Malibu residents return after blaze

Thomas Watkins  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MALIBU Calif. — Residents began making their way through back streets and dirt roads Sunday afternoon into evacuated areas of the upscale community to see whether their homes survived a wind-driven wildfire that scorched surrounding brush-covered hills.

Some homes along a road near the source of the blaze had been reduced to blackened wrecks while others were barely damaged.

"There's no rhyme or reason to it," said Frank Churchill, who returned home with his wife and four children to find his white stucco home largely undamaged, though three surrounding homes were leveled. "It doesn't make sense."

Fifty homes were destroyed Saturday by the fast-moving wildfire pushed by Santa Ana winds. Twenty-seven other homes were damaged and 10,000 to 14,000 people remained under evacuation orders.

The fire, which scorched 4,720 acres — more than 7 square miles — since early Saturday, was about 40 percent contained, with few flames visible water-dropping helicopters, said Ron Harlan, Los Angeles County fire inspector.

"Wind has subsided considerably and we're making good headway," he said.

By late Sunday morning, skies had cleared and the column of smoke following over the hills had all but vanished. Aside from the dozens of fire trucks dotting the Pacific Coast Highway, there was little evidence the fire was still burning.

Investigators determined that the fire, which broke out along a dirt road off a paved highway, was caused by heat from a tire, page 2

Local bank robbed over break

Two men robbed Downey Savings at 3991 S. Higuera St. at gunpoint Nov. 21 and took money from the bank's vault and one of the teller stations, police said. No one was injured during the robbery.

The police were contacted by the bank's alarm company at 10:35 a.m. that day. They were then informed that an armed robbery had occurred and the suspects reportedly left the scene in a tan Toyota Camry southbound on South Higuera Street.

Police secured the bank and searched for the suspects and vehicle. A vehicle fitting the description was spotted going 100 mph on U.S. Highway 101 approaching the Avila Drive exit, police said, but a further search of the area did not find the suspects.

San Luis Obispo Police Department detectives are working alongside FBI agents to investigate the robbery. Preliminary police reports indicate the two suspects, described as black males in their late 20s, entered the bank. One suspect had a handgun, which he brandished as he entered the bank while the other followed him, police said.

The four bank employees, as well as a customer who entered the bank during the robbery, were placed on the floor. The suspects demanded
Nation's retailers post a robust start to the holiday season, research group says

Anne D'Innocenzo
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The nation's retailers had a robust start to the holiday shopping season, according to results announced Saturday by a national research group that tracks sales at retail outlets across the country.

According to ShopperTrak RCT Corp., which tracks sales at more than 50,000 retail outlets, total sales rose 8.3 percent to about $10.3 billion on Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, compared with $9.5 billion on the same day a year ago. ShopperTrak had expected an increase of no more than 4 percent to 5 percent.

"This is a really strong number...You can't have a good season unless it starts well," said Bill Martin, co-founder of ShopperTrak, citing the nation's retailers had a robust start to the holiday season on Friday with expanded hours, including midnight openings, and a blitz of early morning specials that were becoming more frugal amid higher gas and food prices and an escalating credit crunch.

But the department store chain cautioned, "while we are encouraged by our strong start, it is still early in the holiday season and we are mindful of the headwinds consumers are facing," J.C. Penney, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and other major retailers are expected to report same-store results for November on Dec. 6. Same-store sales are those at stores opened at least a year and are considered a key indicator of a retailer's strength.

The upbeat reports were encouraging since merchants have been struggling with anemic sales in recent months, as shoppers, particularly in the middle and lower-income brackets, were becoming more frugal amid higher gas and food prices and an escalating credit crunch.

In an apparent sign of desperation, the nation's stores ushered in the official start of the holiday shopping season on Friday with expanded hours, including midnight openings, and a blitz of early morning specials that were more generous than a year ago. J.C. Penney and Kohl's Corp. opened at 4 a.m., an hour earlier than a year ago.

The strategy appears to have worked, as shoppers jammed stores in record numbers for early morning deals on Friday. Martin noted that, judging by the strong figures on Friday, stores were able to sustain strong sales throughout the day. He said he's counting on strong traffic throughout the weekend as many stores, including Macy's Inc., are continuing with special deals.

