At least 25 miners killed in explosion. Search delayed. IN NEWS, P.5

Local band Sherwood ends tour at DTB Thursday. IN ARTS, P.9

Women's tennis squares off against Pepperdine today. IN SPORTS, P.16

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Rec Center construction creates more exercise
Students and faculty members are again forced to take the long way to get on campus

Tim Miller
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Construction to the Recreation Center is moving forward on schedule but is causing frustration for some students.

The expansion of the Recreation Center, which was approved by a student referendum in 2008, is still in the demolition and underground utilities phase of the project, said Perry Judd, the project manager for the Recreation Center.

As a part of putting in utility lines for the new facilities, the path from Hathway Avenue to South Perimeter, referred to as the West Pedestrian Walkway, will be closed until Aug. 30.

Ken Carlson, a Berg Electric electrician working on the project, said storm drains, electrical wiring and hydronics are going in where the path was. He also said he was excited to see how the construction on the Recreation Center will turn out.

"This place is going to look awesome when it's finished," he said.

Starting in May, the demolition will be completed and the construction of the new additions to the Recreation Center will begin, Judd said.

However, not everyone is excited about how the construction is going. Food sciences junior Raquel Serna said she doesn't think the construction is worth the inconvenience since she is going to be graduated by the time it is done.

"It will only take me five minutes longer, but five minutes is a lot when you are running late," she said.

Lea Toebit, chair of the University Union Advisory Board, which is in charge of the construction on the Recreation Center, said some students have complained about the construction, but for the most part people have been understanding.

"One of the products of construction is inconvenience," she said.

The people who live closest to the pathway are most affected, Judd said.

"For students living on Orange and Kentucky it will increase the amount that they have to walk, but there is no real way to mitigate that; we would if we could," he said.

Judd said despite the challenges of construction on an active college campus, it has been going really well.

The alternate route for pedestrians is through the tennis courts, which will reroute people near to the H. P. Davidson Music Center and Mont Gym.

Food science and nutrition junior Cami Simms said she used to walk on the path in-between the tennis courts and the pool but once that got closed down, she started using the West Pedestrian Pathway.

"It will only take me five to seven minutes more but it's still really annoying," she said.

The second floor of the gym was recently closed, but five indoor courts near Bob Janssen Field at the Sports Complex compensate for the closed courts.

Cal Poly logging team ranks in top 10 at annual conclave

Erin Hurley
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Most Cal Poly students spent spring break relaxing by the pool or taking road trips with friends, but the logging team chose to unwind in a different way. From March 15 to 19 the logging team competed and ranked sixth in the annual Association of Western Forestry Club's (AWFC) Forestry Conclave in Fort Collins, Colo. The team competed with 30 other forestry teams from 11 universities throughout the western United States.

In addition, three Cal Poly Forestry and Natural Resources students placed high in three events. Walter Page placed second in the Single Buck for men, which has competitors saw through a round log with a crosscut saw. Alicia Jones placed first in the Single Buck for women and Liz Fox placed first in the Power Saw for women.

The AWFC Forestry Conclave is hosted by a different university AWFC member each year. Cal Poly last hosted the conclave in 2005.

Most of Cal Poly's logging team is made up of forestry and natural resources students, but the team welcomes all students who are interested in learning forestry skills like ax throwing, horizontal and vertical chopping and chainsawing.

Forestry and natural resources faculty member Walter Mark has been the team's faculty adviser for years and traveled to Colorado to assist the team.

"The interaction with other schools is very rewarding. The conclave is competitive, but we don't really think of the other teams as rivals — we encourage and help the other teams out and they do the same for us," Mark said. "This year the team from Humboldt State University forgot their throwing axes, so we let them use ours."

Planning for the trip is a lot of work for the team's officers. The team begins training the the conclave to fall and practices twice a week. The team also takes trips to Swanton Pacific Ranch in Santa Cruz County to get wood for practice.

see Logging, page 2

picture of the day
by Ryan Sedlor

"The Watcher"
College takes action against instructor accused of teaching anti-gay views

Cyndee Fontana
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

FRESNO, Calif. - Fresno City College has issued a notice of correction to an instructor accused of presenting religious-based and anti-gay views as fact in an introductory health class, his lawyer said Tuesday.

But instructor Bradley Lopez insists he has done nothing wrong and plans to contest the notice through an administrative process, said his attorney, Charles Magill.

