CSU leaders take to pulpits to recruit pupils

Michelle Locke
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OAKLAND, Calif. — Leaders of the nation's largest four-year public university took to the pulpit Sunday to preach the importance of going to college.

The recruitment effort, dubbed "Super Sunday," sent administrators of the California State University system to 18 predominantly black churches in Northern California in an effort to boost enrollment.

"We all share a dream that more of our young people will get a chance to go to college," said CSU Chancellor Charles Reed, who spoke at the Acts Full Gospel of God Church in Oakland.

Super Sunday, in its second year, drew a number of campus presidents as participants as well as Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, a member of CSU's Board of Trustees, who spoke at a church in nearby Hayward. A sweep of Southern California churches also is planned.

Officials credit last year's effort with helping push black applications up by 12 percent.

"We want all our children to get this chance," Reed said, drawing choruses of "Amen," from the audience.

About 6 percent of CSU's students, 400,000 plus students are black, compared to a state population that is about 7 percent black.

Reed said he's proud of CSU's diversity, "but I know that we all have more to do.

As is true at colleges across the country, there is a gender gap with women outnumbering men. Black men represent about 3.5 percent of CSU's student body, with helping push black applications up by 12 percent.

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Recruitment
continued from page 1
cent of recent high school students but only 2.5 percent of new
CSU students said.
Super Sunday is one of a number of initiatives aimed at
increasing minority enrollment. In another program, CSU of­fers classes targeted at Hispanic parents to explain the
mechanics of preparing their children for college and dispel any
cultural resistance there may be to applying for financial aid.
The idea of visiting black churches grew out of meetings with
community leaders.
"We are inspired and we're impressed with his direct
approach to such African-Americans," Doris Limbrick, a
teacher's assistant at Acts Full Gospel, said as she introduced
Reed.
Nationally, it's not unusual for colleges to work with various
community organizations, including churches, for recruitment
efforts. But the CSU campaign stands out in its reach and
influence, Cushman said.
"It's really tru...
Festive Mardi Gras weekend has French Quarter businesses smiling

Mary Foster
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — The final weekend leading up to Mardi Gras has been a bonfire for hotels, restaurants and bars, with business generally brisker than last year, the first weekend since Hurricane Katrina devastated the city.

"The weekend was surprisingly busy," said Earl Bernhardt, co-owner of two bars and a blues club in the French Quarter. "The crowd is bigger and they're spending a lot of money."

Merchants, hotel operators and others felt the crowd would exceed the 700,000 the New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation. Of the 20,000 hotel rooms available to guests, only 13,000 were available to visitors. The rest were taken by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, volunteers and contractors.

That year there were 30,000 hotel rooms, 1,648 restaurants open, 110 daily flights and 50 major parades, according to the marketing corporation.

One of the lingering problems for businesses was the lack of employees. Since Hurricane Katrina scattered the city's residents, many places have scrambled to get workers.

At Pat O'Brien's, the famous Quarter bar and patio that is home to the rum drink the Hurricane, visitors did not seem to mind the shortage, said Shelly Waguerpack, vice president of administration.

"People seem to understand," she said. "It's a happy group. They aren't complaining."

State

PASADENA (AP) — World-famous architect Frank Gehry is lending his vaunted design expertise free of charge for a makeover and expansion of the Pasadena Playhouse.

Gehry designed the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao in Spain and the metal-clad Walt Disney Concert Hall in downtown Los Angeles, among other well-known structures.

BERKELEY (AP) — Teenagers from upscale areas of Alameda and Contra Costa counties are more likely to abuse alcohol and drugs than their counterparts from poorer neighborhoods, according to a state report.

A comparison of state Healthy Kids Survey results with levels of wealth in the counties' school districts shows that youth substance abuse is more common in areas with more affluent residents.

• • •

BLUFFTON, S.C. (AP) — Republican presidential candidate John McCain said Monday the war in Iraq has been mismanaged for years and former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld will be remembered as one of the worst in history. "We are paying a very heavy price for the mismanagement — that's the kindest word I can give you — of Donald Rumsfeld," of this war," the Arizona senator told an overflow crowd of more than 800 at a retirement community near Hilton Head Island, S.C.

National

DETROIT (AP) — Will Donald Trump put his hair where his mouth is? Trump and World Wrestling Entertainment owner Vince McMahon will pick a wrestler to represent them in the ring April 1 at Wembley Arena 23 at Detroit's Ford Field, The Detroit Free Press reported last week.