While Black Friday — so named because it was traditionally when the surge of shopping made stores profitable — was not considered a bellwether for the season. However, merchants see Black Friday as setting an important tone to the overall season:

"What consumers see that day influences where they will shop for the rest of the year," said Martin. Last year, retailers had a good start during the Thanksgiving weekend, but many stores continued to struggle in December and a shopping surge just before and after Christmas wasn't enough to make up for lost sales.

This year, the Washington-based National Retail Federation predicted that total holiday sales would be up 4 percent for the combined November and December period, the slowest growth since a 1.3 percent rise in 2002. Holiday sales rose 4.6 percent in 2006 and growth has averaged 4.8 percent over the last decade.

Robbery

continued from page 1

money, which they recovered from the bank's vault and one of the teller stations, police said.

The employees were then forced into the vault, which the suspects allegedly didn't close. The suspects left the bank toward suburban Road as the Cany was traveling on South Higuera Street.

There is no description of the driver or video of photographs of the suspects are not yet available. The investigation is continuing and anyone with information is asked to call the San Luis Obispo Police Department or Crime Stoppers at 805-547-STOP.

Fire

continued from page 1

main but had not determined whether it was started by a pair of cigarettes found during a search of the suspect's home.

Sheriff's deputies with dogs surveyed the warehouse area Sunday, which neighbors said was a popular spot for young people to party outdoors late at night.

"We've been up there and seen howl groups of teenagers drinking," nearby resident Ricardo Means, 57, said of the rugged spot near the top of his winding street where blackened bodies were reportedly found.

When the winds began whipping up overnight Saturday, the seaside enclave was still recovering from a fire last month that destroyed six homes, two businesses and a church.

"This time it lost," said a westside Glen Sunyich, who watched the smoke and the house burn in 1990. "It means that I didn't build it well enough." Another resident who lost his house to the fire, the basket for the Red Hot Chili Peppers, property records showed. The musician, whose real name is Michael Balzary, bought another home in Malibu last year, but the one destroyed was for sale for $4.8 million, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Hundreds of firefighters and equipment from throughout the state had been positioned in Southern California for most of thenowbecause of the predicted Santa Ana winds.

All the homes were destroyed in the fire's initial Saturday morning surge before the winds showed and firefighters gained a foothold. Full containment was expected by Tuesday, officials said.

Fifteen helicopters and 18 airplanes, including a retardant-dropping DC-10, joined the firefighting battle on the ground. Seven firefighters suffered minor injuries.

Malibu, with homes tucked into deep and narrow canyons along 27 miles of coast at the southern foot of the Santa Monica Mountains, is prone to Santa Ana-driven wildfires. Among them was a 1993 blaze that destroyed 388 structures, including 268 homes, and killed three people.

Saturday's fire was west of the areas of Malibu that burned in October.

Santa Ana winds triggered by high pressure over the Great Basin blow into Southern California from the north and northeast, racing through the canyons and passes of the region's east-west mountain ranges and out to sea, pushing back the normal flow of marine air.

Fire

continued from page 1

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

• An article in Tuesday's edition incorrectly reported that Patricia Warren-Wal's title was Director of the Office of Academic Records. Her official title us Assistant to the Registrar/Director of the Office of Academic Records.
SOLDIERS GROVE, Wis. (AP) — The Kickapoo River bridge is a big structure with a small price tag: one buck. Village officials fear the near-century-old bridge, which hasn't hosted traffic in 31 years, will collapse into the river and want to get rid of it quickly. Village board member Vicki Campbell said they hope high scrap prices help attract a buyer who may want to sell the bridge's steel parts. "With the steel prices what they are right now, we thought this was an opportune time to sell it," Campbell said.

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — The popular but dangerous toy Aqua Dom was recalled, but the fliers advertising it apparently were not. A Toys "R" Us flier distributed in some Sunday newspapers contains an ad for Aqua Dom, the popular toy beads yanked from U.S. store shelves nearly three weeks ago because they are coated in a chemical that can turn into the "date-rape" drug when swallowed. The circular advertises the Aqua Dom Super Studio for $19.99 — a $5 savings. Retailer Target boasted a $13 price tag for Aqua Dom in its Black Friday circular.

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — A company voluntarily recalled nearly 96,000 pounds of ground beef products after two people were sickened, possibly by the E. coli bacteria, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service said Saturday. The beef products by American Food Group include coarse and fine ground beef chuck, sirloin and chop beef. They were distributed to retailers and distributors in Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Tennessee, Wisconsin and Virginia. The problem surfaced after an investigation by the Illinois Department of Health, which was looking into two reports of illnesses.