"I expect him to be completely exonerated," Magill said.

Lopez has been enveloped in controversy since February, when the American Civil Liberties Union complained to the college about his teaching practices on behalf of two students.

In a letter to students last month, the college said its investigation showed Lopez violated district policy and engaged in conduct that could create a hostile learning environment. Lopez denies that.

The letter said officials would take action against Lopez, but it wasn't specific. Tuesday, campus officials acknowledged that he was sent a letter last week but wouldn't comment further because it is a personnel matter.

Magill said Lopez will contest the notice in an administrative process that allows him to dispute the allegations and any need to correct perceived deficiencies in his teaching practices.

If the college continues to find fault with his teaching methods, it could opt to issue a letter of reprimand - making him more vulnerable to termination, Magill said. Lopez could fight that and any other actions in court.

Jacqueline Mahaffey, one of the students who complained about Lopez, said she is pleased with the college's action. Lopez will have to stick to course material or possibly face termination, she said.

"I know this way, it keeps him from doing it again," she said. Lopez appeared with Magill at a news conference Tuesday but did not comment on the notice.

HEAR IT. SEE IT. WATCH IT. CLICK IT.
YOUR NEWS
REDEFINED
**Mc Cain stumps for Fiorina in California Senate race**

Seema Mehta

**Los Angeles Times**

IRVINE, Calif. — Sen. John McCain led his own tough primary battle in Arizona to win in the California Senate race on Tuesday when he visited the state to campaign for Carly Fiorina.

But she doesn't have any political experience, and that inexperience shows.

—Jack Pitney

Former national GOP official

McCain was expected to raise money for Fiorina, but beyond that it's unclear how much his ap­pearance will help her. McCain has represented Arizona in Congress for 27 years and is viewed with deep skepticism among the most ener­getic of the many faithful, part of the reason he is facing a tough pri­mary challenge from the right from former Rep. J.D. Hayworth. This dis­eased was evident at the event, his role public appearance on Fiorina's behalf, when one voter was openly hostile to McCain.

The Arizona senator's appearance mirrored Fiorina's efforts to reach out to voters for him in 2008. She traveled with him, served as a cam­paign surrogate and was used par­ticularly to appeal to women vot­ers. "It wasn't perfect," said Douglas Holtz-Eakin, a senior policy adviser to McCain during his presidential campaign. "But she really was very talented, obviously very articulate, poised, not easily rattled."

But Fiorina made several gaffes that McCain's campaign had to deal with, such as whether insur­ance plans that covered Viagra or whether McCain supported over­turning Roe vs. Wade. (Or the for­mer, she criticized plans that covered the prescription for males but not the one for females, a tough subject for any candidate courting religious voters, much less a woman, a swan one who twice voted against requir­ing plans to cover birth control.

On the latter, she told women that McCain had "never signed on" to efforts to repeal the abortion rights decision; his campaign later clarified that he in fact believed it must be overturned.

She was permanently sidelined two months before the election when she told a radio host that Sar­ah Palin, McCain's vice presidential pick, lacked the experience to lead a major corporation. She made the situation worse when she sought to clarify her remarks by adding that McCain and then-Sens. Obama and Joe Biden also were unqualified.

When asked about those remarks on Tuesday, McCain offered a fake grimace and joked, "Did she say that?"

Fiorina added, "I was making a general comment about all politi­cians, by the way, not John McCain specifically."

Fiorina's opponents have seized on other statements Fiorina made during the 2008 election to paint her as flip-flopping on issues, no­table the one Fiorina, speaking at a small town meeting for campaign, "mocked the joint appearance."

"If you want a demonstration of how out of touch Carly Fiorina is, exhibit A must be her belief that Republicans miss the McCain '08 campaign," said Joshua Trevino.

But campaigning for McCain may have helped Fiorina prepare for her current race.

"She's a lot better as an advocate for her own candidacy than she was as a surrogate for someone else," said Dan Schnur, director of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics at the University of Southern Cali­fornia and a former Republican po­litical operative.
LOS ANGELES (MCT) — In the weeks before his death from a suspected accidental overdose, actor Corey Haim went "doctor shopping" and obtained at least 153 pills of powerful prescription medications from seven different doctors and as many different pharmacies, California's attorney general said Tuesday.

