**Weaponers of Cal Poly struggle with ethical issues**

Engineering graduates and professors deal with the ethical aspects of building weapons

Carrie McGourty

In 1976, mechanical engineering sophomore John Kump took a seat in Bill Steins ME 211 class for engineering ethics and heard a comment that he would remember for years.

"A student asked professor Stein why he left the private sector to pursue teaching.

"Bombs," he replied.

Steins involvement in the first supersonic bomber, the XB70, "morally rubbed him the wrong way," Kump said.

The engineer who takes personal responsibility for the end use of the weapons he builds has had his turn manifested in many Cal Poly graduates. For Kump, his work on Electronic Warfare platforms, which were implemented in the Gulf War to jam enemy radar, made him very proud.

"(They) save our guys lives," Kump said, whose work on the ALQ-184 ECM pod bamboozled enemy radar-guided missiles and played a major role in the Air Forces astonishingly low losses.

A Cal Poly graduate was horrified to learn the B-52 bombers he helped develop were being used to bomb Yugoslavia.

"I wouldn't have done it if I had known how my work was to be used," the engineer said. "But you can't control what's going to happen."

The inventors' paradoxical dreams

Throughout history, the creators of weapons indeed had a different end use in mind for their inventions, usually believing that a stronger, more deadly weapon makes a difference," said an engineer who graduated from Cal Poly in 1978 with a graduate degree in electrical engineering, and asked not to be named. "But what you have in mind can be applied completely differently."

Two decades later, this engineer was horrified to learn that the B-52 bombers he helped manufacture were not being used to secure Americans against the Cold War. The Clinton Administration used them to bomb Yugoslavia.

"You think what you're doing makes a difference," said an engineer who graduated from Cal Poly in 1978 with a graduate degree in electrical engineering, and asked not to be named. "But what you have in mind can be applied completely differently."

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The inventors' paradoxical dreams

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Weaponeers continued from page 1

would be a deterrent against further warfare. Inventors engineered the machine gun, submarine and airplane in hopes of limiting further warfare, but they essentially created an arms race that dominated the history of the rest of the 20th century, according to the documentary, "The Arming of the Earth."

The film claimed that Richard J. Gatling, who patented the machine gun, believed he invented a mechanism of peace.

"Only immoral and bad generals would send their soldiers to certain death with my gun," Gatling said in 1862.

But Gatling's invention only furthered the efficiency of killing on the battlefield and revolutionized the psychology of combat, the film said. Soldiers no longer had to risk their lives to make sure targets were killed. It was so disgusted by the effects of his invention that he established and funded the Peace Research Society of America to focus more on scientifically-advanced systems, many of which will take years to manufacture.

A changing nature of war

In the last century, weapons system development and combat techniques have been created to limit traditional battles where soldiers fight soldiers, and to maximize devastation to the enemy's land.

West Point history professor Maj. John Brunsfield said in the film, "The Arming of the Earth," that the changing attitude of fighting has taken on a new look.

In WWI, there were eight million military deaths and 1.3 million civilian deaths, the documentary reported. By WWII, with the advent of aviation, submarines and airplanes, there were 16.9 military deaths and 34 million civilian deaths, Brunsfield said.

This changing nature of war has caused the weapons manufacturing industry to focus more on technologically-advanced systems, many of which will take years to manufacture. This means engineers who create weapons during one conflict, might see their inventions applied decades later for many different purposes.

Such might be the case with the C-17 Transport Aircraft, currently being manufactured by Boeing and Pratt & Whitney.

The military plans to purchase 134 C-17 aircrafts at a cost of $44.86 billion to replace the aging C-141 transports. Christopher Heilman, a senior analyst at GDI, wrote in 2003 that "in order to bring down the aircraft's cost, Boeing is looking at additional overseas sales of the aircraft, and is considering a plan to help fund a civilian version of Boeing's C-17."

"I definitely realize there's a possibility of weapons to be used for any way unimaginable," said Vincenzo Gisin, an aerospace engineering senior who works on a military project. "It won't stop me from working on a military project. It's my priority as a citizen to vote in such a way that my government chooses to be wise about the use of weapons I created for them."

