CSU system criticized in audit

The California State University system was strongly criticized for questionable executive compensation policies in a detailed audit released last week by the state auditor.

The report, entitled "California State University: It Needs to Strengthen Its Oversight and Establish Stricter Policies for Compensating Current and Former Employees," revealed no legal breaches but urged the CSU system to modify its employee compensation procedures and to make future decisions more transparent.

The 115-page audit concluded that the CSU has not developed an adequate central monitoring system to review compensation policies or measure the impact of such payments on the university's finances.

Specifically, the report stated that the CSU system should include perks, such as housing allowances, when making decisions regarding pay raises and that policies on dual-employment as well as on moving and relocation expenses need to be modified.

California senators called for the audit in July 2006 after California newspapers reported that the CSU had paid over $4 million to outgoing administrators over the previous 10 years.

In many instances, it was unclear what departing executives were doing in exchange for so-called "consulting fees." Others were paid millions, often undisclosed publicly, for moving from administrative to faculty positions.

The audit found, however, that the board of trustees only considered cash compensation when making its justification and ignored the sizable housing allowances and other benefits that top executives often receive.

"This audit confirms that major changes are needed at the university," said Sen. Leland Yee, D-San Francisco, in a statement.

Yee authored the Higher Education Governance Accountability Act, which was signed into law last month and will require all executive compensation packages to be voted on in an open session, as well as full disclosure of the package with accompanying rationales.

"Instead of supporting students, faculty and staff, the university for too long has catered to elite executives," Yee's statement continued.

"I hope the CSU administration swiftly makes the changes necessary for our public university system to succeed rather than be tarnished by executive compensation scandals."

Unused military air space used to relieve flight congestion

WASHINGTON — Ahead of the holiday travel crunch, President Bush ordered steps Thursday to reduce air traffic congestion and long delays that have left passengers stranded.

The most significant change is that the Pentagon will open unused military airspace from Florida to Maine to create "a Thanksgiving express lane" for commercial airliners.

It will be open next week for five days — Wednesday through Sunday — for the busiest days of Thanksgiving travel.

Officials said the chief benefit would be to speed takeoffs from New York airports, particularly during bad weather.

Bush called holiday travel a "season of dread for too many Americans." He said the problems with delayed flights are "clear to anybody who's been traveling. Airports are very crowded. Travelers being stranded and flights are delayed, sometimes with a full load of passengers sitting on the runway for hours."

"These failures carry some real costs for the country, not just in the inconvenience they cause but in the business they obstruct and the family gatherings they cause people to miss, " said the president. "We can do better.

The new plan also will be in effect for the Christmas travel season. White House press secretary Dana Perino said the Federal Aviation Administration was imposing a holiday moratorium on nonessential maintenance projects, allowing all FAA personnel and equipment to be focused on keeping flights on time.

Further, the Department of Transportation will propose doubling the bump fee that airlines must pay to travelers who buy tickets but wind up without a seat. The penalty now is $200 or $400, depending on long the passenger has been inconvenienced. The proposed increase would make the fee $400 to $800. Perino said that

Body of SLO native found in Alaska

The family of local musician Tony Vo is left to grieve after his body was found Oct. 13, washed up on shore at Kalgin Island, Alaska.

The Alaska State Troopers used dental records to confirm that the body was Tony Vo's and notified his family last week.

"I don't know how he got there," said his mother, Tina Vo. She said the state troopers told her they thought her son arrived in Alaska sometime around Sept. 7, but they are still investigating what happened to him in the meantime.

She also said she knew he was going on vacation, but when she didn't hear from him she thought he just hadn't had a chance to call her. She was not sure why he was in Alaska, and didn't know that he planned to travel there.

"It's hard for me and hard on the whole family," Tina Vo said.

She said the family had been notified that the autopsy revealed that
Audit   
continued from page 1

chair and the California Faculty Association (CFA) president for Cal Poly.

The goal of what the faculty association thinks is that the audit has brought out and shown that a lot of things were done without full transparency. We hope that the report will result in better decision-making in the future," Saenz said.

While the overall CSU payroll increased by $225.8 million — or 9.6 percent — between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2007, auditors went on to note that "average executive compensation increases varied significantly by employee classification."