Attorney General Jerry Brown said Haim visited physicians at offices, urgent-care facilities and emergency rooms to obtain the potential deadly collection of pills and on one occasion used an alias. Brown said Haim's case illustrates that prescribed drugs can be just as dangerous as street drugs, and that doctor shopping can be deadly.

**WASHINGTON (MCT) —** By ruling out the development of new U.S. nuclear weapons and reducing the circumstances under which existing warheads would be used, President Barack Obama's new nuclear weapons strategy attempts to shift the world's attention to the dangers of weapons getting into the hands of terrorists or bad actors like Iran.

However, at its core the Nuclear Posture Review keeps the U.S. sufficiently armed to counter the Russian threat. Arms control advocates give the plan a mixed review.

**SEATTLE (MCT) —** A 64-year-old Washington man has been charged with threatening to kill U.S. Sen. Patty Murray over her support of Murray's office in the Jackson

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**MEXICO (MCT) —** The U.S.-Mexico border was opened Tuesday to northbound vehicle traffic in Calexico, but the historic downtown area remained closed as inspectors checked for structural damage to buildings in the wake of the 7.2 Eastern Time earthquake in Mexicali, Mexico.

Although the border closed Tuesday, it had been closed to northbound traffic as officials checked for damage to the federal building where agents examine vehicles, pedestrians and trucks passed through the checkpoint from Mexicali in an effort to flee the aftershocks rocking northern Baja California.

**WASHINGTON (MCT) —** China on Tuesday executed a Japanese man who had been convicted of smuggling drugs, Japanese officials said after being informed of the execution by Chinese authorities.

Mitsuboku Akana, 65, of Osaka, was executed in Dalian, Liaoning Province, at about 9:30 a.m. according to Japanese Foreign Ministry officials.

He was arrested in September 2006 as he was attempting to smuggle about 2.5 kilograms of stimulant drugs to Japan from Dalian, according to an affidavit attached to the order of execution.

Marking an anatomical drawing set up before the jury, Fusaro pointed out where bullets struck Clemmons in the back, chest, arm, abdomen and thigh. Clemmons also had abrasions to his face.

Kelly said he believed he was being disarmed.

A six-person jury heard inquest testimony Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning and will begin deliberating after lunch.

In King County, inquests are fact-finding hearings regularly held after a police officer uses lethal force while on duty, prosecutors said. Jurors are asked to submit answers of "yes"-"no" or "unknown" to sets of questions drafted by lawyers and the judge. A key question typically asked during an inquest is whether the officer believed he was in imminent danger when lethal force was used, prosecutors said.

The King County prosecutor's office reviews all inquest findings to determine whether criminal charges should be filed.

On Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, Kelly, 39, testified about his encounter with Clemmons.

Clemmons started his overnight patrol shift on Monday morning. He drove the car in a South Seattle neighborhood, into a Pierce County, coffee shop.

On Nov. 29, Clemmons walked into a Pierce County, coffee shop and opened fire at Lakewood police officers. Killed were Sgt. Mark Renninger and Officer Ronald Owens.

Richards managed to wound Clemmons.

The shooting ignited an intense, two-day manhunt that ended when Kelly encountered Clemmons at 2:45 a.m.

Cruise, the Seattle detective, said that three bullets pulled from Clemmons's body were sent to the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab for testing. Scientists matched two of the bullets to a gun in Kelly's patrol car and the third to the handgun of Richards, the slain Lakewood officer.

Police from Seattle and Lakewood, as well as relatives of the slain officers, filled the King County courtroom on both days of the inquest.

The family of the person slain can have an attorney question witnesses at inquest hearings; Clemmons' family is not participating in the hearing.

Jennifer Sullivan and Jonathan Martin
THE SEATTLE TIMES

Seattle police Detective Al Cruise said Clemmons also suffered a fifth wound from a gunshot fired by Greg Richards, one of four Lakewood, Wash., police officers killed by Clemmons two days earlier in a Pierce County coffee shop.

The two wounds inflicted by Clemmons were considered fatal. Dr. Alフェフ Cafes, the King County Medical Examiner's Office testified Tuesday morning.

Kelly said he was trying to radio for help when he shot and killed Clemmons.

Clemmons made it to the Pierce County courthouse and opened fire at Lakewood police officers.

Clemmons, 37, made it to the sidewalk, out of Kelly's view, before collapsing in front of a home.

Clemmons was struck by four of seven gunshots fired by Greg Richards, one of four Lakewood, Wash., police officers killed by Clemmons two days earlier in a Pierce County coffee shop.

