ASI presidential candidates share platforms in UU

Brian McMullen  
MUSTANG DAILY

The three Associated Students Inc. presidential hopefuls participated in a debate on the stage in the University Union Plaza on Thursday. The debate began with each candidate giving a two-minute speech. First to speak was civil engineering junior Arvand Sabetian. His speech dealt with three issues that are key to his campaign for presidency. His first issue was working with the city to “iron out the things that haven’t been ironed out.” Sabetian then spoke on ASI-student relations and said, “A lot of students want to trust ASI but they haven’t gotten there yet.” The last issue he spoke on was the unfinished business of past presidents, which he said will be taken care of if he is elected.

Agribusiness senior Brandon Souza then explained that his platform will focus on student academic success. The second issue Souza discussed was student safety on and off campus. He said that along with members of his campaign staff, he will be offering free sober rides on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays for the duration of his campaign. Souza’s last issue was facility improvement. He said that he wanted to “make sure that the facilities are growing with the student population.”

In his speech, business senior Matt Taylor said that he would run his office with integrity and make sure that the issues he pursues will be ones that represent all 18,000 students. He also said that he chose a platform that’s reasonable and will benefit all students who pay dues to ASI. Another issue Taylor said he will tackle is student communication with ASI and that he will have an open-door policy if elected.

“I don’t care what your issue is; if a student is treated that way, they’re going to be mad,” Taylor said.

Holla for Coachella!

IN SPORTS, 5

Poly goes for fourth straight win tonight in Long Beach

IN SPORTS, 8

Humpty Dumpty’s great fall

Four engineering seniors joined forces to compete in a competition where they designed technology to make vehicles more safe.

Project takes seniors to international competition

Cassie Gaeto  
MUSTANG DAILY

Four Cal Poly students have taken their senior project to the international level by making it to the final round of the Collegiate Student Safety Technology Design Competition held in Lyon, France, June 18 to 21.

The competition is part of the biennial Enhanced Safety of Vehicles Conference, designed to showcase the latest vehicle safety innovations from around the world.

Mechanical engineering seniors Danny Murphy, D.J. Parsons and Justin Carpenter teamed up with computer engineering senior Duane Howard to create their project entitled “System Integration of a Pre-Crash and Crash Test Avoidance Vehicle.” The focus of their enterprise is a cart which uses a combination of pre-crash and collision avoidance technologies; if the cart is unable to avoid the accident it is capable of measures to lessen the impact.

“This project has been an interesting experience; our final product is something useful that is helping work towards safer vehicles, which is important,” Howard said.

With the help of mechanical engineering professors Charles Birdsong and Peter Schuster, the group was able to bring together data and resources from several previous senior projects to create their final vehicle.

Since 2004, senior projects under the supervision of these professors have tested a variety of sensors, including LIDAR and RADAR sensors, created sensor filtering algorithms and built a test vehicle capable of using the sensors to enhance safety.

“The sensors that our cart utilizes are already built into most vehicles; technology like this would be easy to implement,” Murphy said.

This senior project was responsible for bringing it all together by programming the algorithms for

see Project, page 2

The annual Egg Drop Competition, created by the Poly Pack Committee, took place on Chorro and Higuera streets at Farmers’ Market on Thursday night. The committee gave students and industry professionals particular materials from which they had to construct a protective package so the egg inside it would not break.

The packages were dropped from varying heights and in the end, graphic communication senior Skyla Sobotik, who’s also the Mustang Daily’s photo editor, won the grand prize of $500. Second place and $200 went to graphic communication student Annie Heck, while graphic communication sophomore Danielle Stuevy won third place and $100.

—— Photos by Graig Mantle
Debate

continued from page 1
ed unfairly, I want to know about it," he said.

After their speeches, the candidates fielded questions written by students.

One question asked the candidates to explain what makes them different than the other two running for pres­ident.

Souza responded to the question by addressing the peo­ple who think that he ran for ASI president is to build a resume or have the title of president. He dismissed these claims and said, "I'm here because I believe I owe it to the students," and later added, "this is a passion of mine; I've been in student government since the fourth grade."

Taylor responded to the question when she said, "I will run my presidency how I run myself as a person. I try and be a very honest person, a good friend and a good commu­nicator." He added that he is concerned with what the students want and that he does not have an agenda that he is trying to push.

