One nation, under green
Second annual Focus the Nation draws crowd

Samantha MacConnell
ASSIGNING EDITOR

Hundreds of students attended the second annual Focus the Nation at Cal Poly, which emphasized the need to build a sustainable economy. The event is a nationwide teach-in that aims to educate attendants about the future of sustainability through guest speakers, panels and other events.

Many of the panel guests were business professionals who spoke about their business's sustainability.

"You have to find people who are knowledgeable on the topic and willing to speak to a large crowd," said Megan Farrell, business-senior and director of Focus the Nation. "The outreach was definitely the most work, which was getting everybody on board and into panels."

Topics ranged from technology to the culture of sustainability. Climate justice, exploring sustainable business practices, green innovation at Cal Poly, green jobs and policies for a sustainable future were just some subjects presented by the panels.

"The talks about government policy and how it can shape where this whole movement is going really interested me," said Col-lin Sprekle, architecture-senior and attendant of the Policies for a Sustainable Future panel.

"I feel like I got some pretty useful details and information about what exactly it's going to take to move things along and sort of the time frames we're looking at."

Focus the Nation began on Tuesday with a Green Job Fair, which allowed more than 400 students to meet with 23 sustainable companies.

"I did hear back from a lot of the vendors and many of them said they were very pleased with the caliber of the students here and many of them will definitely be hiring students," said Erica Janoff, industrial engineer-senior and Green Job fair coordinator.

There was a sustainable project showcase that displaced campus projects Tuesday evening and student-led sustainability workshops Wednesday.

Empower Poly disc jockeys in the University Union Plaza entertained students from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. yesterday playing tracks powered by solar energy. Hip Hop Congress B-Boyz also performed break dancing.

Different guest speakers and panelists spoke in Chumash Auditorium throughout yesterday as part of the nationwide event, Focus the Nation, which aims to educate people about sustainability.

Senate struggles on economic stimulus in nighttime session

David Espo
ASSOCIATES PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate moderates worked to cut billions of dollars from economic stimulus legislation Thursday in hopes of clearing the way for passage as the government shut out grass new jobless figures and President Barack Obama warned of more bad news ahead.

With partisan tensions rising, several Republican attempts to re-make the bill — with higher tax cuts, lower spending and relief for homeowners — failed on party-line votes.

"The time for talk is over. The time for action is now," declared Obama as the Senate plodded through a fourth day of debate on the legislation at the heart of his economic recovery plan. He implored lawmakers in both parties to "rise to this moment."

Obama added he would "love to see additional improvements" in the bill, a gesture to the moderates from both parties who were at work trying to trim the $920 billion price tag.

Increasingly, the events that mattered most were not the long roll calls on the Senate floor, but the private conversations in which the White House and Democratic leaders sought — either with the support of a large group of centrist lawmakers or without them — to clear the bill at the heart of the president's recovery program.

"As I have explained to people in that group, they cannot hold the president of the United States hostage," said Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. "If they think they're going to rewrite this bill and Barack Obama is going to walk away from what he is trying to do for the American people, they've got another Bill, page 2.
Bill
continued from page 1

other thought coming.”

Republicans countered that neither the presi­
dent nor Democratic congressional leaders have been willing to seek common ground on the first
major bill of the new administration.

“We’re not having meaningful negotiations... It’s a bad way to start,” said Sen. John McCain of
Arizona, who is Obama’s opponent in last fall’s
presidential campaign.

In an Associated Press interview, he said Obama
“tells the Democratic leaders he’s flexible but that
out Republican senators are still she and now
here in the Senate, and I don’t think that’s good.
The Senate is working for working across party
lines has irritated fellow Republicans in the past,
but he was not taking part in bipartisan talks on
reform of the stimulus bill.

Instead, he advanced an alternative that high­
lighted the differences between the two political
parties.

It carried a price tag of $512 billion, less than
half the White House-backed measure. The ma­
tum of that was in the form of a $350 billion cut in
the payroll tax and reductions in the lowest in­
come tax brackets.