Clemmons made it to the Pierce County courthouse and opened fire at Lakewood police officers.

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Poisonous gases delay search for missing miners

David Zucchino and Kim Geiger
LOS ANGELES TIMES

MONTECOAL, W.Va. — An under­ground explosion that killed at least 25 coal miners created a fireball so immense that it tossed rail cars and twisted steel rail lines, officials said Tuesday as rescue efforts aimed at finding four missing miners who might have survived the ghastly blast continued.

Crews worked feverishly Tuesday to carve an access road and drill three 1,000-foot-deep ventilation shafts into the craggy mountain to release the lethal buildups of poisonous methane gas and carbon monoxide that officials believe may have caused the disaster, as well as a fourth tunnel for rescue operations.

But officials said rescue teams may not be able to enter the vast Upper Big Branch mine safely until Wednesday evening, adding an agony­ning wait to the heartbreak that already has devastated this Appalachian community in southern West Virginia.

Gov. Joe Manchin said rescuers still hoped to find the last four min­ers alive in an airtight emergency refuge chamber that rescuers couldn’t reach before an initial search was sus­pended as too dangerous at 2 a.m. Tuesday.

But the grim-faced governor made clear that the nation’s deadliest mining accident since 1984 left little room for optimism.

“Don’t want to give anybody false hope,” he told a news confer­ence. “Maybe there could be a mira­cle.”

Manchin said the first rescue teams had been stunned to see that the ferocious blast more than a mile away when the blast oc­curred, said he quickly realized that something was terribly wrong.

“We further got down the track, the more the wind picked up and… Before you knew it, it’s like your ears stopped up, you couldn’t hear, and the next thing you know, you’re in the middle of a tornado,” he told reporters.

“Since we weren’t that far under­ground — we just hurried up and high-tailed it back to the outside.”

One of the victims, Benjamin R. Worthington, 62, was a Vietnam veteran who planned to retire next month and go on a celebratory Car­ibbean cruise after 30 years of dig­ging coal, according to his nephew, William Willingham.

“I had to work underground,” Timmy Davis Jr., told The As­sociated Press about his late father. “He loved to work underground.”

“Coal mining has gotten safer and safer, but the danger of coal mining, but he needed the money. It’s a very sad time for everybody.”

Three members of the same fami­ly were among the dead. Timmy Da­vis, 51, died in the explosion along with his nephews, Josh Napper, 27, and Cory Davis, 20. Two other fam­ily members survived the blast.

The generational ties were not unusual here. Nor was the pride in working long hours in a hazardous job, a satisfaction that is core to Ap­palachia’s insular culture.

“He loved to work underground,” Timmy Davis Jr. told The Associated Press about his late father. “He loved that place.”

The mine is set far back from Highway 3, a narrow two-lane road that twists through the mountains about 30 miles south of Charleston, the state capital.

Officials here also excoriated Massey Energy and its subsidiary, Performance Coal Co., for not re­leasing the names of all the victims to distraught family members.

Some families were furious be­cause they learned their husbands, sons or other loved ones were among the dead from local safety officials or from news accounts, not from Massey Energy officials.

“I spoke to a widow of one of the first victims last night,” said U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va. “She could not understand why she has not heard a word from the company yet.”

“I think it’s overdue,” Rahall ad­ded. “I think this contact is needed.”

“The families need to know,” agreed Manchin. “At this point, a minute seems like an hour, an hour seems like a day, and a day is an eter­nity. They need to grieve.”

President Barack Obama offered his “deepest condolences” to the family and friends of those who had died, and said the federal govern­ment stood ready to assist the state if needed. He asked the audience at a post-Easter prayer breakfast at the White House to pray for the fami­lies and friends of those lost in the disaster.

The death toll is the highest in a U.S. mine since 1984, when a fire killed 27 workers at Emery Mining Corp.’s mine in Orangeville, Utah. If the four missing men do not sur­ vive, the Upper Big Branch disaster would rank as the worst since a 1970 explosion killed 38 miners at Finley Coal Co., in Hyden, Ky.

“Coal mining has gotten safer and safer, but it’s still unsafe,” U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu told reporters in Washington. “It’s still dangerous business.”
In rare letter to shareholders, Goldman denies double-dealing

Greg Gordon

WASHINGTON — Goldman Sachs' top officers denied in a letter to shareholders on Wednesday that the company bet against mortgage securities in 2006 and 2007 if the market crashed.