"When it comes down to it, my quality over them is connection to the students," Sabtian said in response, mentioning that he has been involved in many diverse clubs and told the audience that someone to the left or right of them could get a hold of him in the next hour.

"You can be sure that if I'm elected, you can get a hold of me easily," he said.

The presidential hopefuls also discussed how they will improve the campus bus system.

Sabtian said that improving the bus system is part of a larger problem of student transportation and that by improving bicycle issues as well as parking issues on cam­pus, the bus system will improve. He also said that he will work to make sure that bus routes that haven't been extended will be extended.

Souza responded to the question by saying, "Bottleneck is that extending bus hours and extending bus trans­portation takes money. And how are we going to get that money?" He said that he wants to sit down with the uni­versity and the community next year and discuss options to get better and more effective transportation for stu­dents.

Taylor tackled the bus issue and said, "We should con­tinue to work on the bus system for people who need to get to campus and feel that that is their only method of trans­portation." He later added that it becomes a safety issue when the buses are not running late at night and stu­dents are unable to get a ride home.

"I want to make sure that every student is safe and every student has a ride home and a ride here," he said.

The candidates were also asked what they thought the students want and what they thought the students need to be enforced if
head costs.

"I'm going to work with El Corral (Bookstore) and make sure that a lot of the overhead is cut," he said, adding, "When it comes down to it, we can cut 20 to 30 percent of textbook pricing."

All three candidates were satisfied with the debate and were intrigued by the questions.

"I think we all answered the questions to the best of our ability," Taylor said. "I thought the questions were very diverse," Taylor said. "I was interested to see how many questions focused on the city, which is very important."

Sabtian said that he felt some of the questions were too complicated and that some words used were probably not common knowledge to most students.

"I would have rather had more questions about clubs and how clubs can get what they want from us," he said.

"I'm excited to see that the turnout this year was so good," he said. "We have three very well-qualified candi­dates running and I'm glad that both of them had the oppor­tunity to share their platforms."

After watching the debate, civil engineering junior Reed Calkins said, "It was obvious who was taking what stance on certain subjects. You could see the contrast between them more so than if you were just reading the paper."

When asked if the debate affected his voting decision, he said, "It actually cemented my position more than before."

Materials engineering junior Sean Quigley said that "it is a good chance for people to see the candidates and get a side-by-side comparison." Although he still is unsure who he will be voting for, he said he is now more informed in his opinion.

You deserve a break.

Sudokу

Puzzle extended with transportation in response to student questions.

The candidates discussed their platforms, textbooks and transportation in response to student questions.

Project

continued from page 1

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continued from page 1

the sensors into the vehicle. The cart displays autonomous warning and braking and an in-airbag deploy­ment 10 to 20 milliseconds prior to impact.

Different sensor projects all completed different tasks, we basically put the brain into the cart," Parsons said.

After a project demonstration to three representatives visiting campus from the U.S. Department of Transportation on March 19, this group was one of three North American teams chosen to compete against seven other regional winners in France. Other North American finalists include Stanford University and Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

The Enhanced Safety of Vehicles Conference emerged under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society back in 1970, although it was officially implemented by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The conference can be held in any of its 23 par­ticipating countries, and the last conference in June was in Washington, D.C.

The competition goes hand in hand with the goal of the confer­ence to encourage the research and development of vehicle safety technology. This technology applies to be a part of the competition need to have a project that exemplified progress in a real-world vehicle safety problem.

To make the final cut, projects needed to qualify at one of the regional levels: North America, Europe or Asia-Pacific.

During the competition, all student teams will be reviewed by a panel of judges. Teams will need to present a PowerPoint outlining important information pertaining to their project and will have a 10-minute time slot to demon­strate the abilities of their func­tional models.

Contest winners will walk away with the recognition of their peers and a monetary prize. "I don't think any of us really expected all of this," Murphy said. "It feels neat to know we are repre­senting America's schools. We
10 Republican presidential hopefuls to meet in first debate

Liz Sidoti
WASHINGTON — Ten Republicans who often evoke Ronald Reagan hope the Gipper's magic rubs off as they face each other at the late president's library in the first GOP debate of the 2008 race.