The proposal also included provisions to help
the battered housing industry, including the
$75 billion tax credit for home buyers that passed
separately on Wednesday.

Another proposal, by Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev.,
was designed to reduce mortgage rates to as low as
4 percent for millions of homeowners. It was
defeated on a vote of 62-35.

Sen. John Thune of South Dakota was the third
Republican to try. He proposed a stimulus con­
sisting of tax cuts and unemployment benefits for
 laid-off workers, at a total cost of $440 billion, but
lost, 60-37.

Nearly 20 senators from both parties met twice
during the day and reviewed a list of possible cuts
in spending in the measure and were ready with ad­
ditions for the bill, which will be part of the next
work session on Wednesday.

There was no sign the group of self-appointed
compromisers had agreed to support the redac­
tions, but even if they had the numbers were far
short of what some were looking for.

“The president made a strong case for a pro­
posal that would be in the neighborhood of $800
billion,” said Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, who met
with Obama at the White House on Wednes­
day.

Yet several hours later, Obama told reporters aboard Air Force One the legislation was already
within range of what he wanted.

Obama acknowledged that is a blend of federal
spending and tax cuts that supporters say can create or
preserve at least 3 million jobs. They cite the tax cuts
for businesses as a way to increase investment in
jobs for benefits, worker training, food stamps, health
 care, education and public works projects such as highways and mass transit.

Critics contend the bill is bloated with spend­ing
for items that won’t create jobs, such as smok­ing
 prevention programs or efforts to combat a
future pandemic flu outbreak.

And while polls show Obama is popular and the
public supports recovery legislation, Repub­
licans have maneuvered in the past several days to
identify and ridicule relatively small items in the
bill.

Whatever the public relations battle, Republi­
cans have tried without success so far to reduce
spending in the measure and were ready with ad­
tional attempts during the day.

The legislation is a key early test for Obama, who
has been in office just two weeks and has
made economic recovery his top priority.

His warnings have become a daily drum, and in
reminders to employees at the Department of
Energy, he said, “Today, we learned that last week
the number of new unemployment claims jumped
—jumped—to 626,000. Tomorrow, we’re expecting
another dismal report on top of the 2.6 mil­
ion jobs that we lost last year. We’ve lost 400,000
jobs each month for the last two months.”

The new jobless claims were reported by the Labor
Department, and the total was the highest
since October 1982, when the economy was in a
deep recession.

In this Nov. 18, 2008 file photo, reviewed by the U.S. Military, detainees are seen from a tower overlooking a common area for
Guantanamo detainees in the Camp 4 detention facility on the U.S. Naval Base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. President Barack
Obama began overhauling U.S. treatment of terror suspects, signing orders on Thursday, Jan. 22, 2009, to close the Guantanamo
Bay detention center.

Lara Jakes
ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon’s senior judge over­
seeing terror trials at Guantanamo Bay dropped charges Thurs­
day against an al-Qaida suspect in the 2000 USS Cole bombing, upholding President Barack Obama’s order to freeze military tribunals there.

The charges against suspected al-Qaida bomber Abd al-Ra­
him al-Nashiri marked the last active Guantanamo war crimes
case.

The legal move by Susan J. Crawford, the top legal authority
for military trials at Guantanamo, brings all cases into compli­
ance with Obama’s Jan. 22 executive order to halt terrorist court proceedings at the U.S. Navy base in Cuba.

Pentagon spokesman Geoff Morrell said Crawford dismissed
the charges against al-Nashiri without prejudice. That means
new charges can be brought again later. He will remain in pris­
ton for the time being.

“It was her decision, but it reflects the fact that the president
has issued an executive order which mandates that the mili­
tary commissions be halted, pending the outcome of several re­
views of our operations down at Guantanamo,” Morrell said
Thursday night.

