Ralph Nader to visit Cal Poly

Omar Sanchez

Ralph Nader, the politician and consumer advocate most famous for his 2000 presidential election run, is coming to Cal Poly on Sunday to campaign for his third major White House bid.

Nader and his vice-presidential running mate Matt Gonzalez are currently touring California universities to raise awareness for the campaigns, which Nader says is being unfairly shut out from the upcoming presidential debates.

President of Cal Poly's political science club and political science senior Stephen Kristof said his club welcomes the candidate's visit. "We feel as a non-partisan political science club that all views concerning the future of this country are important," he said.

Nader's tour will address the importance of open debates during the presidential election season. There will also be an unrestricted question and answer session after his speech during which audience members can ask about any topic they want, said Nader's Southern California coordinator, Jamie Korh.

Nader plans to address issues he says concern the majority of Americans. These include single-payer health care, United States policy in the Middle East, the need to crack down on corporate crime, sustainable energy solutions, the defense of civil liberties and the need for living wages.

"A majority of the American people support these issues," Nader said on NBC's "Meet the Press" in February.

On the episode, Nader announced he was entering the race as the candidate for the Peace and Freedom party. His name is now on 45 state ballots.

Nader ran for president on the Green Party ticket in 2000 and as an Independent in 2004. "If the Democrats can't landscape the Republicans this year, they ought to just wrap up, close down, emerge in a different form," he responded to critics of his 2000 bid on the show.

Some Democrats accused the 74-year-old of taking away votes from the Democratic presidential nominee Al Gore in the 2000 election, consequently denying Gore the presidency.

"I'm interested in hearing what a third party candidate has to say. I think he'll say some things you wouldn't normally hear from the candidates in the two major parties," psychology junior Benjamin Thompson said.

The Nader/Gonzalez rally will start at 7:30 p.m. this Sunday in the Alex & Faye Spawls Theater located in the Performing Arts Center.

For more information on the event contact (916) 834-9606 or event@votenader.org

Students develop Malawi irrigation system

Brittney Clyde

This summer, a team of two Cal Poly faculty members and five students traveled to Malawi for two weeks to teach rural villages sustainable irrigation practices.

The class, "Appropriate Technology for Improverished Communities," brought together students from different majors who are passionate about improving communities around the world, said Blayne Morgan, an environmental engineering senior and team member.

Before going, the students studied impoverished communities, world hunger and the causes of poverty.

Other team members included Diane Long, retired political science faculty member and team leader, Rod Hoadley, industrial and manufacturing engineering faculty member, social sciences graduate Katlin Chandler, earth science graduate Bridget Hill, and animal science senior Grace Witmore.

After a village chief gave her a piece of property, Atwater said she became curious about how to implement sustainable development in a poor African country.

"I really wanted to include Cal Poly students in my development project," she said.

To see Malawi, page 2

Lawmakers, Bush to meet on rescue plan

Julie Hirschfield Davis and David Ewoo

WASHINGTON — President Bush summoned Barack Obama, John McCain and legislative leaders to an extraordinary White House summit warning Americans and Congress on Wednesday night that failing to act on a $700 billion financial industry bailout could lead to "a long and painful recession."

Earlier, Bush bowed to Democratic demands to limit the pay of executives whose toxicating companies would be rescued.

Democrats and Republicans were nearing agreement on the rescue legislation, the most sweeping government intervention in the market since the Great Depression, and set a meeting early Thursday to draft a bipartisan bill.

Bush acknowledged in a prime time television address Wednesday night that the bailout would be a "rough vote" for lawmakers.

The administration appeared to be softening its resistance to Democrats' demand that the pay of executives be cut in rather than dispersed at all once.

But Bush strongly urged Congress to act quickly to pass the plan, warning Americans in his 12-minute speech that failing to act fast risked dire economic consequences such as disappearing retirement savings, rising foreclosures, lost jobs and closed businesses.

"Without immediate action by Congress, America could slip into a financial panic, and a distressing scenario would unfold," Bush said as he worked to resurrect the unpopular bailout package.

With the administration's original proposal considered dead in Congress, top House leaders issued an upbeat statement late Wednesday saying there was progress toward revised legislation that could pass.