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — President Hugo Chavez said Sunday he is putting relations with Colombia "in the freezer" after its president ended the Venezuelan leader's role mediating with leftist rebels in the neighboring country. The announcement drew a strong rebuke from Colombian President Alvaro Uribe, who said Chavez's actions suggest he wants to see a "terrorist government" run by leftist rebels in Bogotá. Uribe also suggested Chavez might be looking to stir up conflict to boost his image ahead of a referendum on constitutional changes next weekend.

The spat was the bitterest yet between Chavez and the U.S.-aligned Uribe.

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — A section of stands at a soccer stadium in northeastern Brazil gave way Sunday as fans cheered at the end of a game, killing eight people, police said. At least 60,000 were in the stadium for the game at the Ponte Nova stadium in the coastal city of Salvador when the roof fell several stories to the ground after a hole several yards wide opened in the concrete floor of a section of the highest bleachers. At least nine people fell through and eight of them died, said Maj. Edmundo Tavares of the city's federal police.

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Beauty pageant organizers were investigating Sunday who dosed a contestant's evening gown with pepper spray and spiked her makeup, causing her to break out in hives. Beauty queen Ingrid Marie Rivera beat 29 rivals to become the island's 2008 Miss Universe contestant, despite applying make-up and wearing evening gowns that had been coated with pepper spray, pageant spokesman Harold Rosario said.

Rivera was composed while appearing before cameras and judges throughout the competition. But once backstage, she had to strip off her clothes and apply ice bags to her face and body, which swelled and broke out in hives twice.
POLICE BLOTTER

Nov. 17, 00:00 - Officers responded to a call reporting possible alcohol poisoning at Yosemite Hall. The patient refused transport to a medical facility.

Nov. 17, 00:33 - Officers responded to a call reporting two intoxicated residents at Yosemite Hall. The incident was turned over to Housing personnel.

Nov. 17, 01:25 - Officers located a vehicle with a male subject reportedly passed out behind the wheel.

Nov. 19, 11:14 - Officers responded to a grass fire near the Poly Canyon Village construction area.

Nov. 19, 13:18 - A faculty member reported odd behavior exhibited by a student. An officer discussed the concerns presented and provided accommodations for the instructor.

Nov. 20, 07:46 - A university-owned golf cart was reported missing after two days. The golf cart was later recovered and returned to Campus Dining.

Iraq's most influential Shiite politician said Sunday that the US had not backed up claims that Iran is fueling violence here, underscoring a wide gap on the issue between Washington and the Shiite-led Baghdad government.

A draft bill to ease cuts in oil revenues that are needed to governmenit services also drew sharp criticism from Shiite lawmakers, opening old wounds at a time when the United States is pressing the Iraqis for compromise for the sake of national unity.

The Americans have long accused the Iranians of arming and training Shiite militias, including some linked to the US-backed government of Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

US officials have also alleged that Iran has provided weapons used to kill Americans — a charge the Iranians vehemently deny.

"These are only accusations raised by the multinational forces and I think these accusations need more proof," Abd al-Aziz al-Hakim, leader of the Supreme Islamic Council, told reporters.

Al-Hakim spent years in exile in Jordan during Saddam’s regime and is considered closer to the Iranians than any of the major Iraqi Shiite leaders. His party has also closely cooperated with American authorities since the 2003 collapse of Saddam’s regime, and he has met with President Bush in the Oval Office.

His comments were made ahead of a new round of talks between US and Iranian officials here over ways to promote stability in Iraq and exploit the sharp downturn in violence since the U.S. sent 30,000 reinforcements early this year.

No date for the next US-Iranian talks has been announced. The Americans are expected to raise concerns about Iranian influence among Shiite armed groups, although US officials have said they believe the flow of Iranian arms has been curtailed.

This month, the US military released nine Iranians who had been held in Iraq for months. They included two accused of being members of the elite Quds Force suspected of arming Shiite extremists.

But the US military has blamed an Iranian-backed Shiite cell for a bombing Friday in a Baghdad market that killed 15 people — the deadliest attack in the heart of the capital in more than two months.

A US military spokesman, Rear. Adm. Gregory Smith, stressed he was not accusing Iran of ordering the attack.