The ruling also gives the White House time to review the le­
gen cases of all 245 terror suspects held there and decide whether
they should be prosecuted in the U.S. or released to other na­
tions.

Obama was expected to meet with families of Cole and 9/11
victims at the White House on Friday afternoon to announce
the move.

Seventeen U.S. sailors died on Oct. 12, 2000, when an al-Qaida
suicide bombers steered an explosives-laden boat into the Cole,
a guided-missile destroyer, as it sat in a Yemen port.

The Pentagon last summer charged al-Nashiri, a Saudi Ara­
bian, with “organizing and directing” the bombing and planned
to seek the death penalty in the case.

In his Jan. 22 order, Obama promised to shut down the Guan­tamano prison within a year. The order also froze all Guan­
tamano detainee legal cases pending a three-month review as
the Obama administration decides where — or whether — to
prosecute the suspects who have been held there for years, most
without charges.

Two military judges granted Obama’s request for a delay in
other cases.

But a third military judge, Army Col. James Pohl, declared
Obama’s order by scheduling a Feb. 9 arraignment for al-
Nashiri at Guantanamo. That left the decision on whether to
continue to Crawford, whose delay on announcing what she
did would do prompted widespread concern at the Pentagon that
she would refuse to follow orders and allow the court process to
continue.

Retired Navy CmDr. Kirk S. Lippold, the commanding of­
cifer of the Cole when it was bombed in Yemen in October 2000, said he will be among family members of Cole and 9/11
victims who are meeting with Obama at the White House on
Friday afternoon.

Groups representing victims’ families were angered by Obama’s order, charging they had waited too long already to see
the alleged attackers brought to court.

“I was certainly disappointed with the decision to delay the military commissions process,” Lippold, now a defense adviser to
Military Families United, said in an interview Thursday night.

“We have already waited eight years. Justice delayed is justice
denied. We must allow the military commission process to go
forward.”

Crawford was appointed to her post in 2007 by then-Presi­
dent George W. Bush. She was in the news last month when she
said interrogation methods used on one suspect at Guantanamo
amounted to torture. The Bush administration had maintained
it did not torture.

Last year, al-Nashiri said during a Guantanamo hearing that
he confessed to helping plot the Cole bombing only because
he was tortured by U.S. interrogators. The CIA has admitted he
was among terrorist suspects subjected to waterboarding, which
simulates drowning, in 2002 and 2003 while being interrogated
in secret CIA prisons.
All the buzz: Pot scandal jolts Japan’s sumo world

Eric Talmadge
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sumo wrestlers with pot bellies, yes. Sumo wrestlers with pot? Now that’s harder to grapple with.

In the past six months, four wrestlers have been kicked out of the ancient sport for allegedly smoking marijuana, creating the biggest drugs-in-sports scandal that Japan has ever seen.

Although three of the wrestlers who have been expelled from the sport were from Russia, the arrest last week of a 25-year-old Japanese athlete who goes by the ring name of Wakakirin for possession of marijuana has raised concern that use of the drug may be more widespread than originally thought.

In Japan, sumo wrestlers are not seen as athletes in the way that baseball or tennis players are. A photo of U.S. swimming star Michael Phelps with a marijuana pipe got wide play in the media here, but nowhere near the consternation of the sumo scandal.

The sting of the busts in sumo — which only recently introduced doping tests — was made all the worse because of the breakdown in Japan’s still relatively drug-free environment. Marijuana use, in particular, is rising rapidly despite a stiff punishment — up to five years in prison for possession.

“We are appalled by his utter folly,” The Asahi, a major newspaper, said in an outraged editorial.

Some young people casually try pot. It is vital that we educate them on the risks of this drug from a fairly early age.

More than being simply a drug issue, however, the scandal has been amplified by the fact that it involves one of the world’s oldest and most tradition-bound sports — and one that is solidly rooted in religious purification ritual.