A new generation consults its conscience

And so like Gisin, many Cal Poly graduates will enter the work force and possibly manufacture weapons to follow their dream to fulfill their potential as engineers.

"A weapon isn't something morally reprehensible to make," Gisin said. "Nuclear weapons have enabled one of the most peaceful periods in the world's history ever because people are scared of getting nuked."

Gisin said that finding job stability, having more creative freedom and a chance to gain a presence in a company are benefits of working on weapons systems.

But some still struggle with the moral dilemma of the humanitarian impact of weapons. Brent Heliker, an aerospace engineering graduate who is a candidate for a masters degree in the same area, is in the middle of choosing between jobs at Northrop Grumman (for a department, not a project) or a job at Stanford research center.

"I think I'm going to choose Stanford because I can't stand the thought of making weapons," Heliker said. "And their mission statement is to improve the quality of the world."

Engineers really do love to improve the world, said aerospace engineering graduate student Francesco Giannini. Giannini, who at a very young age fell in love with airplanes and dreamed of engineering them, struggles with the ethical dilemma of working on weapons manufacturing projects when he graduates and works for industry.

"They don't live in a physical world, they live in a world of ideas," Giannini said. "It's a human gift to take something that doesn't exist and make it a reality. But it's ugly that this process can be used to harm other people."

Impact continued from page 1

Deep Impact still has much of its six-month, 206 million-mile journey left ahead of it. For now, Deep Impact is in cruise mode and will wake up 60 days before the collision.

Whatever new information the mission yields, Montmarron expects it will be similar to the planets visited so far, "all wildly more interesting than we expected."

Impact

Oceans of Opportunity

Cal Poly Open House 2005

1st Club Meeting

-Last opportunity for your club to participate in Open house-

Thursday, February 17

11am-12pm in building 03, room 213 (Business Siso)
**STATE NEWS**

**LOS ANGELES** — A man whose aborted suicide attempt is blamed for a wreck of two trains that killed 11 people pleaded not guilty Tuesday to charges of murder and arson.

Juan Manuel Alvarez, 25, who stood in shackles during a brief hearing in Superior Court, is accused of leaving a car on train tracks, causing a Metrolink train to derail and strike another commuter.

An officer opened fire after Brown backed a suspected stolen vehicle into a patrol car. His death angered many in the black community, who have strongly criticized police.

The shooting, which led to an immediate street protest, is being investigated by police, the district attorney's office and the FBI. During the funeral service, criticism of the police drew applause from the standing-room-only crowd.

**WASHINGTON** — A federal appeals court on Tuesday upheld a decision by an Ohio appeals court that a man who pleaded guilty to driving under the influence of alcohol and caused the death of a police officer was entitled to two years of probation.

Officials suspected Carol Ries, 50, was intoxicated after she rear-ended another vehicle at a red light in January. Police found a bottle of mouthwash in her car.

She passed one breath test, but failed another that used different equipment. Her blood alcohol level was 0.30 percent, more than three times the legal limit.

Despite Listerine's claim that the mouthwash in her car could have caused the accident, the jury took six hours to reject the defense's argument that the mouthwash was the cause of the accident.

The court said the Ohio appeals court's decision was in line with federal law, which requires that judges hear evidence from both sides before deciding whether a defendant is guilty of a crime.

**WASHINGTON** — The Senate on Tuesday approved a bill that would allow states to merge their pension plans.

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Tom McCauley is exhausting.
To spend two hours with him is to be thrown headfirst into a kaleidoscope of rap, politics and philosophy walking away slightly dazed and enlightened. He'll speak as fast as his mind whirs, barely pausing for breath, on hard-edged rap, the softening lull of family life and the ordeals of a street-smart upbringing.
He will also sing some TLC.
"I've wanted to play this jam for weeks!" he exclaimed as he threw a vinyl copy of "What About Your Friends?" on a turntable during "The Family Show," his rap program on KCPR 91.3 FM radio (Monday, 6 to 8 p.m.).
Between singing shrill falsetto renditions of the chorus, he danced around the narrow broadcasting booth trying on inexplicable accents and voices, lauding Public Enemy and speaking in rapid-fire poetry to the Radio Land masses. "TLC, man! I write about this stuff, too — I can't hurt, yet!"