If their pick is beaten in the "Battle of the Billionaires," the loser will get his head shaved after the match, the Detroit Free Press reported Monday.

International

MOSCOW (AP) — The launch of a Russian-built nuclear power plant in Iran could be delayed because Iran has fallen behind in payments, Russian officials said Monday. Top Iranian officials swiftly denied that payments had been disrupted, in the latest dispute surrounding the deal at the heart of the two countries' nuclear cooperation.

Last year, Russia agreed to ship nuclear fuel to Bushehr — Iran's first nuclear plant — by March 2007 and launch the facility in September.

• • •

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Insurgents staged a bold daylight assault against a U.S. combat post north of the capital Monday — first striking with a suicide car bomb, then firing on soldiers pinned down in a former Iraqi police station. At least two soldiers were killed and 17 wounded, the military said.

Elsewhere, three U.S. soldiers were killed and two were wounded in a roadside bombing southwest of Baghdad on Monday, the U.S. military said. The military also announced the deaths of three Marines and one soldier since Saturday while conducting combat operations in the western province of Anbar.

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MAJ Wellman at 805-756-7685, email rwellman@calpoly.edu

Assistant News editor: Rachelle Santucci
Steady rain soaks Southern California, strands two in middle of L.A. River

LOS ANGELES — A storm that swept through Southern California on Monday stranded two people in the Los Angeles River while draining roads and causing dozens of accidents.

The heaviest storm occurred in San Diego County, leading the National Weather Service to issue a small stream flood advisory for several hours.

"The center of the storm made a beeline for San Diego," said Steve Vanderburg, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in San Diego County. "We haven't seen anything this heavy this season."

By midday, many areas in San Diego County had received up to 1 1/2 inches, said Vanderburg. The rain was lighter in Los Angeles County, with most areas picking up less than half an inch. Downtown Los Angeles barely saw one-tenth of an inch.

The showers "moved out fast enough to where we had no urban or small street flooding," said Jamie Meier, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Ventura County.

Some foothill and mountain areas saw up to an inch of rain, while spots above 4,000 feet picked up as much as 7 inches of snow.

Southern California was expected to get a reprieve from rainfall for a few days. "We do have another similar system coming down Wednesday night, so we will again see rain on Thursday likely," Meier said.

Storm water brought rushing torrents to the Los Angeles River, leaving two people stranded on an outcrop of dirt and vegetation in a section of the often dry waterway.

Fire crews used a small inflatable boat to ferry the two people — a 50-year-old man and 39-year-old woman — to safety. Their names were not released.

"We will be taking every effort to find the best possible programming combination," Parsons said. It's too early to say what the deal will mean for subscription prices.

"The key here is that the government is lowering the cost of providing service, but at the same time give the company more freedom, not just for the only U.S. satellite radio provider.

Karmarin declined to comment further, saying the companies hoped to save by the merger, but he said he expected the deal to clear regulatory approval and close within six to nine months. "We understand that there is a lot of work to be done," Karmarin said.

Neither XM nor Sirius have turned a profit yet as they spent heavily to build up their programming lines and subscriber bases, including a five-year, $500 million contract to buy rights to broadcasts by shock jock Howard Stern. Both stocks declined more than 40 percent in the past year on concerns about their continued growth in subscribers, but investors have held out hope.

The combined company would have had about $1.5 billion in revenue in 2006 and about 14 million subscribers, they said. The companies said they would work together to decide whether to continue using their proposed two-frequency strategy or to determine where it would be based. XM is based in Washington, while Sirius is based in New York.

The new company's board would have 12 members, including Parsons, Karmarin, four independent directors named by each company, and one representative each from General Motors Corp. and Honda Motor Co.
Israeli-Palestinian summit ends with few signs of progress

Anne Gearan
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — A Middle East peace summit designed to open a new chapter for Israelis and Palestinians fell up with violence concluded Monday with no new agreements and a pledge to keep talking.

The United States, which pushed for the session, said it was an accomplishment merely to hold such a get together for the first time in six years and two hours of talks with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice stood alone in a bare-bones hotel function room to call the session "useful and productive."

The prospect of an immediate success here essentially was hijacked by Abbas' surprise announcement last week that he will govern hand-in-hand with the militant group Hamas. The United States and Israel link Hamas as a terrorist group and refuse all dealings with the group.

Speaking to reporters, Rice said the meeting was particularly valuable because it allows "to recognize the uncertainties that rest upon Abbas' pact with Hamas."