Executive compensation increased by an average of 29.1 percent over that time period compared to 9.4 percent for management personnel, 5.6 percent for tenure-track faculty and 6.2 percent increases for other faculty.

"I think it's a reflection of what goes on in society, where the higher you are up on the ladder, the bigger the pay raises. It seems that the CSU executive compensation raises have continually outpaced that of faculty and staff positions," Saenz said.

John Travis, the CFA's political action chair and Humboldt University professor, agreed in a statement by the association.

"The audit confirms everything the CFA has been saying over the past several years about the California State University administrations' propensity to mismanage, especially in regard to executive pay and perquisites," he said.

"We agree with all of the auditor's recommendations in concept, and will be working with the board on the most feasible way to implement them," Reed said in a press release from his office.

It also acknowledged several instances existed where exceptions were made to written CSU policies at the discretion of the chancellor or a campus president.

"Policy requires that CSU administrators exercise their best judgment when faced with unique circumstances affecting personnel matters, and are held accountable by the board and other stakeholders for their outcome," Reed said.

"We do plan, however, to review areas where the audit recommends greater clarity and consistency to employee compensation policies and practices, while still maintaining the flexibility necessary to recruit among the best faculty and executives."

We hope that the report will result in better decision-making in the future.

— Richard Saenz

Physics department chair

Husband of woman convicted of animal cruelty sues SLO County

SAN LUIS OBISPO (AP) — The husband of a woman convicted of animal cruelty is suing San Luis Obispo County for $1 million, claiming his rights were violated when animals were taken from his home and given away.

Harold Walsh also alleges sheriff's deputies violated his rights by searching his extensive gun collection without his consent in the room and seizing ammunition they have yet to return.

His wife Cynthia Walsh was found guilty in May of animal neglect, animal abuse and failure to have permits for the more than 120 animals in her home.

Sheriff Pat Hedges said the incident "one of the most disturbing cases our Animal Services Division has handled" and said he has confidence in the Animal Services staff's management of the case.

Travel   
continued from page 1

rule, if it becomes final, wouldn't be in place until next summer's travel

Further, officials said the FAA would take other steps to increase ef-

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Another proposed rule would make airlines liable for penalties for chronically delayed flights.

The president and other steps were under consideration to reduce crowding on planes, such as charging air-

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Human rights group reports abuse of mentally disabled children

Dusan Stejanovic
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BELGRADE, Serbia — Troubled children bound tightly to fetal cribs they have never left since birth. A 6-year-old boy tried to rip out her eyes as mental hospital staff stood by and did nothing.

The scenes of horror are chronicled in a report released Wednesday by Mental Disability Rights International, a U.S.-based human rights group that alleges systematic abuse of mentally disabled patients in Serbia’s psychiatric hospitals and social care institutions.

Health Minister Tomica Milosavljevic said he had not read the report but conceded that psychiatric facilities had continued to suffer as the nation struggled to recover from a series of civil wars in the 1990s.

But he said the report did not appear to adequately take into account the progress Serbia has made since 2000 to improve conditions in psychiatric hospitals.

“I’m not saying that everything is ideal, far from it,” Milosavljevic said. But ... I don’t think that the problems (listed in the report) are illustrating the true situation.”

The report could not be independently verified as The Associated Press was not given permission to visit the institutions.

Serbia’s mistreatment of the mentally ill was exposed after authoritarian President Slobodan Milosevic was overthrown in a popular revolt in 2000. During Milosevic’s 11-year rule, health care standards plummeted as government funding was diverted to paying for the wars in Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo.

Serbia is not alone in mistreating the mentally handicapped, the group said. Mental Disability Rights International has released similar reports on facilities in Romania, Hungary, Mexico, Peru, Russia, Turkey, Uruguay, Argentina and Serbia’s province of Kosovo.

The report attributed abuse and neglect largely to understaffed and underfinanced hospitals. It could represent a setback for the Balkan nation as it seeks to join the European Union.

Serbian Social Affairs Minister Rasim Ljajic did not dispute the findings, saying “when I visit these places I cannot sleep for three days.”