The 32-year-old MC and DJ is joking — about the last part, anyway. Under the rap pseudonym JonPDoe, McCauley has amassed a strong following and discography for speaking his positive and meaningful messages through clever rhymes and forceful delivery. He has collaborated with his idol, recorded numerous albums and EPs and seen the inside of the music industry through some hard labor. A journalism and English student at Cal Poly, he's also finishing the education he dismissed previously to devote himself to his wife and sons.
"My family has been a very calming influence on my life," he said. "I've developed more confidence in myself and what I like. I've had a lot of experiences in my life that led up to this."

McCauley first discovered rap and the lifestyle it promoted while growing up in Orange County. Intoxicated by the first sounds of Run-DMC and Grandmaster Flash, he collected all underground tapes available and started recording his own "horrible" rhymes at age 15.
"I liked the stories and how much you could say in the song? — it was a really new sound back then," he said. "I'd come up with these intricate eight-part raps. My group was DJ Tom and the Rapper DJs. I thought that was so cool. Of course, looking back on it, some of it sucked balls." (His posse ended up being multiple reincarnations of himself, as all his friends refused to participate.)

Moving to San Luis Obispo for college took his rap and his name in a different direction. In his Southern California home, he'd gone by the moniker The Hit Man and dabbled in the darkness that heavy rap romanticized.
"I did some stuff just 'cause I thought it was cool, like getting into rumbles with other gangsta kids, stealing, dealing cocaine. Then I came here, far away from those elements, and realized how un-gangsta I really was.
The name and the rhymes changed as I started figuring out who I was and feel...

see Art Beat, page 5
Amanda Samonte
MUSTANG DAILY

Singer, songwriter, pianist Sacha Sacket is performing at Backstage Pizza in the University Union today.

Originally from Calabasas, 26-year-old Sacket is traveling throughout the United States, performing and promoting his sophomore album, "Shadowed," which was released last summer.

"I experienced a harrowing descent on this album," Sacket said in a press release. He also said that he was able to express personal struggles and the "darker things in life."

"Shadowed" was about not trying to fix everything, and just being able to focus on myself and the process I had to go through," he said.

Sacket started playing piano at age 6. After two years of lessons and learning how to read music, he studied and composed music without any other professional training.

He began writing his own songs in high school. He said that music had a crucial role in his life especially during that time.

"You don't want to wake up at 32 and think you've wasted your time," he said. (He then proceeds to give an appreciative proud of who you are. You don't want to wake up at 32 and think you've wasted your time.)

"For me, music is an outlet in my life," Sacket said. "I was very lonely. There wasn't anyone to talk to about my problems...the piano was the only place I could go at the end of the day and express myself...I became obsessed with music."

After high school, he graduated from USC with a degree in film.

"I just sort of went (to college) to finish off a degree," he said. "My thing is music...it helps to keep me honest and open."

"When I perform, I don't hold myself back," he said. "I'm not about being cool — I'm about expressing my life and being available to people."

He said he puts the majority of his time, money, passion and emotion into his music.

Performances and record sales are his sole source of income. He formed his record label, Gold Sphinx, himself. He creates all his own beats and original piano music and lyrics; he helps with the production process and generates publicity with his own promotional Web site.

The music sounds like a combination of the Choppy beats of Bjork, the piano melodies of Coldplay and a slightly more melodic voice of Scott Stapp from Creed.

When asked what musicians inspired him, he said that he could not pinpoint just a few artists because there are "too many to count."

Sacket stressed for his audience to be prepared for a very "passionate" and "honest" show.
This town really doesn’t need the students’ money. Aboriginal claims: This town would be dead with out us, this town wouldn’t have money, this town wouldn’t be some hillbillies out post along the coast. Oh, you think our one-eight dollar makes the big difference? What’s the deal? Ok, I think the town would be just fine with fewer houses. We help grocery markets. Well, the town would still be fine with just one fewer… maybe not. We help. As if this town needs more stores. We employ ourselves! Plenty of demand to go around. Get over it. This town doesn’t need us. Sure it would be smaller, but there are plenty, and I mean plenty, of the upper classes to keep this town afloat. It’s in a nice spot with decent commercial and industry. There is also a natural influx of the rich, and the housing… oh you don’t need to worry about that. Plenty of others are willing to live here, and plenty are willing to live without us, or us. So we’re merely the nightmare that never goes away. But the school was here first dammit.