"I think the real value here is that they sat down to talk with each other, pretty early in this process," Rice said. "I could have made the decision that, well, I'll just wait until this all sorts out." Rice said, but she said that could have created new obstacles. "We thought it would be best to go ahead," the secretary added.

Neither Rice nor other U.S. officials would describe the content of the session, although Arab and Palestinian officials offered some details. Olmert said he and Abbas agreed to maintain an open channel of communication, focused both on improving the lives of Palestinians and stopping terrorism.

"What we have heard today has nothing to do with a partnership," said Mohammed Dahlan, an Abbas confidant. "Abu Mazen is determined to go ahead, and I think this meeting could have made the decision." Dahlan added.

Rice is staying and shouted before her suite overlooking Jerusalem's Old City, continuing talks for another hour in a more comfortable setting. At one point the group walked onto Rice's balcony, each with a view of some of the most revered and disputed real estate in the world.

Many of the core questions that frame the hoped-for destination — an independent Palestine alongside Israel — apparently would not be on the table Monday. Those include the borders and the fate of disputed areas of Jerusalem. A third or more of the session was devoted to discussion of the planned coalition government.}

Bringing Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, right, and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, left, together, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice hoped to discuss major issues in general terms, hampered by an incoming Palestinian government that would not explicitly recognize Israel at a meeting in Jerusalem.

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They Shoot Horses show trashy

When they took the stage though, They Shoot Horses became a crazed back-alley jazz band. Band members strewed a bag of assorted trash across the floor and played blocks of wood, metal rings and broken guitars as extra percussion.

A saxophone and a trumpet blasted through the floor where their players would alternately move between their instruments and whatever garbage they found.

The keyboardist — who frequently wandered off by himself for hours — swelled with intensity and howled along with Nut Brown while rocking back and forth. All this flew out among awesome drumming from Bruce Dyck, whose other band has toured with The Blood Brothers and Pretty Girls Make Graves. Peter Steynberg, owner of the Steynberg Gallery, pointed out the drumming as a highlight.

In concert, their songs picked up the frenzy and wildness that their albums don't show. "The Bugs" and Pretty Girls Make Graves. Peter Steynberg, owner of the Steynberg Gallery, pointed out the drumming as a highlight.


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“Live on Stage” at BackStage Pizza

Melissa Montecuollo

DOWNTOWN BREWING CO.

Every month BackStage Pizza hosts a variety of bands and solo artists for their “Live on Stage” concerts.

The tradition began back when BackStage opened. Elvis and Marilyn Monroe impersonators headlined the grand opening.

Since then the tradition has increased to a wide variety of music, with everything from jazz to soft rock to acoustic. “The music is usually pretty mellow,” said BackStage supervisor Janiele Dufour. “Since the building is not meant for really loud music.”

Nevertheless, about two to three bands a week perform at BackStage. Many are local artists who play around the area. Even a few former and current Cal Poly students perform, like Play It By.

While BackStage hosts many local bands, it is also a hot spot for groups on tour as well. Jill Cohn, Cadillac Angels, Travis Larson, Corey Nitschke, and Fish Out of Water all frequently stop at BackStage on California coast tours.

This quarter BackStage has expanded the number of performers by adding evening shows, which have been extremely good for business, according to Dufour.

Tim Jackson, Ted Waterhouse and Kurt Miller will perform on Feb. 21, 27 and 28, respectively, at 11 am. The Travis Larson Band will be here Friday night, March 2 at 6pm and The University Jazz Band will play — paid advertisement — on March 8 and 15, at noon. “It’s fun for anyone, any age,” said Dufour. “You don’t have to pay a cover charge and there’s no drinking either.”

If you want your band to play, call Jeanette at (805) 756-1275.

“Dark Side of the Moon” is when synced up with “The Wizard of Oz.” The quiet keyboardist is really the main one who seems to jive along with my indie music trivia, which I spew out whenever I have a conversation with anyone.

This point is, this band looks and acts like a bunch of street performers found in a weird part of town. Pick up whoever you can: a crazy drummer, an introverted piano man, a saxophone and a bag of trash. Then if you get a guitar, man, you got yourself a band.

Show Tip: Chamber folk band All My Pretty Ones will be playing the Steynberg Gallery Wednesday night. The Bloody Heads will be playing at Downtown Brewing Co. on Friday.
Famous boxer presents his nuts to the masses

Dennis Mongello
The Triangle (Stony U.)

When I first heard that Muhammad Ali lent his name to an energy snack brand, I thought, "Oh no, they told Ali to sign a birthday check when he turned 75 recently, but it was actually a contract to sign away the rights to his likeness." My mind is cynical like that.