Nonetheless, Iran dismissed any suggestion that it was at fault.

"Contradictory reports have been heard about the bombing. But remarks by the Americans were made with the aim of making propaganda against Iran," Mohammad Ali Hosseini, spokesman for Iran’s Foreign Ministry, told reporters Sunday in Tehran.
No. 1 trend: Commercials cater to a stupid America

So I'm loungin' in the crib just watchin' TV and some punk-ass commercial had the nerve to dirr me.

Most commercials on television these days are just plain stupid. And the trend in these ads is assuming you're stupid, too. Take, for instance, the commercials where two people are talking on the phone and the call gets dropped, ruining the conversation and causing an awkward moment. Yeah, the commercials are pretty funny and dropped calls are really annoying, but home, please; who doesn't look down at their phone and see that the call has been dropped when they don't hear a response on the other end? Who doesn't just call the person back?

And what about those "debit cards are faster than cash" commercials? Everybody's in a cafeteria dancing around with their food trays, paying with a quick swipe of the old plastic, and then along comes the idiot commercial that says, "Incredible," "Supreme," "And Brilliant" fly across the screen. C'mon, be real with us, what did the actual quote say? It's incredible that the director had the supreme audacity to even attempt to make a brilliant movie out of a script this horrible. Also, how can every movie coming out be the "No. 1" movie — and in every category? There's the "No. 1" family movie of the summer, the best comedy of the year (which was proclaimed in February, June, August and November by different movies) and the greatest family movie of summer. These commercials think we're dumb enough not to do some research and be like, "No wonder 'Without A Paddle' is the No. 1 comedy in America; it's the only comedy in America right now. Everything else is the No. 1 suspect thriller that'll keep you guessing to the very end."

Don't believe what these commercials say. Dropped calls don't ruin conversations, debit cards are not necessarily faster than cash, jokes in the form of a text message won't make you funny, and just because a movie says it's No. 1 doesn't mean it's good — it just means it doesn't suck as bad as the rest. However, coming to a theater near you this winter: "TRENDSAURUS," the No. 1 feel-good romantic comedy of the year starring dinosaurs.

Brian McMullen is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily columnist.

Commercials cater to a stupid America

Latest ‘Call of Duty’ goes modern in the Middle East

Jason Deuterman
THE BATTALION (TEXAS A&M)

Submerging its players into a world where the fate of World War II hangs delicately in the balance, the "Call of Duty" franchise scored thousands of gamers to its ranks as it follows a young soldier on the field of battle.

Known for its realism as soldiers stormed the beaches of Normandy in "Operation Overlord" or fought in the north of Africa, the game successfully found its roots by creating a realistic, virtual war experience like no other in its kind. Only this time around, with the release of "Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare," the player no longer carries a standard M1 Grande, but rather an M4 with a grenade launcher.

Switching between the efforts of the British and American troops, the Middle East crisis has escalated and the world seems to be on the brink of destruction. As a nuclear bomb is set off in the region, killing a number of American soldiers, a series of events unfolds as the world once more prepares to engage in bloody conflict.

The game is unlike any first person shooter to date as it allows the player to act within a world responsive to the gamer's actions. Within the single player mode, the player is forced to take into account the way in which the enemy is taken out through direct force or with the use of more stealthy tactics.

One of greatest level experiences is one in which the player is required to eliminate an enemy leader from a secluded sniper position several hundred yards away. The game engine takes into account wind speed and the Cortisol Effect, causing a fired bullet to veer off course if a straight shot is attempted.

However, the game's greatest strength lies in the multiplier function in which an innovative feature creates a new style of fighting. Not only do players have an array of weaponry and grenades at their disposal, but also skill "perks" in which a player is able to choose how to strengthen their soldier. One such element called "Last Stand" allows the player to pull out a sidearm as the soldier falls to the ground, thus taking out an extra opponent or two before dying.

The effort Activision Studios put into the creation of the game, apparent in the game's aesthetic and sound quality, makes for a gaming experience as realistic as it is fun. As each bullet smashes heavily into a wall or a nearby bad guy, the game's success is furthered and furthered.