He also ordered that one of the institutions cited by MDRI’s investigator, said as his mother put it in his bed for life is tantamount to torture,” said Eric Rosenthal, executive director of the Washington-based group.

“Looked into the crib and saw a child who looked to be 7 or 8 years old,” the group quoted one of its investigators as saying. “The nurse told me he was 21 and had been in the institution for eleven years... I asked her how often he was taken out of the crib and she said, ‘Never, he has never been out of the crib in 11 years.’”

Ahern said that the boy, who suffers from Down syndrome and can hardly communicate, is visited by his mother.

“When his mother comes, tears are in his eyes,” Ahern said. “She wants to take the child back home, but she has no means to support him.”

Laurie Ahern, M D R I’s investigator, said as the group showed a graphic video of the patients and poor conditions in Serbia’s mental institutions.

“The mere title of the report. Torture, mistreating the mentally handicapped, suggests that someone intentionally wants to torment the patients, and that is absolutely not true or acceptable,” Ljajic said.

Eric Rosenthal, M D R I’s executive director, said the intention was not to accuse anyone of wrongdoing, but to point out problems.

“Our message is a message of hope ... that the Serbian government will make immediate changes,” Rosenthal said.

The group said it would send its report to the EU, the United Nations and other international organizations.

It said conditions in Serbia’s mental hospitals have vastly improved with help from foreign donors, but much more needs to be done “to address the serious human rights problems that exist for some 18,000 patients.”

Some children and adults with disabilities never leave their beds or cribs and some are tied down for “a lifetime” to keep them from harming themselves, it said.

“They eat, they go to bathroom and die in those cribs,” Laurie Ahern, MDRI’s investigator, said.

“During Milosevic’s time there was diverted to paying for the wars of the patients and poor conditions in Serbia’s mental institutions.”

“Never, he has never been out of the crib in 11 years.”

Ahern said that the boy, who suffers from Down syndrome and can hardly communicate, is visited by his mother.

“When his mother comes, tears are in his eyes,” Ahern said. “She wants to take the child back home, but she has no means to support him.”

“The report says that many of the children incessantly try to hurt themselves and that the commonly accepted “treatment” for self-abuse is the use of physical restraints.

“The practice actually exacerbates the underlying psychological damage to the person, resulting in continued self-abuse and even more physical restraint,” said, adding that MDRI investigators saw many children at the institution biting and chewing their own fingers.

The group recommended that some of Serbia’s mental institutions be closed and their patients be allowed access to “education, employment, decent and safe housing, friends and family based on their disability.”

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NCAA Playoff Push — 2 EXCITING GAMES:

Volleyball

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Senior Night

Men’s Soccer

vs. Portland* Friday, Nov. 16th, 7 p.m.

Mott Gym

Youth Day at Mott Gym — FREE admission for all youth 13 and under

FREE admission for all youth 13 and under

FINAL HOME REGULAR SEASON FOOTBALL GAME!

Mustangs VS. Iona*

Saturday, Nov. 17th, 1:05 p.m. kickoff / tailgating opens at 11 a.m. — Alex G. Spanos Stadium

Youth Football and Youth Cheer Day — FREE admission for all youth 13 and under in football jerseys and cheer uniforms.

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"What is your favorite holiday and why?"

Compiled and photographed by Rachel Gellman

"Hanukkah, because of the eight nights of presents."
— Yoav Ben-Haim, mechanical engineering senior

"Christmas, because its right after my birthday so I get to spend time with family and eat a lot of food and hopefully go swimming."
— Tanner Bennett, aerospace engineering junior

"Christmas because I'm excited to be home and with my family."
— Annie McIsaac, agricultural business sophomore

"Christmas — you can't deny it, it's just so good."
— Zach Perla, biology senior

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**State**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — More than two dozen members of the international street gang MS-13 were arrested Thursday in a multistate sweep, authorities said.

It was the latest effort to disrupt what authorities say is one of the most dangerous and organized gangs in the nation.

"We basically turned a blowtorch on them this morning," their operation is in disarray," said Peter Brust, acting assistant director for the FBI Los Angeles field office.

