Surf Shop  Best Grocery Store  Best Pizza
Best Coffee House  Best Happy Hour  Best Boutique  Best Bike Shop

Wanna tap into the student market? Place...
YOUR AD HERE
Call Mustang Daily Advertising at 756-1143

Want some hot jazz action?
Listen to Polka dots & Moonbeams
Thursdays at 10 a.m. on KCPR 91.3 FM
Wondering what prompted Measure Q to the ballot issue or the Mustang Daily. The people of San Luis Obispo County wish to protect the county's environment, agriculture, economy, that counteract the threat of genetic engineering! I was under the impression a group of students did a study with genetically engineered corn that found people don't really care if it is or is not modified. I was under the impression that genetically engineered corn is free of tentacles and eyeballs, and eating engineered corn will not cause you to pass on tentacle coding genes to your children. What is prompting the people to wish to protect themselves from the perceived threat of genetic engineering? I'm confused.

Jeff Conner
Backstory senior

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?
can you say it in 250 words or less?

Send your letters to the editor to opinion@mustangdaily.net

MUStAND DAILY

Graphic Arts Building, Suite 226 California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
(805) 756-1796 editorial (805) 756-1143 advertising (805) 756-6784 fax
mustangdaily@calpoly.edu e-mail

"That's a funny story"

editor in chief Emily Wong
managing editor Allison Terry
news editor Micah Paedon
sports editor Dan Watson
arts & culture Devin Kingdon
wire editor Abbie Bedenhamer
design editor Katie Zeazear
special sections editor Rachel Mosquera
photo editor Matt Wechter
photographers Barbara Bene, Chese Millhollen, Sheila Selchin, Scott Stehr
copy editors Kim Thomson, Graham Womack
media relations Aimee Conser

production manager Allison James
production assistant Eric Battato
advertising manager Carrie McGourty
assistant ad manager Stephanie Carter
national ad manager Andrea Bitnick
ad designers Jacob Zuckerman, Christina Guse, Tiffany Mine
advertising representatives Daryl Winer, Steve Droel, Liz Soteros-McNamer, Tao Young, Allston Finger, Matt Gonzalez, Dan Cardio, Lucy Bossewacz
faculty adviser George Ramos
business manager Paul Bittick

OP/ED
6 Friday, October 29, 2004

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wishing what prompted Measure Q to the ballot measure Q is on the upcoming Mustang Daily office and your search for the ladies of hard rock will be over, honey. You don't have to search for underground music when you have a group of dedicated girls doing that for you right down the hall at KCPR, Cal Poly Radio. Please tune into "The Red Spot" on Monday evenings at 5 p.m., where we feature ONLY female-fronted bands, and we play plenty of hard rock. 91.3 FM, listen up!

Jennifer Smith
Architectural engineering senior

"The Red Spot" features female-fronted bands
In response to, "Where have all the women gone?" Emily! Peek your head out of the Mustang Daily office and your search for the ladies of hard rock will be over, honey. You don't have to search for underground music when you have a group of dedicated girls doing that for you right down the hall at KCPR, Cal Poly Radio. Please tune into "The Red Spot" on Monday evenings at 5 p.m., where we feature ONLY female-fronted bands, and we play plenty of hard rock. 91.3 FM, listen up!

Jennifer Smith
Architectural engineering senior

Upholding our national identity means questioning
It was interesting to see the blizzard of letters in the OP/ED section Tuesday morning.

One left me with some questions. The letter by Emily Conner states, "It's Our Job as Citizens to Stand Behind the President," and adds at the end that we must do so "to preserve our national identity and freedom."

Now, I may be missing something, but I fail to see how questioning the president's actions jeopardizes our freedom and our national identity. Our national identity is shaped by our history, good and bad, and carried in the hearts and minds of every citizen everywhere and cannot be removed except by eradicating both those things.

Since that history involves both citizens daring to rebel against their king, and the ideals of democracy and government deriving in power from the consent of the governed, it's pretty fair to say that our national identity includes a good amount of questioning authority. Furthermore, since we the public are the source of all governmental power, to stop questioning authority would be ceding away our own, and would threaten our freedom far more than any foreign dictator ever could.

In the end, the president decided that this was necessary to preserve our nation. I decided that he was incorrect, and since I and all other voters are the real decision makers of the country, I have both the right and the duty to uphold our national identity and our freedom by saying so.

Erik Dawson
Architectural sophomore

Don't vote just to appease your parents or pastor
Lately, there has been a lot of talk about politics and religion and I am terribly confused. It seems to me that Christians are overwhelmingly voting for Bush and aligning the Republican Party with Christian morality and the Democratic Party with heretical wickedness. Has this view come from our Christian community? Christians, it is important to note that this election is not so black and white. There are many values on both sides that are compatible with God. Don't just vote to appease your parents or because your pastor dictated his political view into a sermon. Instead, seek what you are most passionate about in all the issues and have freedom in your vote! God cares about poverty, the environment, peace, human rights, human life, and terrorism — and you should too. You can be a pro-life progressive or a tree-hugging conservative and God will be glorified. Read the red letters in your Bible and pray for whom to vote for Brothers and sisters, make your vote count by remembering one thing: Jesus is not a Republican or a Democrat.