But then I saw an ad for the snacks, called G.O.A.T., and they looked legit. The packaging was clean, the ad was riddled with memorable quotes, and I was hungry. I wanted to try them out, but they don't go on sale until today. By some good fortune, I was able to grab some early, so I'll let you know what to expect when you go into the bookstore and are looking for some grub.

First of all, the snacks are broken down into three varieties: Jabs, Shuffle, and Rumble. Each of these is different and comes in its own size. Furthermore, each individual flavor or type of snack is given a "round" designation. Snack of different rounds are supposed to give you a kind of boost. I doubt this is little more than something a marketer cooked up somewhere.

The snacks all seemed relatively equal both in their energy-giving properties and their nutritional value. Still, the rounds add to the boxing metaphor, because while they have Ali's likeness for the packaging, it's kind of faint. He is the greatest of all time and his name is on the wrappers, but it's edible.

Next I tried the Shuffle. In terms of packaging, they really hit their mark with this one. The shiny silver package actually looks like a boxing glove. Inside are various different types of goodie. They call this an "energy crunch," but it's more like an "energy party mix." There are some Jabs in there, though, so watch out. The other bits are actually a lot better. Nuts covered in different flavored shells, and sometimes there are some crispy rice clusters. The flavor descriptions are a bit ambiguous, to say the least.

For example, the description for Thrill-A Dill-A reads: "Taste like a bunchy mix of sweet and sour pickles served with a cooler than cool yogurt dip!" I'm not sure even that sounds appetizing, but they still taste nothing like that.

Be forewarned, this flavor of Rumble comes packed with Jabs, which should be "thrill-a mania!" flavored. Not because of the boxing reference, but because they taste like envelopes. The Big Bad BBQ flavor might not remind you of the Fourth of July, but it's edible.

Finally, I skipped breakfast this morning, so I'm not going out at mid-night to drink until I get sick. I just want a nice first beer with the people that matter the most.

Why is everyone's goal to make someone vomit on his or her birthday? Isn't your birthday supposed to be one of the best days of the year?

I used to look forward to my birthday, but now I'm having nightmares about it. My phobia of vomit and my desire to actually remember my birthday don't make my 21st sound like that much fun. Maybe some people like that, but I don't really understand it.

My goal for my 21st has been to make some people upset. I want to go to Spike's downtown and bring my underage roommates at midnight on Tuesday (my birthday is on Wednesday).

I think Spike's is one of the most creative bars downtown for letting those under 21 sit at booths so they can at least hang out with friends who are of age. The thing about this night that makes people upset is that I'm not going out at midnight but it's edible.

Famous boxer presents his nuts to the masses.
morning and had a Rumble. These are fruit-flavored crispy rice bars. Aside from being excessively chewy, like most energy bars, it was actually pretty good. I had the Nut'n Nana flavor and, to my surprise, it actually tasted like bananas nut bread! Watch out for the other flavors, though; they have some of the worst names imaginable: Fruit Fudge, Apple Punched and last and certainly least, Who's the Wango? Honestly, wouldn't Fruit Punched make about 100 times more sense? Well, names aside, these are by far the best of the bunch.

G.O.A.T. is an acronym for "greatest of all time." It's an awkward Web site (www.gogat.com), but it actually tasted like banana nut energy, like a Ked Bull, it was more sense? Well, names aside, these are by far the best of the bunch.

Now, I've been a time when Murphy playing several different character star one movie impressed me. But times have changed.

"Norbil" is without a doubt the worst movie of 2007 thus far. Granted, I haven't seen every movie released this year, but as long as Eddie Murphy isn't involved, consider it safe.

First, there's the plot. Norbit is an orphan who was raised in an orphanage by Mr. Wong. He meets Kate and they fall in love, but Kate hates him so much, then he did his job right?

Wrong. We don't hate Rasputia because we love to hate her. We hate this character because Eddie Griffin and Katt Williams. They were once praised for about a total of 20 minutes, but they pro-
vided the biggest laughs as pimps who try to help Norbit win over Kate. You could be doing something more useful with your time, like beating yourself over the head repeatedly with a shovel. That's what watching this movie felt like.

Eddie Murphy's tired fat suit gags give 'Norbil' thumbs down

Rich Coleman

There may have been a time when we thought that Eddie Murphy dressing up in a fat suit was pure comedy gold. There may have been a time when Murphy playing several different charac-

Eddie Murphy adds another character, Rasputia, to his long list of larger-than-life parodies in his new movie "Norbil."