The setting and the state were fitting.

Republican top-tier contenders Rudy Giuliani, John McCain and Mitt Romney — as well as some of their underdog rivals — have embraced the conservative icon's legacy and called for their party to return to the limited-government that Reagan espoused in the 1980s, effectively distancing themselves from Bush.

Delegate-rich California also has become an important stop in the GOP campaign now that the state has moved up in primary to Feb. 5, far earlier than in elections past.

Eight months before the first GOP primary votes are cast, top issues such as the Iraq war, immigration, taxes, abortion, gay marriage and terrorism were certain topics during the debate at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library north of Los Angeles.

The focus was on the strongest contenders — Giuliani, the former New York City mayor; McCain, a four-term Arizona senator; and Mitt Romney, the ex-governor of Massachusetts.

Seven lesser-known rivals were joining them on stage: Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas, former Gov. Mike Huckabee of Arkansas, Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin, Jim Gilmore of Virginia, and Reps. Tom Tancredo of Colorado, Duncan Hunter of California and Ron Paul of Texas.

MSNBC and The Politico co-sponsored the debate, moderated by MSNBC's Chris Matthews. The former president's widow, Nancy Reagan, was to attend.

Missing were three Republicans still weighing whether to run — Fred Thompson, the actor and former Tennessee senator; Newt Gingrich, the ex-Republican speaker from Georgia, and Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska. They also weren't slated to participate in two more debates — in South Carolina and New Hampshire — in the next month.

State

NORWALK (AP) — A reputed gang member was sentenced to death Thursday for gunning down a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy who was trying to track him down for attempting to kill a man.

Jose Luis Orozco, 29, showed no emotion as Superior Court Judge Philip Hickok handed down the sentence that was recommended by jurors last month in the trial's penalty phase.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A videotape made by David Haas-Hoff's daughters shows the recovering alcoholic falling off the wagon. Haas-Hoff acknowledged Thursday, but the actor added that he is doing much better since it was made.

The video, which aired Thursday on several syndicated entertainment shows, depicts an apparently inebriated Hasselhoff, clad only in blue jeans, lying on the floor of a room and clumsily eating a hamburger while one of his daughters reproves him about his drinking.

The tape's existence was reported Thursday by TV's "The Insider," "Entertainment Tonight" and "Extra," which quickly posted clips from it on their Web sites.

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is considering a proposal that would pay for the Iraq war through at least July but cut off funding after that if the Iraqi government does not meet certain political and security goals.

Democratic officials said Thursday the bill would be a direct challenge to President Bush, who says he cannot accept any legislation that would tie his hands on the war. This week, Bush vetoed a $124.2 billion bill that would have funded operations in Iraq and Afghanistan while requiring troops to begin coming home on Oct. 1.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic Sen. Barack Obama was placed under Secret Service protection, the earliest ever for a presidential candidate, the agency said Thursday.

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff authorized Obama's protection after consultations with the Justice and congressional advisory committees, according to Chertoff spokesman Russ Knoke and the Secret Service.

Briefs

HAVANA (AP) — Fugitive army soldiers tried to hijack a plane bound for the United States on Thursday and killed a military officer they took hostage during the failed attempt, the Interior Ministry said.

The ministry blamed U.S. policies that the communist government says encourage Cubans to emigrate to the United States and also said it was a result of Washington's tolerance of violence against Cuba.

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Thursday warned he would nationalize the country's banks and largest steel producer if they persist with what he described as unscrupulous practices.

Chavez's threat did not seem to signal an imminent takeover but rather appeared aimed at strong-arming the businesses to contribute more to local industry as he made a wide-ranging speech promising that Venezuela was headed for a classless society.

The warning was yet another sign that Chavez is serious about deepening his socialist revolution.

Religious Directory

Your Guide To Places of Worship in the San Luis Obispo Community
To advertise, contact your ad rep at 756-1143 or e-mail advertising@gmail.com

Mustang Daily
www.sloseven.com

Assistant News editor: Rachelle Santucci
www.mustangdaily.com
Japanese animation can be aimed at the younger age groups, but... it’s actually aimed at teenagers and young adults...

—Jennifer Pawlik
Minna No Anime Club Treasurer

Graphic communications senior Annaliese Christman, the current president of MNA, wants to expand knowledge and availability of the product at Cal Poly.