"The eight-page letter opening the firm's 2009 annual report comes as the world's most prestigious investment bank seeks to rebuild its image in the face of negative publicity over executive bonuses and two federal investigations into its subprime dealings," said Boucher.

"Goldman did not generate enormous net revenues or profits by betting against residential mortgage-related products, as some have speculated," said Chief Executive Lloyd Blankfein and President Gary Cohn.

"Rather, our relatively early risk reduction resulted in our losing less money than we otherwise would have if the residential housing market began to deteriorate rapidly," Goldman said.

"Goldman made the earliest and safest exit of any major Wall Street firm from that market for mortgage securities backed by loans to marginally qualified homebuyers. When it crashed, Goldman recorded $1.7 billion in related losses."

"The Permanent Investigations subcommittee of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee began an investigation of Goldman's mortgage securities dealings in response to a McClatchy Newspapers series in November. McClatchy reported that Goldman had marketed more than $40 billion of securities tied to risky home loans in 2006 and 2007 while secretly betting on a downturn in the housing market. People familiar with the Senate inquiry and a separate Securities and Exchange Commission investigation, who declined to be identified because of the sensitivity of the matter, said that both probes relate to Goldman's alleged use of exotic insurance-like contracts known as credit-default swaps to make contrary bets against its own mortgage products."

"Blankfein and Cohn said that their firm made bets, using swaps and other instruments, as part of its role as a "market maker," in which it executes both long and short trades on behalf of clients. After covering clients' positions, they said, Goldman might take risks in "thousands of different instruments at any given time." It vigilantly "keep exposure in line with risk limits" established by senior management."

"We are not "betting against clients," they wrote. Legal experts have said that investors might not have bought the mortgage securities if they'd known that Goldman was betting in the other direction."

"Goldman took out credit-default swaps worth as much as $22 billion with global insurance giant American International Group before the housing market began its sharp slide in late 2007, the first stage of what snowballed into a global financial crisis."

"When the underlying securities began to decline in value, Goldman required AIG to post $7.5 billion in cash. In late 2008, when the federal government committed $182 billion to save AIG from collapse, Goldman wound up collecting an additional $12.9 billion from AIG for the swaps and other deals."

"Blankfein and Cohn said that, because Goldman had required AIG to post collateral as the securities lost value, the firm's "direct exposure to AIG was minimal."

"They also emphasized the company's recent decision to revise compensation policies to hold employees "accountable for the future impact of their decisions.""

"Despite record profits of $13.4 billion in 2009, bonuses for Blankfein, Cohn and 28 other top executives were limited to restricted stock — $9 million in shares each for Blankfein and Cohn — that they can't sell for five years."

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**FCC continued from page 7**

land provider, said Internet users had nothing to worry about and that the FCC would keep the ability to enforce consumer protection standards.

"Consumers are in the driver's seat in today's market-driven Internet ecosystem, and their interests remain fully protected," he said.

Rep. Rick Boucher, D-Va., chairman of the House subcommittee that deals with telecommunications, said he would try to get telecommunications companies, major content providers such as Google and Yahoo, and others to agree on legislation that would grant the FCC the direct legal authority over Internet services that the court said it lacked.

"The commission must have the authority to enforce the principles of network openness," Boucher said.

Boucher and other Democrats have been pushing for several years to enact such legislation, which President Obama has backed. But telecommunications companies and most Republicans have opposed it, saying additional regulation would stifle investment in expanding Internet access.

"The court's decision adds new impetus for such legislation," said Paul赣nchen, a senior analyst at Polytel Research Group in Washington. But Congress moves slowly, he said.

"It's up to the FCC to decide how they want to proceed here," he said.

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**Word on the Street**

What do you think of the new health care plan?

**I'm not a fan.**

-Alexander Omast, biological sciences freshman

**I didn't think it went far enough for middle-class families.**

-Anastasia DeSantis, environmental engineering freshman

**I don't know much about it.**

-Logan Girmes, materials engineering freshman

**I like that we are trying to pay for health care, but as a student who pays health care, it is going to raise my taxes, so it is a double-edged sword.**

-Lito Loudetback, business administration freshman

**I am glad we are doing something about it. I think we are taking steps in the right direction.**

-Ben Raymond, materials engineering senior

**Obama stats with his word since it was part of his platform.**

-Elizabeth O'Handy, materials engineering freshman

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**ENGINEERING SPEAKER SERIES**

**INNOVATIONS in SEARCH @ GOOGLE**

Presenter: Johanna Wright,
Director of Program Management for Web Search, Google

Johanna will share some of the most intriguing search solutions that Google has been working on, in addition to the "secret sauce" innovative principles that keep Google's engine of innovation moving forward.