Morgan Elam
General engineering views

The 10 reasons not to hate Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

1. Not having drive-thru means we can get out of our car and burn 20 calories before inhaling a couple thousand. Keeps the air clean and your rump skii.
2. Having a wide range of small locally-owned restaurants and shops: Firestones, Mother’s, Thai Palace, Fatte’s, etc.
3. Parking sucks, but the weather is great. Take a walk.
4. Rain, maybe a week a year.
5. Having a community that cares and will spend money to protect itself and you.
6. Beach within 15 minutes.
8. Learn-by-doing and plenty of student jobs. Don’t want to work anymore? Plenty, o f the upper classes to keep you. Don’t want to get into debt? Ok, I think the town would desperate for private investment. Cool idea... oh, you don’t need to worry about that. Plenty of others are willing to live here, and plenty are willing to live without us, or us. So we’re merely the nightmare that never goes away. But the school was here first dammit.

Morgan Elam
General engineering views

LETTER POLICY
Send in your love, hate and more

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gorshe’s arguments were typical, poor and arrogant

My God, I was at the biggest ignorant in your “Response to the Liberal Top 10.” While I applaud you for having conviction behind your political views, your list is full of stereotype, poorly-constructed ideas and nauseating arrogance.

Freedom is inclusive of freedom of speech. Through peaceful protesting, different views can be expressed and challenged. The process of exploring different ideas is the foundation for social, economic and political reform. If people never spoke up, change and improvements couldn’t be made. This column provided you the opportunity to promote someone else’s opinion.

You said, “I didn’t have to take off my presidential candidate’s sticker after the election.” Not only is this an immutable remark, it certainly isn’t a strong way to validate what you believe politically.

I really hope you don’t argue as to think that only liberals smoke weed. I’m a liberal and I don’t smoke but I know that one’s preference for bud is hardly dependent on which candidate you voted for or the voted for in November.

It seems apparent that saving the world isn’t worth anything for you because you exalted the fact that you drive a truck that gets 10 mpg. It would be foolish to say that liberals and conservatives should all get along, but these games of “I’m rubber, you’re glue” that are going on are continuing to polarize the political speech forum. There are respectfull ways to convey the most heated emotions and we should try to remember that.

Valerie Barrett
Management junior

LETTER

An article by Professor Lawlor recently sparked an interesting discussion about lifestyle choice. While I do agree that we have to look at the big picture of environmental sustainability, I don’t think that it is the most important issue. When I think of the environment, I think of the beauty of the land and animals.

Cristopher Jackson,
Casille Batten, Elaine Zepeda

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Social Security can be fixed rather than a change to shift the system

Social Security overhaul sounds good... as far as value. Social Security is currently profiting. It won’t turn red until 2018, and won’t be bankrupt for 20 years. The problem we are facing is the reality of our increasing population relative to increase earnings.

Republicans aren’t united, as Bloomberg claims. Many fear the vote of the $4.5 billion the government would need to borrow to pull this off. What is Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid’s platform? Does he not p ay all that much. If you want to retire in style, you must invest your own money. Social Security guarantees that no matter what happens, you will get enough to get by on when you retire. But inserting portions of its changes guarantee to probability. You can’t expect million- dollars to come out on top. Even seems so safe, and saddens me to be so convincing... At best we are here for a 1 percent average return rather than a 2 percent on one-third of your Social Security earnings. But anyway, the inflation from borrowing trillions will easily offset that difference. The system will still be headed for the red, and other unaffiliated changes will still have to be made.

Bush has lapped up the problem to make his solution seem necessary. But his solution doesn’t solve the problem like N.F.T.S. even states it. Even Republicans admit that some small changes could save the system. Why then does Bush push so hard for his idea? Hmm...

Morgan Elam
General engineering views

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cal Poly, SLO, CA 93407

MUSTANG DAILY

LETTER

The Campus Troubleshooter by Mustang Daily columnist Carrie McGourty

My friend, Cameron Saleh, a speech communications senior, tried his hand at avoiding “The O.C.” but eventually caved. I asked him why the Factor.” These shows give an audience an adventure to portray the daily lives of women. These women all have experiences “The Vagina Monologues,” they will not regret their decision. It’s not necessarily aimed to please but to create debate, raise awareness and even call for action.