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — A military jury sentenced a Marine drill instructor Thursday to six months in the brig and a bad-conduct discharge for abusing recruits in a case that prosecutors hoped would reassure trainers that they won't be abused at boot camp.

Sgt. Jerred M. Glass also received a reduction in rank to private and pay forfeiture. He had faced a maximum sentence of 10 years of confinement, dishonorable discharge, reduction in rank, and forfeiture of pay and benefits.

Former colleagues lined up to hug Glass and shake his hand after the verdict was read. Glass hugged his mother and father. His mother broke down in tears in the courtroom.

**ESCONDIDO (AP)** — Workers at a Escondido recycling plant found the dead body of a newborn boy on a trash conveyor belt.

Police responded Wednesday night to a call about a body part being found at Escondido Disposal, north of San Diego.

Escondido Police Lieutenant Craig Carter said officers were led to a newborn's body tucked in a case that prosecutors hoped would reassure trainers that they won't be abused at boot camp.

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**NEW YORK (AP)** — While the mystery of the orangutan roaming northern Florida is an orangutan, a "baby Bigfoot" or something else, wildlife officials think it might have a bit of Homer Simpson in it.

After a bear hunter said an animal that could be an orangutanmale puffy doughtnut from him, a wildlife investigator has tried to use sweet treats to lure the creature into the open.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

Nov. 9, 16:05 - Officers investigated a complaint of a subject viewing pornography in the library and making crude comments. The subject was arrested on felony warrants.

Nov. 11, 16:58 - Three subjects were ejected from Spanos Stadium for campus alcohol regulation violations.

Nov. 11, 11:05 - A Cal Poly lamb was discovered loose at an off-campus location. A representative from Cal Poly Agriculture was contacted to recover the lamb.

Nov. 12, 20:51 - An officer observed a subject passed out allegedly drunk at a downtown location. Officer stood by the subject until San Luis Obispo Police Department arrived to handle the matter.

Nov. 13, 12:26 - Officers responded to a complaint of two dogs running loose on campus. County Animal Services advised authorities that one of the dogs (a pit bull) had a history of biting police officers.

Nov. 13, 21:07 - Officers investigated an incident of grand theft. A named suspect had a history of biting police officers.

Nov. 14, 08:50 - Gusty winds caused a loose truck bed shell cover to separate from the vehicle, causing damage to several other parked cars in Lot H10.

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**Briefs**

**National**

**ATLANTA (AP)** — A mutated version of a common cold virus has caused 10 deaths in the last 18 months, U.S. health officials said Thursday.

Adenoviruses usually cause respiratory infections that aren't considered lethal. But a new variant has at least 140 illnesses in New York, Oregon, Washington and Texas, according to a report issued Thursday by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

CDC officials don't consider the mutation to be a cause for alarm for most people, and they're not recommending any new precautions for the general public.

"It's an uncommon infection," said Dr. Larry Anderson, a CDC epidemiologist.

**MACCLENNY, Fla. (AP)** — Whether the mystery of the orangutan roaming northern Florida is an orangutan, a "baby Bigfoot" or something else, wildlife officials think it might have a bit of Homer Simpson in it.

After a bear hunter said an animal that could be an orangutanmale puffy doughnut from him, a wildlife investigator has tried to use sweet treats to lure the creature into the open.

Nov. 13, 21:07 - Officers investigated an incident of grand theft. A named suspect had a history of biting police officers.

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**International**

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Iraq seems to be honoring a commitment to stem the flow of deadly weapons into Iraq, contributing to a more than 50 percent drop in the number of muzzle bombs that kill and maim American troops, a U.S. general said Thursday.


But it remains unclear why Iran may have decided to choke off the suspected weapons pipeline.

**KHULNA, Bangladesh (AP)** — A powerful cyclone packing 150 mph winds slammed into Bangladesh on Thursday, flattening homes, toppling trees and power poles, and forcing hundreds of thousands of people to flee for shelter.

Tropical Cyclone Sidr swept in from the Bay of Bengal, buffeting the southwestern coastal area within a 15-mile radius of its eye with heavy rain and storm surges predicted to reach 20 feet high.

No casualties were immediately reported, but rescue teams were on standby.

**RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)** — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on Thursday called for the overthrow of Gaza's Islamic Hamas rulers, his first explicit call that they be removed.