"(The club) was established to just expand the knowledge of locals on Japanese animation and to provide a place where fans could gather and talk about it," Christman said.

MNA has existed on campus for more than 15 years now, and the club meets every Saturday in the Business building, room 213. However, Christman warned that the club is not for everyone.

"It’s kind of a niche sort of thing," Christman said. "But it seems like a lot of people like it.”

Christman then elaborated on how she herself became involved in the world of anime. She felt drawn to certain parts of Japanese animation.

"I’m just attracted to how well some of the storylines are plotted out, how beautiful the animation is and the bright colors,” she said.

Christman said that most people express their interest in anime after watching television shows like "Pokemon,” "Dragonball Z," or even "Transformers.” And that could lead people to look at other types of manga and Japanese animation.

Japanese animation targets a different audience in comparison to comics and cartoons produced in the United States. Pawlik mentioned that while Walt Disney dominates American cartoons, anime takes on a complex approach.

"(The anime club) looks like a pirate ship this year. The club has existed at Cal Poly for 15 years. Sometimes MNA members go to anime conventions out of town, often without approval from ASI. But Christman said such gatherings are an opportunity to meet people that work in the animation industry as well as enjoying fun and games. Even without the blessing from the campus clubs, Christman noted that MNA has something for everyone at the price of $2 a quarter for membership. "Even if you don’t like anime or manga, it is such a great community club,” Christman said. “Everybody’s there for each other, and I’m really proud to be the president.”
Coachella — hot sun, cool music

Indio’s Coachella Valley Music and Arts Fest definitely worth the heat

Brooke Robertson
MUSTANG DAILY

What word singularly drove approximately 180,000 people from around the world into the raging heat of the Southern California desert? Coachella.

The Red Hot Chili Peppers, Björk, and a re-united Rage Against The Machine headlined the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in Indio last weekend, the biggest music festival in the West.

Music-lovers from around the world flocked to the small California desert city in order to see an array of favorite artists and bands.

A group of Australians flew to California for the festival weekend with the express purpose of seeing Rage Against The Machine, a band which played their first show Sunday night since their break-up seven years ago.

Faithful fans stood in over 100 degree temperatures and braved the dewy scent of sunscreen, sweat and grass clippings to see 122 artists consecutively adorn five stages from approximately 1 p.m. to midnight during all three days of the festival. An occasional breeze provided an escape from the dry heat, which finally cooled after 5 p.m.

Despite the unfortunate luck of having to perform in the early afternoon heat, British artist Pop Levi and his band “Woman” appeared on stage dressed in long sleeves and layers, which they continued to wear throughout the extremely energetic set.

Levi leaped and shimmied like a madman across the stage, his eyes possessed and locking with audience members as he and his band roared with their instruments.

What’s more, Levi’s guitarist had literally warmed up before the set.

Dressed in black pants, black boots and a black turtleneck, he jumped rope with a vivid orange cable backstage only moments before he performed in 100-degree weather.

For those without his heat-resisting abilities, the venue provided a mist tent where overheated audience members could cool off.

Despite Coachella’s Web site boasts has not risen since the festival’s opening in 1999. Despite Coachella’s satisfaction with their water prices, many fans complained throughout the festival.

Hundreds of shade tents, often decorated with solar-powered sunflowers; and a crowd of music lovers stare in awe at the 90-foot-tall Geodesic Dome.

Numerous shade tents, often decorated with solar-powered sunflowers; and a crowd of music lovers stare in awe at the 90-foot-tall Geodesic Dome.

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Fans with low cell phone batteries could also plug their phones into an altered bicycle and pedal to recharge them in the “Energy Factory,” an exhibit which also featured biodiesel-powered music and screen printing.

Coachella provided a lot for ticket-holders to look at and listen to.

Other much-anticipated bands included Interpol, Sonic Youth, the Arcade Fire, Kings of Leon, Regina Spektor, LCD Soundsystem and Lily Allen, among many others.

And the star sightings were plentiful.

Actor Scarlett Johansson took the main stage and weakly accompanied J.ang and the Mary Chain on the backup vocals for their song “Just Like Honey.”

The song appeared on the soundtrack to Lost in Translation, a film Johansson co-starred in.