"We are committed to continuing to work cooperatively and on a bipartisan basis to safeguard the interests of the American taxpayers," said Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and House Republican leader John Boehner of Ohio.

Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, the Senate's No. 2 Democrat, expressed optimism that the bill, which would be a "tough vote" for lawmakers, would pass.

The administration proposed the $700 billion bailout, with $300 billion to be released immediately, in the wake of the collapse of major investment bank Lehman Brothers, the bankruptcy of insurer AIG and a string of other financial institutions.

Democrats and Republicans were near agreement on the rescue legislation, which would consider smaller packages totaling $700 billion. But earlier proposals were considered dead in Congress.

For more information on the event contact (916) 834-9606 or event@votenader.org
Malawi
continued from page 1

A resident in Malawi demonstrates the "ped-a-pump," a human-powered water pump. Cal Poly's "Malawi Appropriate Technology Team" created the pump.

The goal was to assess the needs of a particular community with appropriate technology.

"We originally researched small-scale irrigation to increase crop production," Arwater said. "We were looking for a way to introduce irrigation in ways that was sustainable — meaning human-powered.

The team came up with a bicycle-powered water pump called a "ped-a-pump," after discovering that certain villages in Malawi didn't have irrigation and could not grow enough food. The pump allows villagers to pump their own water.

After crafting the device, the team wanted to promote the ped-a-pump to them especially.

It was well-received, though we did run into challenges we didn't anticipate," Arwater said. "For instance, many of the villages were so poor that they had never had a bicycle, the bicycles had chains falling off or the pedals were stripped.

Some of the women asked the team if a hand-crank could be added to make it more accommodating.

The team also joined forces with Cooperation Ministries Development Program (COMDEP) a Malawi-based aid organization. The team helped COMDEP out with other projects and the two groups were able to pay for a topographic survey of 16 hectares of land.

"The survey will be done by the ministry of irrigation and that data will help design the irrigation system of that region," Arwater said. "This will help multiple villages.

The files from the survey will be available in four weeks. Currently, the Malawi team is looking for funding to take the trip, which was estimated at $3,600 per person.

They raised the money by asking for donations from family and friends, writing grant proposals and holding a California Pizza Kitchen fundraiser.

Once there, the team demonstrated how to use the device to inhabitants of several different villages.

Since women are primarily responsible for feeding the families, the team wanted to promote the ped-a-pump to them especially.

"It was well-received, though we did run into

Economy
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Congress could work through the weekend and pass the measure, possibly by the time markets open on Monday.

The heart of the unprecedented plan, unveiled less than a week ago, involves the government buying up sour assets of shaky financial firms in a bid to keep them from going under and to stave off a potentially severe recession.

Treasurer Secretary Henry Paulson and Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke met most of the day at the Capitol, shuttling between public hearings on the proposal and private meetings with lawmakers.

Presidential politics intruded, as well, when McCain said he intended to return to Washing-

ton and called on Bush to convene criti-
s-meetings until an agreement was reached on legislation.

"We agree that key chang-es should be made to the administration's initial proposal. It must include basic-good-government principles, including rigorous and independent oversight, strong executive compensation standards, and protections for taxpayers," Pelosi and Boehner said in their statement. Earlier, Paulson agreed to demands from critics in both parties to limit the pay packages of Wall Street executives whose companies would benefit from the proposed bailout.

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North Korea orders UN nuclear inspectors from plant

George Jahn

North Korea moved closer to restarting its nuclear arms program Wednesday, barring U.N. inspectors from its main plutonium reprocessing plant and announcing it would reconvert the facility that provided the material for its atomic test blasts.

The move fed fears about a resurgent nuclear North Korea, but there also is speculation it might be motivated by negotiating strategy. Pyongyang could use the year needed to restart its sole reprocessing plant to wrest more concessions from the U.S. and others seeking to end the atomic program.

Still, coming amid reports leader Kim Jong Il suffered a stroke, the nuclear revival is raising nervousness about a breakdown in the international attempt to coax the North out of its confrontational isolation — a point addressed Wednesday by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

U.S. diplomats are talking with other nations involved in bargaining with the North at this week's meeting of the U.N. General Assembly.