Sumo wrestlers are expected to live the old-school life of a disciple. They wear their hair in top-knots, dress in traditional robes and train in communal “stables.” Their schedules are tightly regulated and the word of their coaches, who are still called “masters,” is absolute and final.

Sumo aficionados like to note that former grand champion Musashimaru, of Hawaii, had a 10 p.m. curfew.

Japanese sumo wrestler Wakakirin (right), 25, whose real name is Shinichi Suzukawa, was arrested for possession of marijuana on Jan. 29, 2009, becoming the fourth wrestler in Japan’s ancient sport to become involved in a widening drug scandal.
Briefs

State

LOST ANGELES (AP) — An exotic dancer was set on fire outside the nightclub where she worked only Thursday, burning more than 60 percent of her body, police said. They were searching for two suspects.

A woman and a man called the 27-year-old dancer outside around 1 a.m. and then drove her with flammable liquid next to the Babies & Beer sports club in the San Fer-

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — A body found in Sharks Cove near Montecito is that of a dancer missing since last month. The coroner's bureau of the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department says the body of 27-year-old dancer was discovered in the ocean Wednesday afternoon and recovered.

Zentinsky and a friend were kayaking on Jan. 25 when their craft began taking on water and both tried to swim to safety. The friend reached land and called 911 but a search for Zentinsky over the next two days was unsuccessful.

National

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A radical activist who helped set a $1 million fire to protest research on genetically modified crops was sentenced Thursday to nearly 22 years in prison — even more than the prosecution recommended. Mary Mason decided to "re­
call her grievances beyond the norms of civilized societies" through fire and destruction, LUX District Judge Paul Maloney said.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Federal agents investigating a car bombing that critically injured a state medical board official fo­cused Thursday on a tire the vic­
tim reportedly was trying to move from his driveway just before the blast. Dr. Trent P. Pierce, 54, re­
mained in critical condition at a hospital Thursday, a day after the bomb blew up as he prepared to leave for work. The chairman of the Arkansas State Medical Board lost his left eye in the blast, suf­
fired burns and was pelted with shrapnel.

International

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Sri Lanka's prime min­
ister rejected calls for a cease-fire Thursday from donor countries worried by reports of growing civilian casualties in the South Asian nation's civil war, instead demanding the Tamil Tiger rebel­lions unconditional surrender.

Sri Lankan forces captured the rebel biggest sea base, effectively cutting off their supply point and pushing them to the brink of de­

BEIJING (AP) — The last known politician held hostage by Colombia's main leftist insurg­
cy was airlifted to freedom Thursday after six years in capt­

Provincial lawmaker Sigfredo Lopez was the ninth and last hostage released this week by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia in what the rebels said was a unilateral act aimed at starting talks on an exchange of hostages for imprisoned guerril­las.

WORD ON THE STREET

"What will you be doing during this rainy weekend?"

"I'm performing in 'Impact,' Or­

chestr's Dance Company's con­
cert. I can't wait to see how it goes. I'm going to be there. My family is coming to watch me. Come see 'Impact!'"

— Kathleen Helm, recreation junior

"Friday and Saturday I'm going to the Puritie Conference at First Baptist Church. Other than that, I'm going to catch up on sleep and enjoy that.

— Tyler Bieroz, architecture freshman

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haps personally closest on the court to her ideological opposite, Antonin Scalia. The justices have vacationed to­gether — a photo in her office shows the two atop an elephant — and routinely mark New Year's Eve with an elaborate meal prepared by their spouses.

Ginsburg was a federal appeals court judge in Washington before President Bill Clinton appointed her. She served as a lawyer for the Ameri­
can Civil Liberties Union before that and argued six cases before the high court.

The new cancer was discovered during a routine, annual exam late last month at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. A CAT scan revealed a tumor measuring about 1 centimeter across at the center of the pancreas, the court said.

The court offered few details about the operation or her anticipated course of treatment.

Pancreatic cancer is one of the most deadly cancers. Nearly 30,000 cases a year are diagnosed and overall less than 5 percent of patients survive five years.