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**THURSDAY, APRIL 8th**

11:00-12:15

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Compiled and photographed by Jessica Barba
Prime Minister Gordon Brown announces British national elections

Henry Chu

L.A. TIMES

LONDON — Britain's worst kept secret was officially let out of the bag Tuesday when Prime Minister Gor­don Brown announced that much anticipated national elections would take place May 6. The race is shaping up as the tight­est in decades and the outcome could be a rare "hung parliament," where no party commands a decisive enough majority to form a government. Polls consistently show the opposition Conservatives leading Brown's ruling Labour Party by the narrow­est remarkably in recent months, making the contest too close to call.

Both parties, expecting the May 6 poll date, have already kicked into high campaign gear. So have the Lib­eral Democrats, a smaller grouping that could play kingmaker if a coali­tion government proves necessary.

With the nation badly out of re­cession, unemployment at its highest in years and the government's budget deficit showing no signs of abating, the economy has emerged as the No. 1 election issue.

"It's the most important gen­eral election for a generation. And it comes down to this. You don't have to put up with another five years of Gordon Brown," the Conservative leader, David Cameron, told cheering supporters Tuesday morning, in a statement not far from Parliament. "You're voting for the fresh start this country — our country — so badly needs.

Telegraphic and articulate, Cameron, 43, would be Britain's youngest prime minister in nearly 200 years if his par­ty captures a majority in the House of Commons. But Labour hopes to use his relative youth against him, calling him and his team too callow and in­experienced to take over the reins of government in such difficult times.

Labour's argument could backfire. After all, Brown's predecessor, Tony Blair, was just a few days shy of 44 when he took office in 1997.

The traditionally working-class Labour Party also ridicules Cameron's "posh" background, a privileged upbringing that has him and his team too callow and in­experienced to take over the reins of government in such difficult times.

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Local band Sherwood concludes national tour at DTB Thursday

Dave Meyers
DMETERS.MSP.COM

Four Cal Poly alumni turned rock stars have chosen to wrap up their American tour at Downtown Brew Co. in San Luis Obispo on Thursday.

The indie pop band Sherwood was formed in 2002 while the five original members attended Cal Poly.

As students, they would advertise their shows at the University Union or local venues by writing announcements in chalk throughout the Cal Poly campus.

"Sherwood was the best band I ever saw at the University Union," Cuesta College student Corey Howe said. "My friends and I all bought their shows at the University Union Poly.

Since the members graduated in 2004 they have toured throughout America on the Vans Warped Tour, with bands such as Relient K, Motion City Soundtrack, MAK, Say Anything and most recently, Hanson. The band gained momentum after a few years of touring nationally as an international tour indie pop band, to an international tour indie pop band, and became the first band to sign with MySpace Records in 2007. The band gained momentum after a few years of touring nationally as an international tour indie pop band, and became the first band to sign with MySpace Records in 2007.

This gave them the publicity and financial capability to release a second full-length album, "A Different Light," and begin touring throughout the world in Japan, Germany, Amsterdam, the United Kingdom and Australia.

With an unrelenting tour schedule during the last several years, it has been difficult for the band to call any place home.

"San Luis Obispo will always be our nostalgic home," Nate Henry, the band's lead vocalist and bass player said. "Otherwise, our homes between touring are wherever our families or girlfriends might be."

Founding guitarist, Chris Armstrong, left the band in 2005 and his shoes were eventually filled by Dave Provenzano. Excluding Provenzano, the band still consists of all Cal Poly alumni. Dan Koch, who plays lead guitar and sings back up vocals and Henry began to collaborate after meeting at an open mic in San Luis Obispo. They soon brought on fellow students Mike Leibovich to play keyboard and percussion and Joe Greener to play the drums.

After signing with MySpace Records it has been a little easier than chalking the concrete to get the word out. Since 2002, the band has jumped from their status as a popular college band, to an international tour indie pop band, which has sold out shows around the world.