North Korea had signaled in recent days that it would break off the disarmament deal, announcing it was making "thorough preparations" to restart Yongbyon.

"What they've done is trouble," said Gregory L. Schulte, the chief U.S. delegate to the IAEA, South Korean Prime Minister Han Seung-soo called the North's action "very unfortunate" and "very regrettable" and urged patience in dealing with the country.

But their comments were measured, reflecting concerns that hard-line condemnation could backfire by accelerating the North's move to restore its nuclear operations.

North Korea's recent moves have deepened the growing game about leadership in Pyongyang, where Kim is reportedly ill and possibly incapacitated.

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Fall Job Fair

Thursday, October 16, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Each year, over 400 employers interview students at Career Services for a variety of positions. Find out more by registering with MustangJOBS to check out employers interviewing for your major.

On-campus recruitment is your opportunity to:
• Interview with employers who want Cal Poly students
• Explore a great job search resource
• Meet employers and learn about their organizations through Networking Sessions

Fall Job Fair

Thursday, October 16, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. over 175 companies will be recruiting for recent graduates and college students.

For more information and to register, please visit MustangJOBS.

Career Services
Division of Student Affairs

KICK START YOUR JOB SEARCH!

Whiether it's a career position after graduation, an internship/co-op position while you're in school or just information on potential careers, Career Services has resources to assist you.

On-campus recruiting is your opportunity to:

Interview with employers who want Cal Poly students
Expore a great job search resource
Meet employers and learn about their organizations through Networking Sessions

Contact Phone: 805-756-2501
www.careerservices.calpoly.edu
Davis

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said one of the witnesses who testified at Davis’ trial later confessed to killing the officer.

The fresh doubts, coupled with Davis’ claims of innocence, have drawn support from high-profile leaders like President Jimmy Carter and South Africa Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Amnesty International has organized protests as far away as Paris, and Sharpton has helped lead rallies calling for a new trial.

Amid the concerns, the state pardons board postponed Davis’ execution in July 2007 less than 24 hours before it was to occur. The courts have since thoroughly vetted the case.

A divided Georgia Supreme Court this year has twice rejected his request for a new trial, and the pardons board turned down his bid for clemency this month after considering the case again.

The U.S. Supreme Court issued its last-minute stay Tuesday night after Davis had already turned down his last meal and prepared his final statement.

If I saw him, I’d punch him in the face,” the victim’s mother said of Davis. “I am angry at the whole family. I don’t know how they have such a following.”

Nuclear

continued from page 3

“Now that he may be weakened — or who knows, dead — there may be emerging ... a possible clique of hard-liners who may want to play hardball again,” he added.

Paki stan finds suspected U.S. spy drone

Mustir Ahmad

The Pakistani army said Wednesday it found the wreckage of a suspected U.S. spy plane near the Afghan border, but blamed a malfunction — not ground fire — for the crash.

Three Pakistani intelligence officials said troops and tribesmen had shot down the aircraft late Tuesday near Jalal Khel, a village in Pakistan’s South Waziristan region.

The government says it is trying to resolve the dispute diplomatically. However, the army has vowed to defend Pakistan’s territory “at all cost,” and Tuesday’s incident was at least the third this month in which Pakistani troops have reportedly opened fire to counter an incursion.

A senior U.S. official challenged the account. “We’re not aware of any drones being down,” said the official, who also asked for anonymity because of the diplomatic sensitivities of the issue.
National

DETROIT (AP) — A California woman who escaped from a Michigan prison 32 years ago and lived on the lam as a suburban mother was sentenced to probation Wednesday, five months after her capture.

"I knew for years this was coming," said Susan LeFevre.

Wayne County Circuit Judge David Groner said LeFevre had already served 14 months in prison on a drug conviction when she escaped.

**HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)** — Connecticut Democrats said that Sen. Joe Lieberman is campaigning for the Republican presidential candidate and criticizing his own party's nominee agreed Wednesday to circulate a resolution to censure the veteran politician but won't consider acting on it until after Election Day.

The state party's central committee Wednesday agreed to send copies of the resolution to every Democratic town committee in the state. The resolution condemns Lieberman for speaking at the Republican's convention and backing John McCain.