"We have to bring down this bunch that took over Gaza with armed force, and is abusing the sufferings and pains of our people," Abbas said in a speech in Ramallah.

The Palestinian leader previously had gone beyond denouncing that Hamas apologizing for overrunning Gaza and reverse the takeover.

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Barry's juice is squeezed

Paul Elias
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds was indicted Thursday for perjury and obstruction of justice, charged with lying when he told a federal grand jury that he did not knowingly use performance-enhancing drugs.

If convicted on all five counts, baseball's home run king could go to prison for up to 30 years.

"During the criminal investigation, evidence was obtained including positive tests for the presence of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances for Bonds and other athletes," the indictment read.

In August, the 43-year-old Bonds passed Hank Aaron to become baseball's career home run leader. Late in the season, the San Francisco Giants told the seven-time National League MVP they didn't want him back next year.

Bonds finished the year with 762 home runs, seven more than Aaron, and is currently the home run leader. Late in the season, the San Francisco Giants told the seven-time National League MVP they didn't want him back next year.

Bonds was charged with four counts of perjury and one count of obstruction of justice. He was cited for lying when he said he didn't knowingly take steroids given to him by his personal trainer and longtime friend, Greg Anderson. Bonds also was charged with lying that Anderson never injected him with steroids.

"Greg wouldn't do that," Bonds testified last year night at Mott Gym. Three other Mustangs scored in double figures, including senior guard Dawin Whiten, with 17, junior guard Chaz Thomas, who had 14 and sophomore guard Lorenzo Keeler, who netted 19 points. For the full game story go to see Bonds, page 8

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Mustangs look to lick wounds on Senior Day

Recovering players, coaches try to end year on upswing against No. 1 defense

Donovan Aird

It was their worst nightmare. But when Cal Poly football players and coaches take the field against Iona in their season finale, they will be looking not only to give departing seniors a positive last memory, but also to awake from some of their pain from last week's 19-point, fourth-quarter Homecoming collapse to North Dakota State which dealt a devastating blow to the team's playoff hopes.

So heartrending was his team's loss (in which the Mustangs surrendered a 28-9 lead with just more than 10 minutes to go on three Bison touchdown drives totaling eight plays in 79 seconds to fall 31-28) that head coach Rich Ellerson told reporters after the game that he ought to have been fired.

"I took accountability for the game," Ellerson said. "The players won't let me get away with that. If either (the coaching staff or the players) gives up, we're doomed, but we're not doomed because we have everyone trying to fall on their own swords."

Ellerson's observance of the team's players largely taking the loss upon themselves seems to be supported by most of the team's reactions to his remark.

"Whatever the case, that doesn't excuse giving up big plays," said junior defensive end Sean Lawyer, who admitted he was a "little surprised" by his head coach's post-game statement. "It was very nice of him to take the blame, but I know in my heart we had the game in our hands."

The defensive breakdowns, Ellerson said, could've been averted had the coaching staff more thoroughly emphasized the different principles of assignments given after surging ahead by such a suddenly commanding margin.

"Defensively, to compete we had to be aggressive and play over our heads," Ellerson said. "But when it became a three-possession game, it changed, and we didn't transition to keep them in front of us. Things got said but not coached."

While the defense gave up the lightning-quick scores, the Mustangs offense kept the ball on the ground, passing just four times in 23 plays leading up to the Bison's go-ahead touchdown, a span in which Cal Poly held the ball for 11 minutes and 40 seconds yet failed to offensively net any points.

"I don't think from a coaching standpoint we let up too soon," said junior quarterback Jonathan Dally, who finished with 25 carries for 122 yards and completed 14 of 23 passes for 181 yards and three scores, yet also two interceptions, both of which came in the red zone. "He's not going to point fingers. Good coaches don't do that. Any exaggerations or extremity (on Ellerson's part) just show the passion he has."

Alison Cone, Cal Poly's athletics director, pointed to the program's recent, unprecedented success and off-the-field excellence as reasons why Ellerson's job should be — and is — secure.