"When you hear people who don't even speak English singing our songs, there comes a point when you step back from the chaos of the music industry, and say, 'Wow, look what we did.'" Henry said.

Sherwood, to date, has released five EP's and three full-length albums. Their first album, "Sing But Keep Going," was released under Sidecho Records and has sold over 20,000 copies and their second, released with MySpace Records, has sold more than 40,000 copies.

In 2009, they finished their third full-length album "QU," which was produced in collaboration with Brad Wood, who has produced The Smashing Pumpkins and Sunny Day Real Estate.

Henry admits it has become much more difficult to survive in the music industry during the past few years.

"Music has gone from having like three outlets, to about 7 million," Henry said. "It has all become so incredibly oversaturated. Bands must evolve to survive in the industry now, because people just aren't supporting music like they used to."

Sherwood's latest album is an evolution from their prior records. It is deeper, darker and more serious. The album is ironic, as it deals with heavier topics such as divorce, midlife crisis and apathy, yet retains the bands upbeat and fun California vibe.

"We wanted to evolve, but if we change our sound too much, we'll change our name," Henry said. "We have to stay loyal to the sound our fans want, yet we also want to create music that will stay relevant 10 years from now."

Though famous musicians like Matt Ward and "Weird Al" Yankovic have come out of Cal Poly, KCPR disc jockey Ross Berger said Sherwood is arguably the most successful band to come out San Luis Obispo.

"In my opinion, Sherwood is definitel the most popular, collaborative band to have come out of Cal Poly," Berger said.

After its show at Downtown Brew, Sherwood will take a break from touring for a while and focus on compiling songs for their fourth full-length album.

The concert starts at 6:30 p.m. and tickets for the all-ages concert can be purchased for $15 at the door or $13 in advance at TicketWeb.com, Boo Boo Records or Downtown Brew’s box office.
Classic opera La Bohème to be performed at Cal Poly Friday

A new combination of actors and singers are prepared to bring Giacomo Puccini’s classic opera La Bohème to life. Focusing on a celebration of life, Opera San Luis will be performing La Bohème at the Performing Arts Center April 9 and 11 at Cal Poly.

Artistic director and conductor Robert Ashens compared the evolution and coming together of his characters to making a special sauce.

"Each sauce is a little different every day because the ingredients are slightly different," Ashens said. "It's exactly the same thing with the performances. I look forward to watching the sauce of my characters blend and gel together into a great new production."

La Bohème tells the story of a young couple in Paris, Mimì and Rodolfo, who fall in love. Their relationship grows throughout the story along with their group of friends who are trying to make ends meet. La Bohème's story has been the inspiration for other productions including Rent, which is a more modern adaptation of the storyline, and portions of Moulin Rouge.

The opera is over-looked because it is one of the more expensive art forms. Managing director Sharon Dobson said it is expensive because many props and costumes are needed to tell the story. She said she is excited for Cal Poly students to experience the opera and La Bohème is the perfect one because the message speaks to all age groups.

"It just takes one time to be hooked and La Bohème is that opera," Dobson said. "It's like the Titanic in terms of opera repertoire." Dobson said opera is story-telling through music and the message of La Bohème is delivered through the music, drama and movement that is involved.

"It really celebrates the preciousness of life and living in the moment," Dobson said. "These artists are not rich in financial terms and that's what we tend to measure people's worth in; they're rich in friendship."

The performances will include members from the community and also Cal Poly students. Music新鲜 Kathleen Holliday has been working with Opera San Luis since she was 11-year-old. La Bohème will be her seventh performance for the company. Holliday is excited for the show that she will sing as a chorus member.

"If I didn't have this experience, I know I'd be in a lot different space than I am now since a lot of people who sing don't have the movement with it too," Holliday said. "Learning how to move around on the stage and still use your vocal techniques is hard."

Holliday said she wants Cal Poly students to step outside of what they normally do and attend the opera.

"One thing that can attract students now is that La Bohème was such an inspiration for Rent and I know a lot of people love Rent," Holliday said. "Coming to see this and what really inspired it can be a phenomenal experience."

Opera San Luis is a company that has been in the San Luis Obispo community for the past 25 years and is the only professional opera company on the Central Coast.

Ashens said opera is not just limited to the major cities in the country such as Chicago, New York City or San Francisco. He said opera is being produced at a grassroots level and on a small scale as is trying to keep the art form alive.