Party officials said the group plans to get input from the town officials and revisit the issue in December.

International

TOKYO (AP) — A quick-smiling former Olympic skater- diver with a penchant for tailored suits and manga comic books took power as Japan's third prime minister in two years Wednesday, vowing to boost a languishing economy.

Lawnmowers elected Tao Sei, a 68-year-old conservative politician with the swing and known for his straight talk, after voting at a by-election in a rural constituency.

He had been called the new premier he also vowed to revitalize the ruling party from short-term memories of corruption.

**KAUHAJOKI, Finland (AP)** — Police released details Wednesday about the victims of a school massacre in western Finland, saying eight children and two men were killed by the 22-year-old gunman.

They also confirmed the shooter was Matti Saari, a student at the school who was questioned by police three months before his rampage about YouTube clips showing him firing a handgun. Saari was released Monday because police said they found no reason to keep him in custody.

**KAIKUNO, Japan (AP)** — Japan's prime minister Wednesday ordered the annual testing of a deep-sea oil drilling rig for safety before a 1995 explosion killed seven workers and led to the end of the country's offshore drilling.

In his first news conference as premier, Naoto Kan said the government has set guidelines for the test, which he said will show the rig is safe for work. Kan also signaled his intent to keep up pressure on North Korea to stop its nuclear program.

**HANOVER, Germany (AP)** — German authorities have arrested a 36-year-old man who allegedly planned to blow up the Turkish Consulate in Hannover. The man was arrested in a raid last week on a home in the eastern city of Magdeburg.

**SEOUL (AP)** — South Korea's Constitutional Court ruled Wednesday that a South Korean lawmaker's gun permit should be revoked because he is a member of a leftist political party.

The court ruled the lawmaker, who had been a member of the left-wing Workers' Party, does not meet the requirements for a gun permit.
Students, professors and community members crowded the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center (PAC) to hear author Larry Watson speak Wednesday evening. Watson was here to discuss his book, “Montana 1948,” which was chosen by PREFACE & SLO County Reads to be the featured novel for its summer 2008 program. The novel, one of his seven published books, is also the winner of both The Milkweed National Fiction Prize, and the Mountain & Plains Bookseller Association Regional Book Award.

Traditionally a large part of Cal Poly’s Week of Welcome (WOW) freshman orientation program, PREFACE has expanded to include more areas of the community. Now seven years old, it joined with the SLO County Library, and has grown into a series of events that includes more than just students. In addition to the estimated 3,500 incoming freshmen who read the book, many community members also took part, holding discussion groups in local libraries and other off-campus locations, and showing the success the program has had to diversify the events. Indeed, part of the reason that “Montana 1948” was chosen, is because of the potential of its many themes to resonate with a varied audience:

The story, which revolves around a conflicted family struggling to cope with the uncov red secrets of an uncle, who is an abusive doctor in the community, has no shortage of complex and timely topics that are broad enough to appeal to a variety of people. Besides tackling family and community issues, Watson’s choice of a protagonist also provided a poignant perspective for the reader to ponder. By telling the story of a grown man reflecting on his childhood, Watson explores the universal transformation from child to adult, including the necessary disillusionment that accompanies one’s departure from the innocence of youth.

Watson’s presentation in the PAC was subdued and thoughtful and focused on the reasons behind many of these themes. This included much time spent discussing the inspirations he finds for writing, including the ubiquitous experiences he observes in the people around him. For this novel in particular, Watson points to a Midwestern Literature class that he taught in the mid-1990s as a large motivation. When the focus of the class turned to the relationship between the classroom texts and his students’ personal experiences, Watson said he knew he had something. It was then that he realized, “Where [he] came from offered much of what he considered to be one of the novel’s most important themes: silence.”

The class also enlightened Watson to the unique uniformity of the Midwestern region of the United States. While not from Montana himself, his North Dakota upbringing gives him the familiarity with the American Midwest that he uses to make his novel so realistic and relatable. “I wanted a frontier front, a Wild West undercurrent,” Watson said, explaining why he picked that specific setting.