Comedian Eddie Murphy adds another character, Rasputia, to his long list of larger-than-life parodies in his new movie "Norbil."

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I was glad my mom had added money to my card.

Students enjoy that Campus Express Club is so easy to use on campus. "I decided to join Campus Express because it is easier to carry my ID card than always carrying cash," said Kelly L., second year Art and Design student. "I had to (get Campus Express Club) because I can't buy anything with debit or credit on campus," said Hamid A., electrical engineering senior.

Campus Express Club can be used at any of Campus Dining's family of restaurants, as well as on Pony Prints, El Corral Bookstore, Student Health Services and printing at OpenAcess computer labs. "Printing out my assignment at labs is my main use, but I will probably treat myself to a Lucy's now that I have extra money on my card," said Megan B., third year Kinesiology student. Tania R., psychology junior also enjoys being able to print her papers at the library. "I was definitely surprised when I won because I didn't even know about the drawing."

There are several benefits to being a part of Campus Express Club. Not only do you get great deals on your purchases but you have a chance to win $50.

"I am going to spend the extra money on more hot chocolate with whipped cream! It's really cold in the mornings at 7:30," said Kelly L. To add value, call (805) 753-5939 or visit www.caipoly corporation.org/express

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Eddie Murphy's tired fat suit gags give 'Norbil' thumbs down

And the Winners Are...

Melissa Montecuollo

CAMPUS EXPRESS CLUB WINNER

Ten Campus Express Club members found a surprise in their email boxes on Feb. 5. They had just won $50 each: Hamid A., Daniel A., Megan B., Fred C., Kelly F., Amber H., Kelly L., Brigitte M., Devin M., and Tania R. were among many who added value during the month of January. At the beginning of every quarter Campus Express Club has a drawing among those who add value to their membership. Ten names are drawn and awarded $50 added to their membership.

Amber H., a third year biology major decided to get campus express because it was easy for her to get food and supplies quickly. "I thought it was a joke at first, but then when I realized it was for real, probably treat myself to a Lucy's now that I have extra money on my card," said Kelly L. To add value, call (805) 753-5939 or visit www.caipoly corporation.org/express

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How to be a stellar political columnist

I f there is one thing that college students really dislike, it would have to be mediocrity. If there is one thing that I really dislike, it would have to be ice skating. If there is one thing that liberal students (and I'm sure even some conservative students) at Cal Poly dislike, it would have to be the Mustang Daily Republican columns, as proof shows in the "Letters to the Editor" section. Now, this here is not just your run of the mill Republican columnist who writes columns that totally bash a parent, a foreigner, or a liberal. This is a columnist who, since whoever writes these columns is fellow writer2 and I have to give them some respect as we share the same pages of this paper. However, I'm going to give you, my loyal reader all the tips that you would need to know to write these columns yourself. So, don't like the current Republican columns that totally bash parents who don't spank their kids, bash the homeless, or bash "The Vagina Monologues," then read on, because you can be the next great Mustang Daily Political Columnist.

The first step is to pick a topic that is going to really piss people off. To fully get my point across in this column, as I do in my other columns, I'll choose an example and we'll stick with it throughout so that we're all learning here together.

Let's go with my all time favorite, but I don't know, Dane Cook really not being that funny at all. I'm completely aware that this isn't a political issue, but for the sake of making an argument that will surely offend people, I'll stick with it. Now, before you gather up the villagers with flaming wooden stakes in hand to defend the man, you just have to follow me here. Remember, I said that I needed a topic that would piss people off. So, whether I believe he is funny or not is irrelevant, as I wanted something that would really get your attention. I could have gone with gay marriage3, separation of church and state, or even more hip by trying to defend Britney Spears' shaved head, but I'll stick with good old Dane Cook.

The next step in writing the columns with this heated argument (with complete respect, of course, to the current Republican columnist) is to now find at least one, but not more than, two articles to back the argument. In doing this, I'll show that you did some research, albeit probably the first result or two in a Google search, but really, why's checking?

...It will show that you did some research, albeit probably the first result or two in a Google search, but really who's checking?

1 And by dislike I mean "can't do" but come on, even Superman wasn't totally invincible.
2 Though obviously not as good looking, witty and humble as me.
3 I'm not sure why though.
4 Though obviously not as good looking, witty and humble as me.
5 And by dislike I mean "can't do" but come on, even Superman wasn't totally invincible. I'm going to go with something like, "Dane Cook just strum back and forth on the stage, doesn't have any punch lines, and really just yells instead of saying anything funny. Dane Cook probably rapes babies." See what I did? We get some debatable argument followed by a point that is so out of line that in the end we will get the reader totally not even thinking about the rest of what was written.