"He was devastated by the loss," said Cone, who added that the seventh-year head coach said what he did "in order to deflect the blame from the players and other coaches" after the loss. "The football program has had free winning seasons in a row. You have to look back to the '80s to see that. From the academic standards to the competitiveness, so many good things are going on."

That competitiveness will be put to the test when the Mustangs (6-4, 2-2 Great West Conference) host Iona (7-3, 2-1 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference) at 1:05 p.m. Saturday, hoping that their Senior Day will lend itself toward more comfortable memories than their Homecoming a week ago.

"For a lot of the players, it'll be their last chance to play the game — it's not like tennis," said Ellerson, who admitted that the "disheartening loss" rendered the team's chances of being awarded a playoff berth slim to none, regardless of Saturday's contest. "We have to be our most excited to play if that anger or (from last week) helps to heal that hole in our chest, then by all means, we'll use it."

Junior wide receiver Tredale Tolver looks to be one of many Mustangs to do just that.

"The best way to exercise our frustrations is to come out this weekend and play like madmen," Tolver said. "It's a reason to come out and play even better, with more passion."

Iona itself is coming off of a similarly crushing loss, falling to Marist 17-14 a week ago to finish in a three-way tie in its mid-major conference, likely missing the playoffs as well.

The Gaels, though, the fifth-ranked mid-major in the latest Sports Network poll, enter the season conclusion boasting the No. 1 defense in the Football Championship Subdivision.

"We're going out there to play good football, not to go on vacation," said Iona head coach Fred Mariani, who compared the challenge Cal Poly's No. 2 offense poses to that of top-25 New Hampshire, which beat the Gaels 49-21 Oct. 13. "I don't believe you can completely stop (Cal Poly's offense) with all those weapons."

The FCS-best Iona defensive squad given the task of impeding that offense is led by senior inside linebacker Adam Lipski, who has a team-high 92 tackles on the year, including 17.5 for losses. As a team, the Gaels defense, which allows just 254.4 yards per outing, averages...
Football

continued from page 6

an FCS-leading 9.6 tackles-for-losses a game.

Offensively, the New Rochelle, N.Y. school's 54th-ranked unit depends on senior running back Dane Samuels, who is fifth in the subdivision in all-purpose yards at 189.9 per game, nearly 130 more than the team's next-closest playmaker, senior wide receiver Demarcus White, who has a team-high 46 catches for 585 yards and six touchdowns on the season.

Five of the Mustangs' 16 seniors — defensive ends Louis Shepherd and Adam Torosian, linebacker Jason Relyea, cornerback Michael Maye and free safety Mark Cordes — start for a defensive outfit that will try to rattle sophomore quarterback Nick Rossetti, who has thrown for 172.6 yards per game en route to compiling a 14-to-10 to touchdown-to-interception ratio.

"If last week would've been our last game, it would've been bad, but we do have a good team and a good game coming here, so it could end on a good note for our seniors," Lawyer said. "We need to go out and re-establish ourselves."

"Though the offense only loses one starter, guard Daniel Bradley, called by Tolver "one of the hungriest players on the team," such importance of the seniors' final game is felt throughout the whole team.

"We have to put last week behind us and play more than our best game," Dally said.

Tolver, who played at the prep level at San Diego's Mira Mesa High, represented a gratitude for the graduating class felt throughout the locker room, exemplified by his admiration of Relyea, whom he formed a relationship with dating back to the defensive captain's days as a star running back at nearby Poway High.

"He wasn't big on talk, but he was big on action," Tolver said.

Such sentiments, Tolver added, should be kept in mind Saturday.

"It was a bit of a roller coaster year, with some ups and downs," he said. "But we have to finish the last game strong and get ready for next year."

**HOW THEY STACK UP**

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<th>Cal Poly</th>
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<th>52:140</th>
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<th>3:10</th>
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<tr>
<th>TD-INT</th>
<th>51:4</th>
<th>40:11</th>
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**GAME**

**BUD LIGHT**

**stangs!**

**SIBILITY TERS**
Win or bang bang for men’s soccer

Rachel Gellman

This weekend is kind of a big deal for the Cal Poly men’s soccer team. Games at Portland (9-4-5, 1-3-1 West Coast Conference) and Cal State Fullerton (7-9-2, 2-6-2 Big West) are a must-win on both fronts.