Today, the stage has mostly been replaced by film and television. Many people want quick forms of entertainment. By appealing to people’s wants, these two playwrights exhibited their art in a way that had never been seen before. In this generation, film and television have taken the place of the stage. It’s like a fly trap, don’t get caught in it.”

But there is nothing to fear.

It’s a good theatre should do. It entertains, educates and engages its audience. This column provided you the opportunity to promote someone else’s opinion. It’s not an immutable remark; it certainly isn’t a strong way to validate what you believe politically.

I really hope you don’t argue as to think that only liberals smoke weed. I’m a liberal and I don’t smoke but I know that one’s preference for bud is hardly dependent on which candidate you voted for or the voted for in November.

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Morgan Elam
General engineering views

LETTER

C:al Poly, SLO, CA 93407
HELP WANTED

Staying in SLO this summer and looking for a job on campus? Conference Services is hiring 13-15 staff for spring, summer, and possibly fall quart. Seeking hard-working, responsible, and positive individuals who enjoy working in a fun, fast-paced team setting. Cashier and customer service experience preferred. Optional summer housing at a highly reduced rate. Flexible hours, PT/FT available. $7.00/hr. Great internship opportunity! Work Fed Position study. Open. Apps. and job descriptions in blgd. 116 m, 211, M, F, 8-4:30pm or online. Mustang Jobs online. DUE 3/3/05. (805) 735-7600

Laboratory Assistant

Camp Wayne for Girls

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Developmentally disabled student currently enrolled at Cuesta College needs a part-time job coach, preferably an upper level or graduate student with experience in helping handi­ capped students to succeed in new jobs. Hours approximately 9:00-5:00, 4 days a week. Pay $10 an hour. Please respond by email to donspiker@yahoo.com or by phone at 805-541-5721 for more details.

Soccer

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Ashley Vallis, 5-4, Forward, Antioch — A three-year varsity starter at Deer Valley High School. Earned first-team all-league honors a year ago. Also a league champion in 800 meters, 1,600 meters and ran anchor leg on league champi­ onship 4-by-400-meter relay team. Plays club soccer for the Walnut Creek Dynamos.

Melissa Woo, S-9, Midfielder,
Bromley searches for the solution

Caitlin Donnell

While the men's basketball team continues to struggle, coach Kevin Bromley continues to evaluate his team's problems in hope of a turn around.

"I've been doing this for a long time and I'm pretty competitive," Bromley said. "It won't happen again, and if it does, then I might not be here in front of you and that is the realm of it. I love this university and I think it deserves better. I have the confidence in myself in knowing I can get it done.

Bromley said the team has been unable to play a solid 40 minutes of good basketball because it is lacking the motivation and it is underrated.

"I don't think that we have a power game for us right now," Bromley said. "I've tried a lot of different things and will continue to do so but it is difficult to give someone self-confidence, self-esteem and a winner's mentality, attitude and feeling." The upperclassmen need to lead the freshmen by example and to install the winner's mentality in the younger players so we can improve our game," Bromley said.

"From the outside looking in, my team looks like we don't have anywhere to go from here," Bromley said. "But from the inside looking out, it's different because I know what kind of players we have, and I know what kind of character we have."

With the accumulation of recent losses, Bromley said he has to inspire, motivate and lead by example so that the team can recover from being 4-17.

"The goal is to get to the Big West Conference Tournament, but in order to do so, the Mustangs will need to take their game to another level, not just with their performance but also with their mental aspect and performance," Bromley said. "Self-esteem, self-confidence and a winner's mentality are what these young men are battling right now," Bromley said. "It's more of a psychological warfare than a physical warfare right now by all means."

"Worrying that these problems carry over to next year is not on Bromley's mind at the moment. "I don't worry about it, but it will be rectified," Bromley said. "You identify what the problems are and you rectify it so it doesn't happen."

Bromley believes strongly in the power confidence can play in a team's performance.

"You take it one game at a time," Bromley said. "You can't get too ahead of ourselves, thinking about all the bad things that have gone on and all the losses because it's one game and one prep at a time and we can get better on a daily basis."