Heiress Paris Hilton danced off-stage while Brazilian band Came de Ser Sexy, popularly known as CSS, played their song, “Meeting Paris Hilton.”

Lead singer Lovetoxox screamed the lyrics, “I wanna take you home, bitch” at Hilton, which were inspired by the heiress’ 2003 sex video.

Other celebrity sightings included actress Lindsay Lohan, singer Kelly Osbourne, porn star Ron Jeremy and on the 11-list, Jared of “America’s Next Top Model.”

But while wandering celebrities caused fans to take double-looks, music was the main focus for Coachella-goers. When Osbourne abandoned her VIP seat to the side of the stage and joined the crowd during DJ Steve Aoki’s set, the audience was indifferent.

No one abandoned their spot on the dance floor to swarm her or beg for an autograph.

This year’s Coachella was about the beats, drums, strums and vocals on stage and the crowd’s connection with them.

Guitarist and vocalist Daniel Auerbach of The Black Keys said that their Coachella show was different because they knew that their audience chose to see them over other bands that played at the same time.

On the last day of Coachella, guitarist Mike Stroud of Ratatat took a picture of the wildly dancing crowd his band had drawn in with its infectious beats. “This was so fun,” he told the crowd with heartfelt sincerity before leaving the stage.

There’s no doubt everyone who attended Coachella agrees.

TIME CAPSULE

- 1904 Construction begins by the United States on the Panama Canal.
- 1932 Mobster Al Capone begins serving an 11-year prison sentence for tax evasion in Atlanta.
- 1953 Ernest Hemingway wins a Pulitzer Prize for “The Old Man and the Sea.”
- 1961 The “Freedom Riders” begin a bus trip through the South.
American Easy to Spot in Australia

O n my Sydney campus, it is easy to spot a fellow American student. Study abroad students are not elusive when it comes to clothes — clad in fleece, baggy sweat, low rise jeans, and miniskirts paired with fuzzy Ugg boots, we stick out like sore thumbs. But I should clarify; I'd like to think that I am not a part of the study abroad crowd since I have been living in Australia for a year. I'm not ashamed of being American in any way, but I think that spending the extra six months here taught me how to shop with an Australian eye. I'd like to think my new wardrobe somehow magically transformed me into a native Australian. I've been to a few game; I usually understand cricket; I know the hidden hot places in the city; and I know public transportation like the back of my hand. So why not look past the typical American title? Fashion wise, I have graduated. I have moved past Supre, the cheap cousin of Forever 21, to Sportsgirl and Myer, the Australian version of Macy's (but only when there is a sale). But, unfortunately, I am constantly reminded of a proverb I learned in high school Spanish class: Aunque la mona se viste de dama, mona se queda (although the monkey wears silk, it's still a monkey). Case in point — when I was traveling in Adelaide, South Australia, a few tourists asked me for directions. Since I had been in the city for a few days, I had an idea of where they needed to go. At first, I started speaking, I was rude cut off: "Oh, you're just a tourist too. You look like a local. Thank you though. Bye." I got shut down by a bunch of other tourists — and that really hurt. My quest to assimilate will never be realized unless I remain mute. My Northern Californian accent is a dead giveaway to my foreignness. While I have incorporated a few Aussie words and phrases in my vocabulary like no worries, ta, bloody, and heaps, it seems that Sydney is such a diverse city that my friend Nada, "it's heaps funny." It is ironic that last year it was compliance that I didn't have any accent. I didn't realize that you have to travel to discover it. Also, I stubbornly cling onto words like dude, man and crap. All my classmates are really fond of dude.

But then again, my Australian friends also like to pinpoint other things that I do which are very "American." I dance too J-Lo to techno (which I laugh at unfuriously jokes, I walk like I'm in a hurry all the time and I speak too loudly)

Tactfully, I am American. I won't be able to shake it off in a matter of months; I probably will never realize that I keep this foolish delusion of trying to be a native Australian. Instead of restructuring my entire worldview and end up looking like Borat. Clothes and words won't be enough; I will have to embrace the fact that I will just be another American student in Sydney — no more Ms. Thompson. This monkey has got to learn to not give a crap!