"We have to keep doing what we’ve been doing all year long," Holocher said, though he did stress to his team that aggressiveness from the get-go is key.

Along with a pentagon attack, the soccer team thrives off of its 12-man, the Mustangs.

"The Mustangs come in and you can see the families cheering for them. They make the games more fun," said Holocher, who insists that Mustangs support will be a key component in the upcoming games.

Following the Portland match, Poly will take on Cal State Fullerton at 11 a.m. Sunday in Spanos Stadium.

The Mustangs defeated Fullerton 1-0 on Titan territory on Sept. 29. The Titans come to Spanos Stadium following a 2-1 loss to UC Santa Barbara last Saturday. Sophomore Shy Spitz leads the Titans with 11 points on five goals and six assists.

In goal, senior Brent Douglas has held opponents to 0.82 goals per game and has recorded three shutouts.

Unlike the women’s conference, there is no Big West championship following the regular season. There are 48 spots in the NCAA playoffs, 18 conferences, including the Big West, issue automatic qualifiers to first-place teams. USCBS has claimed first place in the Big West, forcing the second-place Mustangs to battle for an at-large bid.

"Our destiny is in the next couple games," Holocher said.

Even with two wins this weekend, nothing is for certain, though Holocher explained, "From what everyone is predicting, a couple good results here and we’re going to the playoffs.”

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Poly women declaw Cougars in 53-48 home-opening victory

Sara Wright

The Mustang women’s basketball team prevailed in a tight 53-48 win in its home opener against Houston Thursday night, with sophomore guard Ashley Stewart hitting a go-ahead 3-pointer in the final six minutes of the game. Junior forward Lisa McBride led the team with 17 points, while junior forward Megan Harrison followed with 14 points of her own.

Head coach Faith Mimnaugh was pleased with the team’s performance, saying, "We had another great showing from the free-throw line. It’s a young but talented team."

She was especially pleased with McBride, this week’s Big West Player of the Week.

"McBride had a great game and did an incredible job defensively," Mimnaugh said. "She was a big reason we won the game."

The first half of the game was full of missed passes and outs and Poly missed its first dozen 3-pointers of her own.

After sophomore guard Becky Tratter made a jumper, there was a key turnover by Houston’s Jasmine Johnson, which was capitalized on by senior point guard Kyla Howell.

The first half ended with a layup by Harrison and four missed shots by Houston.

In the second half, senior guard Sparkle Anderson made a save from out of bounds before it was rebounded.

After a 3-pointer by Houston’s Twigg McIntire at 14:57, there was a scramble for the ball before McIntire took it back.

Senior guard Shannon Gholar began a series of turnovers before it was stolen by McIntire, turned over by Houston’s Alona Obaze and stolen back by Sophomore guard Tanisha Mills.

At 9:41, Gholar made a steal before Houston’s Brittany Mason stole it back right before a layup. McBride made a jumper at 5:26, followed by one by Tratter at 3:23, which kicked off a run of McBride and Harrison making layups, bringing the score to 20-17 and starting the crowd.

Though the Cougars made more 3-pointers and succeeded in making 68 percent of their free throws in the second half, the Mustangs slid with a win
Older generation should stop bombarding generalizations

Katie Strickland
SOCS '08

I have bad news, fellow college students: We are a bunch of whiners, immature slackers. Please take a break from your midterm, internships, part-time jobs and tutoring of underprivileged children to hear me out.

CBS's "60 Minutes" this Sunday, "millennials" (i.e., people born between 1980 and 1995) are entering the workforce and shocking our employers with our surprising desire to find fulfilling work.

This has caused their parent generation, the baby boomers, to feel outrage that we are smart enough to avoid the suffering they had to endure.

The episode featured "60 Minutes" correspondent Morley Safer referring to our generation as "carnival-prance hounds" who aren't prepared for the working world, as well as various other boomers lamenting the fact that companies are relying on the environment and not on more perks to recruit young people.

Marlen Salmon, an agency executive at J Walter Thompson, posed pointedly summed up the litany of complaints about millennials by saying, "You can't really ask them to give up and become the company."