Well, that brings me to end of another "Guide to Life." Like always, I hope you learned something and that I'll see your work next quarter in the pages of the Mustang Daily.

Mike Heinowitz is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily humor columnist. See who else kicks it off at micheinowitz.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks, SLOPD, for ruining my weekend.

Congratulations, San Luis Obispo Police Department. You ruined Mardi Gras. I would like to personally thank the wonderful uniformed officers that so graciously lent their time to ruining my weekend, or so they would have you believe.

Thanks to our men in blue, students were forced to avoid the obvious DUI checkpoints by taking alternate routes, turn sprinklers on in their front yards to deter potential unwanted officers, and get hammered playing dodge ball during the gorgeous, sunny day of the year. I hope the effort was worth it, because besides making law-abiding bartenders wait in ridiculously long lines only to find next to no one inside, you succeeded only in wasting all of our time. Thanks again, and I truly hope you've learned your lesson this year, because here in SLO, it will always continue to party-gras, beads or no beads.

Erica Jannoff
Two basketball players (Derek Stockalper and Jessica Eggleston) and one softball player (Helen Peña) were given accolades Monday.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORTS

Cal Poly senior forward Derek Stockalper was named Big West Conference Player of the Week on Monday. Stockalper earned the honor when he scored a career-high 37 points and set a school record with 12 three-pointers in leading the Mustangs to a 92-87 win over Portland State on Saturday. The Carlsbad native also led the team with 19 points in an 86-79 win over UC Santa Barbara this past Wednesday.

Stockalper set his career-high 37 points increased career total to 982 and moved into second-place UC Santa Barbara on Monday. Senior forward Jessica Eggleston (Derek Stockalper and Jessica Eggleston) was named Big West Conference Player of the Week on Monday. Eggleston’s 25 points increased her career total to 982 and moved her into seventh place on Cal Poly’s all-time scoring list.

Softball

One day after freshman right-hander Helen Peña tossed a complete game with 10 strikeouts to help the Cal Poly softball team post an 8-2 upset of No. 6 and 2006 Women’s College World Series runner-up Northwestern, the effort was recognized by the Big West Conference, which named her Pitcher of the Week for the period ending Sunday.

In just her third career start, Peña (2-1) held Northwestern scoreless and six to three through the first five innings. Twice, Peña struck out a Northwesternatter to end an inning when the Wildcat had a pair of base runners in scoring position. She finished the afternoon having scattered eight hits as Cal Poly completed UNLV’s Las Vegas Desert Classic with a 3-2 mark.

Peña finished the tournament with a team-leading 2.21 ERA and allowed just four earned runs in 12.2 innings.

3 Mustangs receive Big West weekly honors

Turner

continued from page 12

Turner also knows general manager A.J. Smith, who was an assistant to the late John Butler in 2001. Smith survived a power struggle with Schottenheimer, who was fired last Monday by team president Dean Spanos, who cited a “dysfunctional situation” between the coach and GM.

Turner said he spoke with a handful of players on Monday morning, and they seemed relieved there wouldn’t be major changes.

“Everyone I talked to today said one central thing: ‘We want to win a championship,’ Turner said. ‘We’ve been talking about it ever since I had the opportunity to interview. If it happens, it would be a heck of a deal for all of us.’

It would certainly be a first. San Diego lost its only Super Bowl appearance, following the 1994 season, and hasn’t won a playoff game in 12 years.

“Norv is a perfect fit for our team,” said Tomlinson, whose remarkable 2006 season included NFL records with nine 3-pointers, 186 points, as well as his first rushing title. “He will know exactly what to do with our team. Turner was one of the masterminds behind the Dallas offensive led by Hall of Famer Tuna and Michael Irvin and NFC career rushing leader Emmitt Smith. He was the Cowboys offensive coordinator for three years, including when they won the Super Bowl after the 1995 and 1996 seasons.

The Chargers fell apart in their playoff opener, a stunning 24-21 loss to the New England Patriots. Aikman credited Turner for getting the most out of the team’s great talent. Aikman was so close with the coach that he picked Turner to be his presenter at his Hall of Fame induction last year.

“I think circumstances have kept him from having more success at some of the places he’s been,” Aikman said Monday. “I anticipate that he’s going to be a great fit for the San Diego Chargers.”