Latest ‘Call of Duty’ goes modern in the Middle East

COURTESY PHOTO

Known for its lifelike portrayal of war, the new "Call of Duty" game focuses on the British and American efforts in the Middle East crisis.
Rock-rap duo releases album online

Andy O'Connor

Downloading music does not usually involve a direct transfer of money from consumer to label, but that does not mean downloading is free. You spend time and bandwidth getting music instead of time and money, and you use up space on a hard drive instead of on a bookshelf or a chest. Saul Williams is getting a lot of publicity for his decision to release his latest album, "The Inevitable Rise and Liberation of Niggardly Tartan," for free on the Internet. Luckily for Williams and his main collaborator on the album, Trent Reznor, "Niggardly Tartan" is a good investment.

After listening to this album, it is a wonder why Reznor does not do more hip-hop production. His style is grounded in more modern Nine Inch Nails, but he does not apply his own material, "Break," with its clashing keyboards, demonstrates this quality in prime form. "The Ritual" contains a synth line that is reminiscent of Pretty Hate Machine, but beefed up for 2007. The album opener, "Black History Month," combines martial synth patterns with a capella beatboxing, which enhance Williams' aggressive flow. Reznor uses Public Enemy's "Welcome to the Terrordome" as a foundation for "Trigger." Not surprisingly, it's one of the album's more abrasive tracks.

Williams' background as a slam poet pays off. Unlike many rappers, he can change his flow significantly to fit the song. "No One Ever Does" sees Williams providing some soulful, off-kilter, balled singing to complement Reznor's lonely piano and bass guitar driven. "Trigger," when Reznor switches off Hi-Z and Co., Williams serenades: "What do you teach your children about me?" in the same way, but over a slightly bent psychedelic pop break.

He presents a jazzy coolness on the album's title track, but what makes this song stand out most is the chorus. He utters: "When I say Niggy/you say nothing," an ironic twist on the call-and-response element so vital to black music. In keeping with Reznor's industrial background, Williams does a fine tribute to Michael Gira's deep, gravelly voice in "Raw." It makes the minimalist thumping even more scary.

Williams does not always strike gold — he does an annoying imitation of Bloc Party's Kele Okereke on an uninspired cover of U2's "Sunday Bloody Sunday." "Niggardly Tartan" does not just reference Bowie in name, but also Williams' chameleon-like ability to change his persona and sound in an album, all while sounding only like Saul Williams. With the exception of the U2 cover, it's more than worth downloading.

However, if Williams and Reznor were to collaborate in the future, they should go under the name Niggy Tardust, not Williams/Reznor duos. The Williams/Reznor duo could become the Dr. Octopus/Rock-rap combination of concerts and recording have reversed. While touring used to be a way to generate buzz about an upcoming album, the tour and its associated merchandise are now the industry's best way to make money. It's not that touring profits have somehow grown to overshadow records, but rather this is really the only option the industry has left. Only the things that can't be downloaded — like the experience of seeing your favorite band live or a T-shirt or some rare seven-inch — are the things they can sell.

It seems to me that if Madonna's strategy catches on, the role of albums will get even closer to the role of advertisements than it already has. Artists will produce music for the goal of bringing fans to concerts and the rights to the recorded music will be public or, as it currently is the case, intellectually enforced. The other likely outcome is that the management side of the music will consolidate from separate managing and recording entities to a single group, Live Nation, handling all of an artist's output. If the big record companies run out of steam, it makes sense for the tour promotion groups, which stand to benefit from "album-as-advertisement" in the first place, to take on recording duties as well as marketing and management.

So far, these changes — recordings-as-advertisements and artists moving away from record companies — are only partial. MySpace offers the chance to stream a few tracks from most bands for free, and MTV provides its own streaming "leaks," but listeners still have to pay up for the full album. Also, Madonna's new strategy hasn't yet been embraced by many other artists. This is probably because there are still sales to be had, especially with performers who have name recognition spanning generations. Not everyone knows how to download, and some guilty consciences turn into record purchases.

Still, my guess is that profits will continue to fall. In 10 years or so, everyone 30 and under will have grown up in the age of the Internet and many will never have been to a record store. Gift cards for iTunes make great birthday presents. And considering the speed with which piracy technology develops, the likelihood of effectively policing downloads seems low.

So while the music may not capture the times, the business model does...
"Enchanted," a classic fairy-tale with a modern-day twist, stars Amy Adams (right) as Giselle, a would-be princess banished out of her cartoon reality and into New York City by the prince's evil mother (played by Susan Sarandon, left). While waiting for her prince (James Marsden, center), she befriends Patrick Dempsey's character (right).