Letters to the Editor

New major just watered down engineering

Yes, it's true. Most engineering students think that themselves, out of a paper bag — even if they designed it. And yes, I'm sure there are some lonely engineers who are anxious for attractive classmates. However, the proposal for a major that merges the College of Engineering and the College of Liberal Arts is a terrible idea. This program will leave students dangerously deficient in both areas and will quickly become the "engineering major" that will be unaccredited by ABET, misrepresented by employers, and too complex to be useful even for "business oriented" engineers.

One of the two main reasons for this proposed major, according to the Academic Senate meeting notes from May 5, is that "Cal Poly has consistently lost a surfeit number of its engineering students during the freshman and sophomore years at this college, for various reasons, become disenchanted with traditional engineering study.

Clearly, this is an administrative effort to meet quota and keep "disenchanted" engineering students. I am工程 college. The other reason? "To prepare our students to add to the 21st century workplace concerns." This vaguely-defined proposal sounds "broad technical disciplines," "product management, sales and training," and "understanding the professional communication" as primary aspects of the program. However, it specifies no additional technical communication courses, no explicit business management or sales classes, and bypasses the true "technical fluency" of upper level engineering coursework. Drafters, Academic Senate, and President Baker Don't fear vulnerable ex-engineering students this half-degree: help guide them to pursue their passions to the fullest.

Jeff Freitas
Civil engineering

Uneven support for new major a red flag

The bachelor of science in liberal arts and engineering science plan is an oxymoron. I found it very concerning that everyone supporting the degree in the College of Liberal Arts Ye College of Engineering Dean Noceti is supporting it too. But with all due respect to the dean — he won't be the one teaching the classes. What are these students/graduates going to find when they graduate? We stick out like sore too hard, so I switched to this blended program so I can still have a Cal Poly diploma but no — I still don't know anything about engineering ... I can write a damn good report, though!" And where is the "engineering" in the curriculum? Every engineer at Cal Poly has to take, statistics and strength of materials (among a multitude of others). Those are the building blocks of engineering. The "engineering science" courses are just harder versions of the math and science classes many students take in other non-engineering majors. And the 300-400 level engineering classes typically need more than just calculus, chemistry and physics as prerequisites.

I'm sorry, but engineering is too hard, maybe you should switch out. But at least find a new major that will actually find you a respectable job — not so you can be an over-qualified retail manager. We work hard to earn the engineering title of our respective departments. I don't see anyone proposing a liberal arts-architecture science degree. That would make it just as much sense as this does. Engineering is a science, not an art. A B.A. with a engineering in the title goes against everything Cal Poly's engineering programs are based on.

Katie Robinson
Biomedical engineering junior

Business could learn from engineers

At first speaking, I was rude to cut off: "Oh, you're just a tourist too. You look like a local. Thank you though. Bye." I got shut down by a bunch of other tourists — and that really hurt. My quest to assimilate will never be realized unless I remain mute. My Northern Californian accent is a dead giveaway to my foreignness. While I have incorporated a few Aussie words and phrases in my vocabulary like no worries, ta, bloody, and heaps, it seems that Sydney is such a diverse city that my friend Nada, "it's heaps funny." It is ironic that last year it was compliance that I didn't have any accent. I didn't realize that you have to travel to discover it. Also, I stubbornly cling onto words like dude, man and crap. All my classmates are really fond of dude.

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Cal Poly freshman shortstop Kyle Smith, right, tries to beat the throw to first base during the Mustangs' 3-1 home loss to Big West Conference foe UC Riverside at Baggett Stadium on April 20.

**Mustangs look to slide back into 1st place at LBSU**

**In pursuit of its fourth straight winning season, Cal Poly has a shot at earning its best Big West Conference winning percentage ever this year.**

Tristan Aird

I t all started with a question.

Last weekend was just another example of the kind of production that the Mustangs need if they want to have a chance at winning the conference title.

To listen to the 14-minute Sports Insight Report, click on "Play Your Podcast" under Online Features.

The Mustangs have the best overall record in the Big West Conference (34-16), but are tied with Cal State Fullerton at 9-3 atop the conference standings.

SCHOFER SHOULD BE BACK," Lee said. "He'll be back in the lineup this weekend, which will better us from an offensive and defensive standpoint. We had some bumps and bruises (but) we should be ready to go this weekend."