Bromley said that he is on an island by himself and must find strength to lead the team to success.

W. soccer signs 10 players to letters of intent

Ten women's soccer players, all seniors in high school, have signed National Letters of Intent to continue their careers at Cal Poly. The announcement was made jointly by Mustang head coach Alex Crozier and Cal Poly director of athletics Alison Cone.

Cal Poly has won three straight Big West Conference women's soccer championships and five of the last six, qualifying for the NCAA Division I College Cup five times since moving to Division I in 1994.

The Mustangs were 11-3-6 a year ago.

Meet the players:

Monica Bloom, 5-6, Forward, Orange — A four-year varsity letter winner at El Modena High School. Plays for the Southern California Blues Soccer Club.

Kristina Condon-Sherwood, 5-7, Defender, Walnut Creek — A four-year varsity starter and team captain at La Verne High School. Plays club soccer for the Walnut Creek Dynamos.

Allison Kellogg, 5-4, Midfielder, Atascadero — A four-year varsity starter and team captain at Atascadero High School. Plays for the CA Legends Soccer Club.

Kaylyn Lux, 5-4, Forward, Mission Viejo — Earned first-team All-South Coast League honors as a junior at Trabuco Hills High School. Plays for the Orange Junior Soccer Club.

Leah Morales-Nunberg, 5-7, Midfielder, Santa Cruz — A senior at Harbor High School and selected to the Northern California State Team. Plays for the Santa Cruz County Panther Soccer Club.

Zoe Mosk, 5-6, Defender, Santa Monica — League MVP a year ago at Santa Monica High School. A team captain for the Westside Breakers Premier club team.

Michelle Peters, 5-4, Midfielder, Danville — A four-year varsity letter winner and team captain at Carondelet High School.

Kendahl Stein, 5-7, Defender, Alamo — A four-year varsity letter winner at Monte Vista High School. Led junior-year team to CIF-Central Coast Section championship. A team captain on that team that is ranked No. 1 in the country. Selected to the Northern California State Team. A team captain for the State Cup champion Pleasanton Rage. Kendall is a great-granddaughter of baseball Hall of Famer Joe DiMaggio.

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Mt.

Women's Basketball

Mustangs flounder again without Paterson

Cal Poly made 38.4 percent from the floor while losing its seventh consecutive game. A 6-2 start is now history.

Without leading scorer Karr Patterson, the Cal Poly women's basketball team lost its seventh straight game Monday.

Ellen Porshnev and Kimberly Smith each tallied 18 points to lead UC Davis to a 71-66 victory over Cal Poly in a non-conference game at The Pavilion.

The Mustangs, who started the season 6-2, fell to 9-12. The Mustangs are in seventh place in the Big West Conference and in danger of missing the upcoming conference tournament for the first time since the 1998-99 season.

Patterson continues to miss time due to illness. She was formerly the team's leading scorer, she was averaging just above 11 points per game earlier this season.

In Patterson's absence, Cal Poly was led in scoring Monday by senior forward Heidi Wimmann, who had 16 points, and junior guard Courtney Cameron, who had 12.

As a team, Cal Poly made just 38.4 percent of its floor shots, but was seven of 18 from three-point range. Meanwhile, Davis made 56 percent of its floor shots and had four players with at least 10 points, namely Porshnev, Smith, Lara Gray who had 17 points and Jessica Campbell who added 11.

"The Mustangs did outrebound the Aggies 39-33, led by Wimmann, Cameron, sophomore guard Sparkle Anderson and freshman forward Anthonia Newman, who had five boards apiece. Smith grabbed seven rebounds for Davis."

Sarah Grieve, right, and her teammates watch in agony during the Utah State loss earlier this season.

Gray's three-pointer with 13:02 to play in the first half snapped a 9-9 tie and Davis never trailed the rest of the way.

After going into the half with a 33-26 lead, the Aggies led by as many as 10 points after the break. Cal Poly could get no closer than two points down the stretch.

Having fallen last month to the Mustangs 69-62 in Mott Gym, Davis returns home to host Cal State Northridge on Thursday at 7 p.m. and Paciﬁc on Saturday.

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