The preview is a good indicator of the premise and overall tone of the film: musical and sweet although rather ridiculous. The ridiculousness is the best part, though.

The most disappointing part of the movie came in the form of Dempsey's on-screen girlfriend Nancy, played by musical star Idina Menzel (Maureen from "Rent" and the original Elphaba from "Wicked"). She also didn't sing. Why would she even bother being in this movie if she doesn't sing? Obviously she would upstage everyone else, but it is too much to ask for a little duet near the end! Message to Disney: there better be a Menzel-Marsden duet on the DVD or we shall all consider this a waste of her time.

The movie is appropriate for all ages and tastes, provided no one takes it seriously. It has talking animals and pretty dresses for the young (OK, we all love the dresses), hidden innuendos for the older, and, of course, the chance to see Susan Sarandon as a witch.

It leaves the audience with smiles all around, and if the "How does she know?" song isn't in your head for the rest of the day, I salute you.
Wake up and smell the intolerance

One of the pitfalls of going to Cal Poly is our lack of exposure to multiculturalism. Our education suffers without a diverse student population.

The unfortunate and now infamous Jena Six incident, along with other recent acts of hate, suggests that although we like to believe we live in a hate-free society, there are those among us who choose to offend and persecute others due to their race or ethnicity.

What upsets me most about these acts of intolerance is that rather than being the work of an older population that grew up in a time of less racial diversity, all of these occurrences have happened at American educational institutions, including most recently Michigan State University and Columbia University, two highly regarded academic establishments.

Last month, Columbia University was the victim of separate racist and religious attacks when a noose was hung from a classroom ceiling in the art department. Since these events, other institutions such as California State University Fullerton and the Coast Guard Academy in Connecticut have seen similar problems.

It is unacceptable and cannot be tolerated, no matter the circumstances. However, these events specifically seem worse because of their location at the very places that promote a higher degree of learning and acceptance. In modern-day education, an essential portion of most undergraduate programs requires an emphasis on tolerance. It seems ironic that the very place we go to preach about acceptance and knowledge are also the battlegrounds for those hateful inclinations.

I believe that in order to effectively win the battle against American inequality, we must eat the stems of hate close to the root — ignorance.

Thanks given to President Baker

President Baker,

We are writing to thank you for taking the time to meet with Dr. Anthony Corteze, the author of the Presidential Climate Commitment on Friday, Nov. 9. Dr. Corteze is an internationally recognized visionary and leader on climate change and sustainability.

The consensus among climate scientists is that immediate aggressive action is needed to avoid the worst effects of climate change. Scientists tell us that all major ecosystems are in decline, sea levels are rising and one half of the world’s species are at risk of extinction due to global warming. America is looking to higher education and awareness.

It has been said before but it must be reiterated: this country has come a long way but still has much work to do to live up to its promises. Rather than accepting the stagnation of our current diversity, we must choose to reach for a higher, better road. Better for the minorities that have faced the worst from our country and better for the entire nation as a whole.

Taylor Moore is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily columnist.

Have something to say?

Send a letter to the editor! Submit your thoughts, opinions, rants and raves in 250 words or less to mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com
The New York Times
Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz
No. 1015

Across
1. Indifferent to pleasure or pain (8)
6. Close
10. Jacket
14. Toyota rival
15. Impulse
16. ___ of office
17. Taking back one's words in humiliation (7)
19. "Oh, that's what you mean"
20. Excitement
21. -de-sac
22. Receiver of a legal transfer
24. Actress Zellweger
26. Anger
27. Negotiating in a no-nonsense way
32. Baby kangaroos
34. Joel who directed "Raising Arizona"
35. "These...the times that..."
36. One-named Art Deco designer
37. Vehicles in space shuttle fleet
39. "Love...the air"
40. Big elephant feature
41. Theater award
42. Actress Martha Plimpton
43. Pretending to be dead
47. The "et" of et cetera
48. Lock of hair
49. Rip off
53. Moo goo ___ of office
54. Ewe's call
57. Supervising
58. Raising a false alarm