The reason: Fewer than one in 10 cases are diagnosed at an early stage — like Ginsburg's appears to be — be­
fore the cancer has begun spreading through the abdomen and beyond. That's because early pancreatic cancer produces few symptoms other than vague indigestion.

"I'm hoping it doesn't rain. But I plan on buckling down and studying for my midterms and writing my French paper because I want to show my professors that I am learning the material."

— Taylor Bui, English junior

"I was going to continue to go party on Saturday night."

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"I'm going back home to L.A. to visit family and then I'm going to go party on Saturday night."

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She urged Congress to change the law to allow lawsuits like Ledbet­
ter's. Just last week, Obama signed the change into law.

Ginsburg was born in New York City She attended Harvard Law School and is per­
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fore the cancer has begun spreading through the abdomen and beyond. That's because early pancreatic cancer produces few symptoms other than vague indigestion.
Kick back for some mellow jams and put on your dancing shoes for a birthday celebration for one of reggae’s legends. Downtown Brew’s Co. will be hosting its third-annual Bob Marley Birthday Bash Friday night, led by reggae musicians and enthusiasts Revolution, Native Elements and the Kicks.

Local nine-piece reggae band Revolution will headline the show once again, playing Bob Marley cover songs in honor of his birthday, as well as songs from their new album, “Conscious Development.”

“It’s a really good day to celebrate Bob Marley. He opened up the door for a lot of reggae musicians. He’s the one that put (reggae) on the map. He’s given us the chance to even be able to play the music and have it be accepted for what it is,” said Revolution drummer Tim Cordero.

According to Kori Newman, Downtown Brew’s booking and venue coordinator, this show has sold out the past two years. She said they expect a full house of about 400 people.

“Everybody (who goes) is positive and happy. It’s a real party atmosphere with lots of great music. Primarily, the night will be focused on Bob Marley and celebrating reggae music and what he did for the reggae community,” Newman said.

San Francisco-based reggae band Native Elements will also take the stage. Like Revolution, Native Elements will be performing original songs as well as Bob Marley covers.

“As a reggae band, you got to throw in some Bob Marley covers,” said Mike Heuser, Native Elements trombone player.

Native Elements plan to play about five Bob Marley cover songs including, “Thank You,” “Waiting in Vain” and “Could You Be Loved?”

This will be Native Elements’ first time playing a show at Downtown Brew.

“We heard it’s a good place to play,” said Heuser. “(Revolution) are hometown favorites down there, so they’ll draw a crowd,” he said.

“Bob Marley had a really strong message on how he thought the world should be. He was a pretty powerful man,” said landscape architecture senior and reggae fan Ian Casey.

“It’s great to see his music kept alive,” Newman said.

Bob Marley, legendary Jamaican singer-songwriter and leader of the reggae community, was born Feb. 6, 1945 and died at the young age of 35 from melanoma.

Due to the popularity of the event, it will be restricted to 21-and-over. The show will start at 8 p.m. and last until 2 a.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at Boo Boo Records, Downtown Brew box office or online at ticketweb.com for $8.
The dreaded April 15th
Not as scary once you get to know it

When a third candidate of Obama’s administration is caught not paying taxes, it’s enough to make you wonder. People earning that much money can’t even figure out how to pay their taxes, how is the average American supposed to?

Taxes have been a part of American history since colonial times and yet we still can’t seem to get it together. With all the new rules added each year, the penalties for mistakes are much higher. It would be great to turn away from ilcficiing a and the feminine derivative “that girl.” Our generation has created—Wears what—Applies to both—uses only the pronouns that apply to the most probable person. Will we even teach our children this information would be very helpful.

In light of this, I think it’s only right that we have some sort of education class before we’re forced into the dreaded “real world” where we have to figure out things for ourselves and where the penalties for mistakes are much higher. It would be great to have a basic introduction to personal finances in high school and then have another, more advanced class in college.