Pitching has been long Beach State's calling card all season.

**POLY'S DESME, EAGER ON AWARD WATCH LISTS**

Clemens Pitcher of the Year watch list.

Desme currently sports a 3.88 batting average with 14 doubles, 12 home runs and 47 RBIs. He leads the Big West Conference in total bases (118), RBIs (47), hits (66), slugging percentage (.694), runs scored (66), and home runs (12).

The list of 112 candidates for the Brooks Wallace Award was announced by the College Baseball Foundation in Lubbock, Texas. A selection committee will pare the list to 75 on June 3 and 50 on June 4.

NCAA moves men's 3-point line back 1 foot for 2008-09

Michael Marot

INDIANAPOLIS — College basketball players might want to start fussing up their long-range shot.

The men's basketball rules committee approved a measure Thursday that would move the 3-point line back one foot in 2008-09 — from 19 feet, 9 inches to 20 feet, 9 inches.

If approved by the playing rules oversight committee, the change would mark the first major alteration to the 3-point shot since its inception in 1986-87.

The move comes after more than a decade of debate about whether to move the line. The extended line has been used on an experimental basis in some early-season tournaments and NCAA statistics have not shown a dramatic change in shooting percentages from the longer line.

Both are shorter than the NBA line, which is 23 feet, 9 inches at the top of the key and 22 feet at its shortest point in the baseline corners.

"We made it a point to come up with a distance that was correct for us and that didn't necessarily mimic the international line," Krsting said.

**Coach Larry Lee said Thursday of the 49ers, "They always pitch and play defense," Lee said of the 49ers. "They're a team that will scrap for every run they can put across the plate."

To listen to the 14-minute Sports Insight Report, click on "Play Your Podcast" under Online Features.

The Mustangs scored 35 runs on 45 hits in their three-game non-conference victory over the Highlanders — behind it.

"Losing Sunday's game against UC Riverside — behind it."

Long Beach State finished the regular season with a three-game series May 11 to 12.

Of the four teams with a realistic chance to capture the Big West title, Cal Poly has the toughest road of the quadruplet.

After facing Cal Poly, Cal State Fullerton finishes its regular season at UC Riverside — a team that has failed to win a Big West game in 12 tries this year.

Second-place Pacific travels to Cal State Northridge this weekend before completing the season at Cal Poly.

Third-place Long Beach State (26-22, 9-4) hosts its final conference series for UC Davis this weekend before finishing against UC Santa Barbara. There's only one scenario in which Cal Poly can clinch the Big West title outright this weekend — by sweeping Cal State Fullerton and seeing Cal State Northridge win all three of its games against Pacific.

Just once in its program's 11-year affiliation with the Big West has Cal Poly finished as high as second in the conference standings.

That instance came during head coach Kenji Condon's inaugural 2005 campaign as the Mustangs went 15-6 in conference and 35-16 overall, but were denied an NCAA Tournament invitation.

In four of the last five seasons, Cal Poly has played Cal State Fullerton in either the final or penultimate series of the year.

During those four campaigns — 2006-07 aside — both teams have compiled an 8-4 mark. While the Mustangs were a combined 0-6 against the Titans during back-to-back sixth-place finishes in 2002 and 2003, Cal Poly went 1-2 last year in tumbling to third. Cal Poly swept the Titans during the third series of the 2004 season, though the Mustangs finished in fifth and Cal State Fullerton a spot behind during that campaign.

Since Cal Poly transitioned to the Division I level before the 1995 season, the Titans hold a 23-10 series advantage.

Cal Poly completes the 2007 regular season with a three-game series against second-place Pacific beginning May 11 with a noon doubleheader.

The Big West champion receives automatic bids into the 64-team NCAA Tournament. Should two teams finish the regular season with identical conference records, the head-to-head mark between the two schools will be used to determine which club receives the automatic invitation.

The tournament field will be unveiled May 13 at noon on the ESPN Web site.

Cal Poly will hold its Senior Day festivities prior to the May 12 regular-season finale.

The move that would move the 3-point line back one foot in 2008-09 — from 19 feet, 9 inches to 20 feet, 9 inches. If approved by the playing rules oversight committee, the change would mark the first major alteration to the 3-point shot since its inception in 1986-87.

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