We are being accused of whining?

I feel sympathy for the boomers themselves, if not for their soul-sucking rosin and greening.

They grew up in a time when it was important to "pay your dues," to "save nothing," which means that they could be marketed and required to work longer hours.

But after observing such painful existences and mocking them with movies such as "Office Space," our generation is demanding something more.

As a result, companies like Zappos.com have begun meeting our demands by providing nap rooms, parades and happy hours in order to recruit and keep employees.

Knowing that other, younger people are having fun at the office, and making progressive changes in the work environment to get boomers fired up, how can we not feel guilty when we hand it over to the cashier to purchase something? What kind of world is your dollar creating? Is it supporting a local economy, a local farm?

Is it supporting a solar-powered, independent movie theater, a microbrewery? Is it supporting a corporation whose business practices degrade the environment and violate human rights?

Is it helping fund the destruction of the rainforest? Is it supporting a manufacturing process that contributes to global climate change?

If you aren't sure, just hang on to that dollar — better that it burn in your pocket than a hole in the ozone.

Lucie Castello is an architecture senior, a member of the Empower Poly coalition and a Mustang Daily columnist.
Edited by Will Shortz  No. 1005

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- send letters to the editor
- post story comments
‘Beowulf’ not just visual butter
Sam Potter

With fantasy stories once again accepted as high-quality story territory to be translated into film from the archetypal epic poem ‘Beowulf’, within this20th century hypermedia-glutted world and one of the most tragic moments in world literature, can one simply sit back and enjoy the grandiose. CGI realisation modern cinematic storytelling now provides. It also seems ripe for disaster. As defined as it is to apply the trademark rhythm of wisdom Uncle Ben gave to Peter Parker, it isn’t with great technology one comes across an even greater responsibility — to make sure the story doesn’t suck. With the deluge of CGI-heavy and story-line family films being churned out today (Disney, DreamWorks?), ‘Beowulf’ could have easily been considered a missed opportunity in an attempt to “modernise” the tale.

Fortunately, veteran director Rob Zemeckis understood that in ‘Beowulf’ we have a check-full of lavish 3D visual, swooping medieval landscapes and unbelievable battles that the script penned by Roger Avary (“American Psycho”) and Neil Gaiman (“Mirror Mask,” via oral tradition). The cinematic storytelling now provides.

The epic poem, the battles are extremely violent and bloody, and Gaiman has to an extent created one of the great’risk-factor’ roles for a woman. With the script penned by Neil Gaiman, he finds that her character is being terrorized by Gandel, a brother of the giant whose Iberian-sensitized ear-kins) is being terrorized by Gandel. The film is a powerful battle sequence, the script penned by Neil Gaiman, the cinematic storytelling now provides.

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A night of musical talent and synchronization will harmonize in Hahn Hall at The Performing Arts Center, as more than 200 Cal Poly students present the annual Bandfest concert at 8 p.m. Saturday.

Sponsored by Cal Poly's music and athletics departments, the College of Liberal Arts and the Instructionally Related Activities program, Bandfest is dubbed as simply "Out of this World." The Cal Poly Wind Orchestra, Wind Ensemble and the Mustang Marching Band will take the stage to present a collection of celebrated musical compositions.

"Bandfest is the only opportunity the public has to hear these outstanding groups perform on the same concert," said William Johnson, Cal Poly music professor and instrumental music coordinator.

"It is also an opportunity for the students to give a public performance of the music they have been studying since the beginning of the quarter."

Bandfest has been a fall tradition at Cal Poly for 41 years, Johnson said. All three ensembles perform in several different musical styles, and no two pieces sound the same.

"A wide variety of music will be played from many eras and genres," said Colin McKinney, electrical engineering senior and president of the Wind Ensemble and Orchestra. "From the classic rock arrangements played by the Mustang Marching Band in full uniform, to contemporary wind band music played by the Wind Orchestra and Ensemble, or swinging jazz music played by the University Jazz bands, everybody will be able to enjoy themselves at the concert."

McKinney plays the oboe and English horn in the Wind Ensemble. Womble said "It is also an opportunity for the students to give a public performance of the music they have been studying since the beginning of the quarter."