Mark Taylor
Architectural engineering senior

MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS
The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your corrections and suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

LETTER POLICY
Send us your love, hate and more

MUSTANG DAILY reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanity and length. Letters, commentaries and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit length 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 e-mail.

By e-mail: opinion@mustangdaily.net
By mail: Letters to the Editor Building 26, Room 226, Cal Poly SLO, CA 93407
So much is at stake in one game: A chance at an undefeated season, a Great West title and an opportunity to beat the rival Saturday's Horseshoe Classic between Cal Poly and UC Davis could come up big.

 Tradition dictates that only Mustang teams that beat the rival Aggies get their team picture up in the locker room. Additionally, a win Saturday could guarantee an undefeated season, polls and a conference title — three of the Mustangs' remaining goals as a hugely successful 2004 campaign reaches the home stretch.

"This is one of the biggest games we're going to play all season," receiver Jean Holmes said. "We've got two out of our three goals that are about to fall this week ... We have to win."

Cal Poly comes in 7-0 and ranked fifth in Division I-AA in The Sports Network and ESPN/USA Today polls. The Mustangs are 3-0 in the Great West Conference and can clinch at least a share of the title by beating the Aggies. Davis is 5-2 and just a game behind Cal Poly in conference, at 2-1.

A large part of the Mustangs' success lies in their stifling defense. Coach Rich Ellerson said, "The fact that they have 17 interceptions is remarkable." It's a defense that's been bailing out the Mustangs' inconsistent offense as of late, especially Saturday against North Dakota State. Cal Poly won 13-10 in Fargo but only managed 199 yards of total offense, including just 93 passing yards from starting quarterback Anthony Garnett. The lack of offensive rhythm was apparent.

"It was definitely frustrating," wide receiver Darrell Jones said. "A few times we couldn't get the plays going. We just gotta start with the basics — get the ball up, catch the ball, get the handoff, then we can get the plays going. Then, that's when we'll start scoring touchdowns."

That will be essential this weekend. Biggs said his Aggies have struggled to put two halves together lately, including Saturday when they fell 19-15 to Southern Utah. Davis is also a respected defensive outfit.

"If we don't bring our A game we won't be able to compete," Holmes said.

With three weeks remaining in the season, it's beginning to look like a distinct possibility that this could be the most successful Mustangs team since 1997. Even the conference title, though, isn't a sure thing.

"Everybody just needs to stay healthy," Jones said as gale-force winds and driving rain ripped through the sky Tuesday morning. "This weather's getting crazy, our game's just about to come through. So everybody just needs to stay warm, stay healthy and keep playing our game."

The rivalry with Davis dates back to 1939. Though the Mustangs won an 18-14 thriller at Tooney Field last year, Davis holds an advantage, though Cal Poly is 2-1 in the R Ich Ellerson era. The odd thing about this series is that this visiting team has won the last four times.

The series began in 1939 with UC Davis posting a 28-0 shutout at Davis. Cal Poly returned the favor in 1940 with a 27-0 victory in San Luis Obispo. The two teams have met every year since 1974.

Twelve of the games have been decided by seven points or less and there were also two ties — 21-21 in 1988 and 32-32 in 1992, both games at Davis.

The Mustangs and Aggies were in the same conference in 1984 — the American West Conference — before the Mustangs moved to I- AA in 1994 and UC Davis was forced to become an NCAA Division II independent. This year Cal Poly and UC Davis once again are in the same conference — the Great West Conference. Saturday's game in Mustang Stadium kicks off at 6 p.m.

Jonah Russell points to the sky after a 74-yard touchdown against Texas State in the Mustangs' Homecoming win. The Mustangs could clinch several spots in the polls with a win against UC Davis.

"When I leave here, I want to see my picture in that locker room," Garnett said. "My picture's not up, I haven't played Davis yet. So I want to make sure when I leave all the future Cal Poly players come in and say, 'Oh that was the quarterback that year when they beat Davis.'"

"We're going to be dedicated to the Mustangs," Garnett added.

"I think it puts players in a position that they can make plays," Biggs said. "The fact that they have 17 interceptions is remarkable."

A large part of the Mustangs' success lies in their stifling defense. Coach Rich Ellerson said, "The fact that they have 17 interceptions is remarkable."