I know no one wants to take more classes, especially those that deal with such a mundane aspect of life. But the math in this country needs taxes to function properly. Most people I know don’t really understand why we pay taxes (only that we have to)

—Wears a tiara in her hand
—Decides no longer needs to “go the bathroom” in the bathroom
—Makes plans to spend time with friends
—Spends excessively
texts (antiquing without touching)

—Has a cigarette in her hand for 2 minutes before she can find a lighter, and then needs another 20 minutes to figure out how it works—Has an assortment of burns and bruises (some from unsuccessfully attempting a key stand)

—Claims the people helping her attempt to walk are her best friends—Cannot find her home

Don’t be “that guy”

We all have made mistakes in our life and exactly where our money goes (to CEO, who feel the millions they make running companies into the ground aren’t enough), so a class that would teach this information would be extremely helpful.

Everyone should have at least a cursory understanding of the tax system and its history. Filing taxes should not be something that we dread each year. A little education can go a long way towards making sense of our taxes, at least knowing enough to feel confident when April 15 rolls around. Hey, maybe we’ll even do our taxes early if we knew what we were actually doing.

But the day when we have a tax class may be far off or never may come. Maybe there will be too much opposition to such a concept. But if it is created, I predict many more people will feel better about filing their taxes.

In the future, I would like to see people required to file their taxes, It’s enough to make you wonder. If people earning that much money can’t even figure out how to pay their taxes, how is the average American supposed to?

For instance, the penalty fee for not filing your taxes, or filing them late, can’t even figure out how to pay their taxes, how is the average American supposed to?

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Where does a poor college student turn to when they can’t hire a personal CPA? At H&R Block we are lucky because we have several volunteer students who volunteer through the Volunteer Tax Assistance Program (VITA) to help students and other low-income families file their taxes correctly for free. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday until March 14, VITA will be on the third floor of the business building.

There are also many helpful Web sites out there to help you complete your taxes. H&R Block (hblock.com) has several tax calculators including a tax estimator to help you decide how much credit or how many deductions you could get from student loan interest and tuition costs.

The IRS has part of its Web site devoted to students and there is even a section on “Understanding Taxes.” This site is particularly helpful because it covers a wide range of topics, from events in your life that may affect your taxes to what types of income for college students are considered taxable. Plus, you know the information on time is correct.

So as we get deeper into tax season, try to look at it as a learning opportuni¬tary. Knowing even a little more about the tax process will put you at ease and make you confident that you can get through it without having a heart attack.

Athis Acox is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily reporter.

H&R Block (hblock.com) has several tax calculators including a tax estimator to help you decide how much credit or how many deductions you could get from student loan interest and tuition costs.

Nevi. Wrocław. More people need to understand this (unfortunately) unorthodox version of the facts in order to avoid similar pitfalls in the future.

— Ashley

Response to “Obama: The Next FDR?”

The juxtaposition of FDRL’s policy decisions and WWII implies a degree of causation (see paragraph three). FDRL’s New Deal and Germany’s military aggression were indepen¬dent events. Please don’t pervert historical fact with post-hoc fallacies. The U.S. was neutral for half of the war. And for what it’s worth, much as FDR did, WWII alone ended the depression in America.

—Anonymous

Response to “Obama: The Next FDR?”

Remember, the “progressive” first century of American capitalism is characterized by exploitation, high labor and bureaucratic corruption. Do we really want to return to that? I implore you to actually read The Wealth of Nations and find out what real capitalism would be. Feed your own advice; do research.

—Ryan

Response to “Obama: The Next FDR?”
Cal Poly softball team ready to regain top form

If the team is to strive for a national championship, it will have to battle through a competitive schedule that includes 21 games against opponents who appeared in last year's NCAA tournament including San Diego State and Purdue to start the year in the Stacy Winsberg Memorial Tournament.

Even though the team lost several key players including right fielder Sarah Iwata, a former first team All-Big West selection, and pitcher Robyn Kontra, Condon said that the team will be just as strong this season.