While Schottenheimer had trouble winning in this city, including going 0-2 in San Diego, Turner had trouble winning in the regular season. He was a combined 58-82-1 in two seasons as coach at Oakland, and quite seven full seasons with Washington.

“I’m pretty much aware of who he is and where he’s been,” A.J. Smith said. “But this isn’t Washington and this isn’t Oakland. It’s San Diego Chargers.”

The Redskins and Raiders were both 4-12 when Turner took over.

Turner pointed out that those teams were near the bottom in the NFL in both total offense and defense.

Baltimore defensive coordinator Rex Ryan.

“Looking at it and saying, ‘This is either real good or it’s real bad as it is starting unfold,’” Turner said. “It turned out to be good.”

Turner interviewed Thursday, then was brought back Sunday night, shortly after Gibbs finished his interview.

Turner took over the Redskins in 1994, going 49-59-1 with one trip to the playoffs, which resulted in a 1-1 record. He was fired by Snyder with three games left in the 2000 season, when he could produce only a 7-6 record with a $100 million roster.

After Turner took over the Redskins in 2001, he brought back Schottenheimer, who was fired 8-6 in 2001 before being fired by Snyder. Schottenheimer was hired by the Chargers, a job Turner interviewed for. Turner then became San Diego’s offensive coordinator.

Turner was fired by the Raiders in 2005 after going 9-23 in two seasons. San Francisco’s Mike Nolan quickly hired Turner to take over the NFC’s 32nd-ranked offense. He helped Frank Gore become the NFC’s leading rusher in a breakout season, and got progress from Alex Smith.

Turner had been a front-runner for the Dallas head coaching job that went to Wade Phillips, who had been San Diego’s defensive coordinator.

Turner screams after a pass interference call in the second-quarter of the Oakland Raiders’ game against the Kansas City Chiefs in Oakland on Sept. 18, 2005. Turner, who was fired after a 4-9-3 run with the Raiders, got his third shot at an NFL head-coaching job when he was hired Monday by the San Diego Chargers, a week after the surprise firing of Marty Schottenheimer.

“When you’re in that situation, you can’t focus on one side of the ball. You have to get better on both sides of the ball,” he said. “Both of those teams were prominently made up of older, veteran players. This is the complete opposite circumstance. This team is near the top on both sides of the ball.”

The Chargers led the NFL with 492 points and 61 sacks. While Turner might be viewed by some as a safe pick, Spanos said the Chargers were swayed by his experience and the chance at continuity.

“You can say whatever you want to say,” Spanos said. “If we hadn’t made a change and we lost, we made the wrong decision. If we do make the change and we lose, we made the wrong decision. So the 7-6 record of all this is, there’s only one thing we have to do this year, and that’s get back in the playoffs. Just get to the postseason and win the first game, that’s our goal. And then I think we’re off on a good start.”

Turner beat out 49ers assistant head coach Mike Singletary, Chicago Bears defensive coordinator Ron Rivera, Atlanta defensive coordinator Mike Zimmer, New Orleans defensive coordinator Gary Gibbs and Chicago Bears defensive coordinator Rod Marinelli.

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Gonzaga rolls past Portland, 87-67

SPokane, Wash. — Senior Derek Raivis, playing his last home game at Arena Moscow, led the Bulldogs with 20 points Monday night as they defeated Portland 87-67.

Matt Bellino scored 18 points for Gonzaga (19-10, 9-3 West Coast Conference) while reserves Mitch Dower and David Pendergraft added career highs of 19 and 15 points, respectively.

Freshman Parker Emerson led Portland (11-20, 0-3 West Coast Conference) with 20 points Monday night as the Bulldogs, trying to win their seventh consecutive WCC regular-season title, shot 52 percent from the field and 41 percent on 3-pointers.

Portland shot 38 percent from the field and 36 percent on 3-pointers.

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

The Cal Poly men's tennis team fell in the second round of the Cal Poly Invitational, a round-robin dual format tournament, to Sacramento State, 6-1, Sunday.

The loss drops the Mustangs' overall record to 3-3.

Cal Poly notched the doubles point but lost all six singles matches to the Hornets, who have won five of the last nine Big Sky Conference championships.

The Mustangs' top doubles team of Matt Barr and Kyle Johnson picked up a win in the No. 1 doubles position over Sacramento State's Xavier Hargis-Smith and Huga Van Dillen, 8-4.

Cal Poly's doubles team of Fred DeWitt and Nick Berger defeated Antonio Syrah and Gregory Lopez of the Hornets, 8-4, in the No. 2 doubles.