Down
1. New York stadium
2. Relative of a frog
3. Seeing through the deception of
4. Dictator Amin
5. Calls off
6. Cell centers
7. Majap, e.g.
8. Slack-jawed
9. Edits
10. Neologist
11. Kiln
12. Suit to ___
13. Biblical pronoun
18. Sticky matter
23. Give for one's money
24. Comedic actress
25. Duties
26. Leads, as an orchestra
27. "Hulk" director
28. "Milk?"
29. Casey with a radio countdown
30. Land or skyline
31. Achings
32. Army transport
33. Spoken hands out, as
34. Longtime Charles M. Schulz character
35. Roman statesman ___ the Elder
36. Daylight saving, e.g.
37. Innocent, e.g.
38. Land o' blarney
39. Achings
40. Army transport
41. Theater award
42. Actress
43. Locales of mineral waters
44. "Love...the air"
45. Army transport
46. Actor Penn
49. Marina fixture
50. Almighty," 2007 film
51. Honor with a roast, say
52. What numbers do
54. Drill
55. ___. matter
56. Many miles away
57. "Almighty"
58. ___ of the Sierras
59. Marina fixture
60. "Man alive!"

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Go online

Collegiate Culture Snob
Monday
Humor Column

mustangdaily.net

Sleeping Beauty's biographer decided to cut things off and end with "they lived happily ever after."
Sophomore forward Rebecca Trutter and senior guard Kyle Howell recorded career-best scoring highs, matching 16 and 15 points, respectively.

Junior forward Megan Harrison's 10 points marked her ninth consecutive double-digit scoring game, dating to last season.

Playing in its first game against UCLA (3-0), Cal Poly — without guards against the Bruins in five attempts — held its lead at 36-27 on the second of two Harrison free throws with 14 minutes remaining in the first half.

The Bruins, however, posted a 27-9 run during the ensuing eight minutes to earn a 42-27 lead.

UCLA, which shot 53 percent from the floor, led 52-40 at intermission and allowed Cal Poly to break its double-digit advantage just once in the second half.

Although they lost, a positive for the Mustangs was their season-best 86 percent (15-for-17) from the free throw line.

Thunderbirds missed on all seven attempts from long range.

C al Poly forced five more turnovers than SUU.

Brittany Asplund's pair of three-pointers.

Applauded by three-pointers.

The Mustangs trailed at intermission, 39-38, but secured the lead for certain at 51-50 behind a Wells layup.

C al Poly led by as much as 76-67 with three-and-a-half minutes left in the game, 11-11, before the Rainier posted a 21-9 run during the ensuing seven minutes to earn a 3-20 advantage.

Cal Poly, however, answered by holding Wright State to a single basket during the next four minutes to take a brief 35-34 lead via the first of sophomore Brittnay Appland's pair of three-pointers.

The Mustangs closed the gap to 50-49 with a Wells layup, but were unable to close the gap.

The Mustangs return to the hardwood Thursday, Nov. 29 against San Diego State at 7 p.m. in Mott Gym.

Senior forward Dreshawn Vance scored 14 points off the bench against Southern Utah.

Vance was one of four Mustangs with double-figure lead most of the second half until the Thunderbirds closed to within eight with 3:30 left in the game.

Junior guard Chaz Thomas added 14 for the Mustangs as he hit five of nine shots from the floor. Southern Utah reserve guard Lorenzo Reeler had seven points and senior forward Matt Hanson contributed six points and grabbed five rebounds.

Geoff Payne led all scorers with 29 points for Southern Utah while adding 12 rebounds.

Cal Poly shot 30 percent from the floor, but hit on only 26 percent from long range. Poly forced five more turnovers than Southern Utah, 12 rebounds.

The Mustangs return to action tonight when the team travels to Arizona State for a 6 p.m. PST game.
Football
continued from page 12

Walker Baden shattered Mustang rec-
ords throughout the 2007 season —
most receiving yards (1,407), points (109) and touchdowns (7) in a season as well as receiving touchdowns in a game (6), season (19) and career (32). He was named noc-
turnal in receiving yards per game and he
will open the 2008 season as the
FCX leader in career touchdowns,
rec-
veting yards and yards per catch.

Field anchored a Mustang offen-
sive line that helped Cal Poly rank No. 1
in the nation in total offense, No.
5 in rushing offense, No. 6 in scoring
offense, in passing in 11 games and
27th in sacks allowed.