"I think they're fine," she said. "Every year the team is different. I think this year we've got some great senior leadership and they have done a great job working on team chemistry and really setting the tone in the classroom and on the field. Our work ethic is second to none."

Seven position starters and three pitchers will return from last year's team which Condon said makes it the deepest team she's had from an experience standpoint.

Condon said that team chemistry is exceptional this year, and is confident that it will be the reason the team will maximize its potential.

"I think it's one of those intangibles, at the end of the season when you come up short in some area a lot of teams find that that's the reason," she said. "When you are all fighting for the same thing it makes it a little bit easier. I think our seniors have done a good job cultivating the relationships with the younger players and bringing them along quicker than we have in the past."

"At this point I think we're in a good position for the beginning of the season. Our pitching looks solid, our defense is great and hitting is good as well."

Senior third baseman Cris- ten Lee said that her goal is to put everything she can out on the field, win conference and advance to regionals.

"I think we have all the tools that we need to be able to do that," she said. "It's a matter of being able to execute.

Senior shortstop Melissa Pena said that she is sure that the team is capable of winning the Big West title and its biggest strength is work ethic and attitude.

"I think this season is so different in the fact that we're so close, which is very, very unique," she said. "Our team is like a family."

Mustangs roll to fifth consecutive victory

The Cal Poly women's softball team opened their season against San Diego State at the Stacy Winsberg Memorial Tournament at UCLA on Friday.

"We practice pretty much every weekday until game day," Condon said.

The Mustangs never trailed in the second half.

Senior third baseman Kristina Santiago came off the bench to lead the Mustangs, scoring a game-high 19 points on 7-of-8 shooting and added a game-high right-rebound.

Cal Poly's Aly Geppert attempts a layup during the Mustangs 61-51 win over UC Irvine yesterday.

If you cud link to mustangdaily.net.

BEN ROZAK MUSTANG DAILY PHOTOS

Cal Poly junior first baseman Krysten Cary slides into second base during the Mustang's 5-0 win over Cal State Northridge on April 20, 2008.

Chelsea Bieker

MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly women's softball team will open their season against San Diego State at the Stacy Winsberg Memorial Tournament at UCLA on Friday.

"Coming back from last year's third place Big West finish and 24-22 overall record, head coach Jenny Condon said the team has been preparing since the end of last season, and looks strong going into their first tournament.

"We had about four or five scrimmages with some outside competition just to see where we are and give the freshman some experience at this level," she said.

"We have been preparing to put ourselves in a position where hopefully we will get the opportunity to play for a national championship."

—Jenny Condon

Cal Poly head coach

women's basketball | CAL POLY 61, UC IRVINE 51

**MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT**

The Cal Poly women's basketball team defeated UC Irvine 61-51 on Thursday night in Mott Gym for their fifth-straight victory.

The Mustangs (14-7, 6-3 Big West Conference) led 29-18 at intermission in a game in which both teams struggled with their shooting out of the gate. Cal Poly led just 9-8 with 5:42 remaining in the first half in a back and forth battle that yielded seven ties.

Leading by one early in the second half, the Mustangs went on an 11-0 run to lead 34-22 with 15:06 remaining in the game. The Mustangs never trailed in the second half.

Cal Poly took its largest lead of the game, 43-29 with 9:52 remaining.

UC Irvine (5-17, 2-7) got within seven points on multiple occasions with under three minutes remaining but never got closer as Cal Poly held on to win.

Sophomore forward Becky Tatter scored 15 points and added three rebounds. The Anteaters were led by sophomore center Kim Barnes hitting 7-of-9 from the field. She added four rebounds and two assists.

Cal Poly cleaned up the glass outrebounding UC Irvine 40-29. The Mustangs shot 44.9 percent from the floor for the game while holding UC Irvine to just 36.2 percent.

For a full recap of the game, go online to mustangdaily.net.