The Cal Poly women's tennis team also fell to Sacramento State, 6-1, on Sunday.

SACRAMENTO STATE ROUTE

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**Poly swimming team readies for Big West Championships**

**LOCAL WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM CONTINUES TO GROW**

The Mustangs will be trying to improve upon their fifth-place finishes from last year. Tristen Aird - Mustang Daily

Tom Milich has seen Olympic competition up close and personal. Cal Poly's first-year swimming and diving head coach was an assistant on the 1988 U.S. Olympic team, which took eight gold medals, six silver and four bronze. But Milich feels the Big West Conference Championships, which begin Wednesday at the Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool in Long Beach, could be more exciting than the Olympics in some respects.

“I haven't been to a college championship for the last few years,” said Milich, a former Fresno State coach who served as director of the Clovis Swim Club from 1992 to 2006. “There aren’t many meets as exciting as college championship meets. The NCAA meet is probably more exciting than the Olympic Games in the fact that you're going for team championships. Everyone's there for one purpose and one goal. At the collegiate level, conference championships and NCAA meets are what swimming's all about.

Both the Cal Poly women's and men's teams finished fifth among six teams at last year's event. The women scored 249.3 points, behind UC Santa Barbara (763), UC Davis (644.5) and Pacific (615), and ahead of Cal State Northridge (292.5). The Cal Poly women's team's top performer all season, junior Stacey Sorensen, said the Mustangs have lofty goals.

“We've trained harder this year than any other two years,” said Sorensen, who will compete in the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle. “I have really high expectations for the team. Everyone's really excited and ready to see what's going to happen.”

The Cal Poly women have Division I wins this season over Cal State Northridge and the University of San Diego. Sorensen's personal bests this season are 24.15 seconds in the 50 freestyle, 52.42 in the 100 freestyle and 1:55.26 in the 200 freestyle, all team season-bests.

“My expectations for myself are pretty high too,” Sorensen said. “I had kind of a disappointing end to the season last year, so I would love to do a little better this year.”

Sorensen said Milich has made a significant impact on the program. “I think that he's doing an excellent job,” Sorensen said. “I imagine it's tough to come into a team and have to start over. He did a good job not only making it so he's in charge, but he kept some of our traditions around. He pushed us harder than we've ever been. He pushed me harder. We have a lot of good recruits we've been looking at. I think the program's going to take off.”

For now, Milich hopes the Mustangs can get past Cal State Northridge at the championships and see what happens after that. Cal Poly returns only one male scorer — sophomore Kellen Ruth, who finished in the top eight at last year's championships, and no women in that category.

Ramahal achieved high school All-American status six times in respective events from 2002-05 at College Park High in Pleasant Hill. Milich said other swimmers he is counting on for the men's team include freshmen Conroy Di Dio and Thomas Krup.

Of KuIP, Milich said: "Raw talent. He's never been on a club team before, but in time, he's going to be great. Even at this meet, he's going to surprise some people." On the women's side, Milich said that Sorensen will likely be joined in contention by freshman Christina Shilling, who is currently entered in five events. Milich said, however, that he and Shilling will decide once they arrive in Long Beach whether she will swim in events other than the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle — such as the 200 IM or 500 free.

The championships run through Saturday, and Milich pointed to Turner's previous experience and the chance at continuity. Turner was San Diego's offensive coordinator in 2001, when he installed the system that helped carry LaDainian Tomlinson to the league MVP award in 2006.

"This isn't a team where you're rebuilding," said Turner, who had been San Francisco's offensive coordinator. "We should start fast. We should be good early and steadily get better. We should be good late. Not having to go through the normal things you have to go through when you make a coaching change is going to help the players more than anyone. Turner relies on word of mouth, recruiting and contacts from his time at the Pro Bowl as a first-year starter, but rolled over the 52-0 shellacking he received from the Central Coast Heat on Saturday. Turner, a member of the Local Sports Editor: Tristan Aird • Mustang Daily

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Chargers certainly were aware that Norv Turner has won only 58 of 141 games and appeared in the playoffs once in a nine-year NFL head-coaching career.

Bernie Wilson - Mustang Daily

Janelle Eastridge - Mustang Daily

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Rallying many former Heat players behind her, includinged-coaching career.

Philip Rivers is expected to benefit from Turner's previous experience and the chance at continuity. Turner was San Diego's offensive coordinator in 2001, when he installed the system that helped carry LaDainian Tomlinson to the league MVP award in 2006.

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