It's a defense that's been bailing out the Mustangs' inconsistent offense as of late, especially Saturday against North Dakota State. Cal Poly won 13-10 in Fargo but only managed 199 yards of total offense, including just 93 passing yards from starting quarterback Anthony Garnett. The lack of offensive rhythm was apparent.

"It was definitely frustrating," wide receiver Darrell Jones said. "A few times we couldn't get the plays going. We just gotta start with the basics — get the ball up, catch the ball, get the handoff, then we can get the plays going. Then, that's when we'll start scoring touchdowns."

That will be essential this weekend. Biggs said his Aggies have struggled to put two halves together lately, including Saturday when they fell 19-15 to Southern Utah. Davis is also a respected defensive outfit.

"If we don't bring our A game we won't be able to compete," Holmes said.

With three weeks remaining in the season, it's beginning to look like a distinct possibility that this could be the most successful Mustangs team since 1997. Even the conference title, though, isn't a sure thing.

"Everybody just needs to stay healthy," Jones said as gale-force winds and driving rain ripped through the sky Tuesday morning. "This weather's getting crazy, our game's just about to come through. So everybody just needs to stay warm, stay healthy and keep playing our game."

The rivalry with Davis dates back to 1939. Though the Mustangs won an 18-14 thriller at Tooney Field last year, Davis holds an advantage, though Cal Poly is 2-1 in the R Ich Ellerson era. The odd thing about this series is that this visiting team has won the last four times.

The series began in 1939 with UC Davis posting a 28-0 shutout at Davis. Cal Poly returned the favor in 1940 with a 27-0 victory in San Luis Obispo. The two teams have met every year since 1974.

Twelve of the games have been decided by seven points or less and there were also two ties — 21-21 in 1988 and 32-32 in 1992, both games at Davis.

The Mustangs and Aggies were in the same conference in 1984 — the American West Conference — before the Mustangs moved to I- AA in 1994 and UC Davis was forced to become an NCAA Division II independent. This year Cal Poly and UC Davis once again are in the same conference — the Great West Conference. Saturday's game in Mustang Stadium kicks off at 6 p.m.

Jonah Russell points to the sky after a 74-yard touchdown against Texas State in the Mustangs' Homecoming win. The Mustangs could clinch several spots in the polls with a win against UC Davis.

"When I leave here, I want to see my picture in that locker room," Garnett said. "My picture's not up, I haven't played Davis yet. So I want to make sure when I leave all the future Cal Poly players come in and say, 'Oh that was the quarterback that year when they beat Davis.'"

"We're going to be dedicated to the Mustangs," Garnett added.

"I think it puts players in a position that they can make plays," Biggs said. "The fact that they have 17 interceptions is remarkable."

A large part of the Mustangs' success lies in their stifling defense. Coach Rich Ellerson said, "The fact that they have 17 interceptions is remarkable."

It's a defense that's been bailing out the Mustangs' inconsistent offense as of late, especially Saturday against North Dakota State. Cal Poly won 13-10 in Fargo but only managed 199 yards of total offense, including just 93 passing yards from starting quarterback Anthony Garnett. The lack of offensive rhythm was apparent.

"It was definitely frustrating," wide receiver Darrell Jones said. "A few times we couldn't get the plays going. We just gotta start with the basics — get the ball up, catch the ball, get the handoff, then we can get the plays going. Then, that's when we'll start scoring touchdowns."

That will be essential this weekend. Biggs said his Aggies have struggled to put two halves together lately, including Saturday when they fell 19-15 to Southern Utah. Davis is also a respected defensive outfit.

"If we don't bring our A game we won't be able to compete," Holmes said.

With three weeks remaining in the season, it's beginning to look like a distinct possibility that this could be the most successful Mustangs team since 1997. Even the conference title, though, isn't a sure thing.

"Everybody just needs to stay healthy," Jones said as gale-force winds and driving rain ripped through the sky Tuesday morning. "This weather's getting crazy, our game's just about to come through. So everybody just needs to stay warm, stay healthy and keep playing our game."

The rivalry with Davis dates back to 1939. Though the Mustangs won an 18-14 thriller at Tooney Field last year, Davis holds an advantage, though Cal Poly is 2-1 in the R Ich Ellerson era. The odd thing about this series is that this visiting team has won the last four times.

The series began in 1939 with UC Davis posting a 28-0 shutout at Davis. Cal Poly returned the favor in 1940 with a 27-0 victory in San Luis Obispo. The two teams have met every year since 1974.

Twelve of the games have been decided by seven points or less and there were also two ties — 21-21 in 1988 and 32-32 in 1992, both games at Davis.

The Mustangs and Aggies were in the same conference in 1984 — the American West Conference — before the Mustangs moved to I- AA in 1994 and UC Davis was forced to become an NCAA Division II independent. This year Cal Poly and UC Davis once again are in the same conference — the Great West Conference. Saturday's game in Mustang Stadium kicks off at 6 p.m.