Watson also stressed Montana’s conduciveness to what he considers to be one of the novel’s most important themes: silence. “The silence of repression, the avoidance of truth, the fear of embarrassment from one’s community, and of challenging authority,” all flourished against the background of the place Montana, and played a large part of the “unhealthy silence” that he explored with the story. In the same vein, he also emphasized the importance of the novel’s specific time setting to accomplishing his goal. The period following World War II saw America at the cusp of what Watson described as the “buttoned-up 1950s,” and fit well with Watson’s theme of “the devastating consequences of silence, the covering up, the concealing.”

While stressing that “none of this really happened,” Watson named some of his family members as loose models for characters in the book. Like the protagonist, both Watson’s father and grandfather were sheriffs and, like David’s father Wes, Watson’s father left his work in law enforcement to practice as an attorney. His focus on exploring secrecy also explains the sparse narrative of the novel, which often lends itself in the description of the characters and the Montana landscape.
McBride entertains library

Alex Kacik

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Cal Poly sophomore Chase McBride's transition from Montana native to California musician seemed effortless as he serenaded his audience with an acoustic guitar and sultry voice.

The upcoming musician performed barefoot, perched on his stool in the corner of the second floor of the Robert E. Kennedy Library Wednesday afternoon to promote this week's What's New Tour. The tour highlights the vast changes that have been made throughout campus.

McBride's mellow folk-rock style similar to Jack Johnson's attracted a crowd of about 40 students. Most women gazed at the 20-year-old as a welcome distraction from studying during McBride's renditions of James Taylor and Dispatch along with original music.

"The music creates a nice atmosphere and brings people in," said Austin Melo, who plays banjo on McBride's EP.

McBride was signed by local recording company When It Hits Records and is working on his debut EP "A Light Through the Window," which he hopes will be done by late fall.

"They were stoked on the recordings and let me open for them at a dorm (Trinity Hall), McBride said. I started playing solo acoustic songs I had written for friends in the dorm (Trinity Hall)," McBride said. "People were digging it."

McBride caught his break when he asked the local band Still Time to listen to his recordings he made using his laptop.

"I got my start playing music with many bands back in Montana, but when I moved down here, I started playing solo acoustic songs I had written for friends in the dorm (Trinity Hall)." McBride said. "People were digging it."

Kristen Hays

Chase McBride plays mellow folk-rock style music at Robert E. Kennedy Library as students watch.
A English instructor (he is currently a visiting professor at Marquette University, and has previously taught at the University of Wisconsin), Watson seemed at ease in front of an audience comprised of roughly half students, and was ready to take their questions at the end of his presentation. Fielding queries about topics from his beliefs about current events, to his past novels, Watson was cautious to recognize his authority on some issues.

He did, however, acknowledge one of his strengths: “I am observant,” he said, articulating what his presentation alluded to all night. To Watson, being observant of what surrounds you, always taking in the truth, even in the midst of silence, sometimes provides truth that outweighs the findings of the sharpest mind.
Greenwashing away eco-sins of the past

If you’re a casual reader of national media publications then you are probably fairly aware of the recent buzz being generated about issues like sustainability and global warming. Even for us sustainability nerds, the constant onslaught of cookie-cutter articles and bullet points about corporations’ laudatory about the environment can frankly get, well, annoying.

But even worse is the deceptive marketing used primarily by oil and utility companies. In today’s world, we’re all a bit green about the environment, and it’s in our best interest to ensure that we’re not taken for a ride. Even though most companies are making a serious effort to become more environmentally friendly, there are some shady practices that are taking place in the name of clean energy.

The main objective of greenwashing is the same: to make us think that a company with an awful environmental track record is actually doing something environmentally meaningful. This is dishonest.

Making us think that a company with an awful environmental track record is actually doing something environmentally meaningful is dishonest.

This is an important line of thought. Are we accepting alternative energy sources simply because they are available, or is there a chance they are for the greater good? Environmentalists believe the answer is yes, but don’t we have to take time with more public relations mishaps.

Here are some of the problems with greenwashing:

Most obviously, greenwashing is misleading. It attempts to deceive us, making us think that a company with an awful environmental track record actually has a great one. Not all environmental advertising is dishonest, of course, but any advertising that can legitimately be considered greenwashing could result in consumer and regulator complacency.