Lawyer was Cal Poly's blind line-
backer, playing mostly as a down lin-
en. He finished the year with 26
tackles, including 7.5 tackles for lost
yardage and 2.5 sacks. Lawyer also had
eight quarterback hurries, two pass
interceptions and two forced fumbles.

Cox earned the conference's fresh-
man of the year award. Cox started as a
reserve iner at center but was inserted
into the starting lineup at center early
in the season after an injury to Field.
When Field came back, Cox moved to another position on the line
and helped lead Cal Poly to the No. 1
ranking in total offense in the nation.
Cox played the final nine games of the season, playing all three offensive line
positions — center, guard and tackle.
He was part of an offensive line that
surrounded 15 sacks in 11 games, 27th
in the nation.

North Dakota State senior line-
backer Joe Mays was named DeFe-
se Player of the Year while Running
backer Joe Mays was named (8)'
Great West (diach of the Year.

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Classifieds
Thirteen Mustangs land on All-Great West Teams

Led by repeat first-team selections Ramos Barden and Stephen Field, a total of 13 Cal Poly players have been named to the 2007 All-Great West Football Conference teams.

Barden, a junior wide receiver, and Field, a junior offensive lineman, landed on the first-team offense for the third consecutive season. Also earning enough votes for first-team honors is Mustang junior defensive lineman Sean Lawyer.

Although the team will not be playing at home, the Mustangs are hungry for a win. "We're ready to get revenge (against Xavier) in Ohio. We've lost to them once before, but I think we'll do much better this time," senior libero Kristen Jackson said. Although content with the seed Cal Poly was given, Jackson was disappointed that her team will have to travel such a long way for the tournament.

Senior setter Chelsea Hayes seemed optimistic about Friday following the announcement of the host sites. Though she said, "It's going to be a long trip to Ohio." "We've had some of our best practices of the whole season. We really pushed ourselves out on the court and we wanted it to be out there. I'd say we're at our peak in the season, which will be good going up against Xavier," she said.

The team has much to be proud of going into the tournament. Junior middle blocker Jaclyn Houston said, "I could not be more proud of our Big West championship squad and the incredible feats that they have been able to accomplish during the past few months," Stevenson said. "The individual awards received by our players must be viewed as a testimony to a great team effort."

Atherstone led all conference players in kills per game (4.75) and total kills (494) and placed second in both aces per game (0.48) and total aces (59).

The junior sensation smashed a conference record this season by winning six Big West Player of the Week awards and recorded a career-high 32 kills in the Mustangs' 3-1 victory against UC Santa Barbara Nov. 8 and 30 kills in a five-set Oct. 20 win at second-place Long Beach State — a triumph that ultimately provided Cal Poly with its Big West title. Atherstone, whose current 4.75 kills-per-game pace is the second-highest single-season figure in program history, has posted nine matches of 20-plus kills, 18 of 15-plus and reached double digits in 24 of Cal Poly's 28 contests.

A three-time All-Big West first team selection, Atherstone is the first athlete to repeat as conference Player of the Year since Long Beach State's Cheryl Weaver (2006-07). With her senior year remaining, Atherstone has a chance to become the first three-time Player of the Year selection since Long Beach State standout and U.S. Olympian Misty May (1996-98).

Jackson's record-setting 2007 campaign helped her repeat last season's first-team selection. The only libero honored on the first team, Jackson, Jackson recorded 17 digs in a 3-3 victory against Saint Mary's Sept. 8 to become Cal Poly's all-time leader in total kills (494) and placed second in both aces per game (0.48) and total aces (59).

The regular Big West Player of the Week, she ranks seventh among Big West players with 3.66 kills per game. Jackson's .341 hitting percentage is the sixth best figure in the 24-year history of the Big West. Hayes and Atherstone joined Kari DeSoto (1997-99) as the only three-time first team selections in Cal Poly history.

Los Angeles leads all conference players in blocks per game (1.53) and total blocks (161) and is fourth with a .341 hitting percentage. Paced by a career-high 15-block effort in Cal Poly's Nov. 17 season finale, Houston has recorded seven-plus blocks in a match on 10 occasions this season. Offensively, Houston has hit .375 or better in a match 13 times this year. The Oct. 15 Big West Player of the Week, Houston owns 10 matches of double-digit kill figures.

As well as Kyle Atherstone has performed over the past season, she is the first athlete to repeat as conference Player of the Year since Long Beach State standout and U.S. Olympian Misty May (1996-98).