Instead of commenting spitefully at the irony of an oil company trying to help the environment, maybe I should be encouraging them in their efforts. After all, change happens only if we demand it. If companies are changing, right? If the oil companies have any sort of long-term vision for their businesses, they will have to diversify and have new energy products ready when oil eventually dries up; big oil will be forced to go green if it’s the only alternative to no oil.

I get some minor consolation from knowing that one day petroleum won’t be the cheapest form of energy. Like many others, I’m just waiting for a definitive shift in the energy industry, a moment when a brilliant start-up comes and shakes things up, much like the PC revolution back in the early 90s.

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On one hand, I feel that any effort to develop renewables should be embraced, regardless of who is footing the bill or what their motives may be. On the other hand, the planned 550 megawatts worth of BP installations seem like a drop in the oil barrel for a company netting $20 billion in profits every year (in Alaska alone the company plans to invest $5 billion in the next five years on oil exploration and production). And while their planned installations may account for one-fifth of all wind energy production in the United States, they will amount to less than 1 percent of worldwide wind energy production in 2008.

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Ben Eckold is a business senior with a minor in sustainable environments.

Greenwashing may also engender cynicism. Consumers come to expect self-congratulatory ads from even the most environmentally backward corporations, this could render consumers skeptical of even sincere portrayals of legitimate corporate environmental successes. Well-meaning companies—companies committed to responsible environmental behavior—have every reason to be critical of companies that greenwash.

Shell and British Petroleum are two of the largest oil producers in the world and are quickly emerging as leaders in the world of renewable energy. Shell is one of the top five wind power generators in the United States, while BP plans to produce 550 megawatts of wind energy in 2007, one-sixth of the total projected US wind energy output, according to the Bureau Global. Yet I’m wondering if the big oil companies have suddenly found eco-religion, or if the recent developments are simply an attempt to greenwash away their climate-spoiling sins of the past.

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Ben Eckold is a business senior with a minor in sustainable environments. Starting next week, "The Green Spot" will run every in this section every Tuesday. The column features a variety of essays on environmental and sustainability issues.

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Managing Editor: Giana Magnoli
How to play the Daily Dots

1. Find a playing partner.
2. Each person takes a turn drawing one line connecting two dots. Only horizontal and vertical lines can be drawn.
3. The first person to close a square, wins that square. To keep track, place winners initials in the box.
4. Once one square is closed, that player gets to go again. They continue until no more squares can be closed.
5. Player with the most squares wins.

Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein
Bonds

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ing when he said he never knowingly used performance-enhancing drugs during his 2003 grand jury testimony. In asking that some of the charges be dropped, Bonds' lawyers argued that prosecutors asked ambiguous and con-

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 JUSTIN MCLAIN


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gressive.

BSC consideration in December. The Bear company line con-

stantly asserts that the team likes to focus on what it can do, rather than what overcome else is doing. So let’s take a quick look at how Cal has progressed in its most glar-

ing areas of weakness.

First off, the wideouts have progressed at the expected pace, and coach Jeff Tedford reluctantly admitted following the Maryland loss that there are indeed some growing pains at the position. Still, the receivers have been great in blocks, something you couldn’t say about last year’s star-studded unit.

Redshirt freshman Michael Calvani could be fairly healthy for the first time this season by Sat-

urday, and Nyea Bootoyer’s hands are continuing to soften. Some have lamented the play calling and the receivers’ lack of involve-

ment, but offensive coordinator Frank Cignetti could relinquish those concerns against the lowly Rams of Colorado State (and the MWC) if he didn’t do so already in a fourth-quarter passing binge against the Terrapins.

But more importantly, if the Bears defense is to play at a BCS-caliber level, it must get better play from its safeties. I understand the topic’s been beaten to death by this point, but if I was a betting man, I’d wager that defensive coordi-

ator Bob Gregory won’t name a sure starter for Saturday by the time he’s released to the Bay Area media dogs per usual Thursday.

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Cal Poly seeks to continue Big West supremacy

Zamora gives Mustangs OT win at home

Feds flash glimpse of Bonds trial strategy, say they have positive tests