La Bohème is an opera that was first performed in 1896 in Italy and has been performed for over a century throughout the world. Ashens said La Bohème is one of the greatest operas of all-time because the storyline deals with everyday events including love and separation. He compared the production to the TV show "Friends" in which there are a group of people who all do different things and always meet together at the same place. They help each other and fall in love just like in La Bohème as well.

Before each performance, Ashens meets with the audience to tell them what to look and listen for in the show. He said he wants the audiences to see the possibilities that the production has to offer.

"Nobody is going to like absolute-ly everything that we produce, but they are going to have a damn good time," Ashens said. "They are going to have a great time in seeing there and that's really important."

**book column**

"Elegant" novel unravels troubled relationship

What image immediately springs to mind when you think of the world of "Elegant"? Probably something along the lines of state architecture or a high-class engagement. A hedonist, however, is not usually on this list. But in Murakami's "TheElegance of the Hedgehog," this unlikely depiction of a hedonist, elegance, is aptly applied by one main character to another, with a do-it and simple clarity that characterizes the novel.

A 12-year-old girl genius, fed up with the pretentious central to her privileged lifestyle, and middle-aged, outwardly homely conceit with starting intellectual curiosity to another, make up the main characters in this cryptically-named novel set in a upscale apartment building in Paris.

Paloma Jose, the unpretentiously precocious 12-year-old lives in the building where Renée Michel works as a concierge with Paloma's tediously self-absorbed, self-serving and self-congratulating family. In fact, Paloma has become so fed up with her family and all the insane narcissism of the world which they represent, that she has decided to set fire to her apartment and end her life on her 13th birthday.

This is understandably drastic: plan of action. It is questionable whether Paloma ever fully intends to go through with it. But, it is her belief in the plan that gives rise to a series of essays based on a search for meaning in the world, which, along with their counterparts written by Renée, make up the narration of the novel.

Both Renée and Paloma share a love for Art (consistently capitalized throughout the novel to indicate the magnitude and importance of it) Japanese culture and fine literature, but Renée feels compelled to hide her real identity as an autodidact behind the façade of a stereotypical concierge. At the onset of the novel, she describes her reason for this as a simple desire to "be left alone ... so that for a few moments each day (she) might escape (her) hunger" for intellectual stimulation. However, as the novel progresses, it becomes clear that she is also hiding out of a fear borne of trauma endured in her youth.

For roughly the first half, the book is structured as a series of alternating essays from Paloma and Renée, based on philosophical pondering on the nature of life and the beauty of Art in its many forms. Through these intensely personal musings, we get to know Paloma and Renée as complex characters, and gradually, almost without noticing, we also slowly fall in love with them.

As cheesy as it may sound, it is nearly impossible not to be touched by these ladies' humorous, sensitive and straight-forward takes on the world. This inspires us in reading the fierce desire for Renée and Paloma to carve out comfortable niches for themselves in the world, no matter how difficult that possibility is made by their unique natures.

However, when Kakuro Otou moves into the building, both characters' lives begin to change drastically. Kakuro brings a breath of fresh air to both Renée and Paloma as he alone notices from the start that neither one is as she appears. He manages to draw Paloma out of her shell in a way that allows her to reconsider her desire to take leave from the world, and slowly helps Renée to realize she does not have to hide her true self from the rest of the world, simply because of class boundaries.

It is not until near the end of the novel that Renée and Paloma strike a friendship, but when they do, it is immediately apparent that they were practically made for one another — a theme that is echoed in Renée
Nintendo says iPad not a threat

Brian Crecente

Gaming for Apple is an estimated half a billion dollar industry, but the company behind the iPhone, iPad Touch and now the iPad still seems reluctant to embrace the popular device.

Instead of duplicating Comic-Con International, some people want to import it. Los Angeles and Anaheim have made proposals to take away the giant event, which is locked in through only 2012 in San Diego. Convention organizers may even move all the meetings and cheaper hotel rooms (or at least bargaining agreements), and having to duplicate the 126,000 fans attending WonderCon.

We want to create an atmosphere that's different than San Diego, one that has real access to the stars.

—Gareb Shamus
CEO of Wizard Entertainment

When it comes to portable gaming, I play far more games on my iPhone these days than I do on my PlayStation Portable or on my DS. That's not because the iPhone has the better selection of games. It's because I find myself with time to kill. My iPhone gaming is driven by convenience. Snuck in a doctor's office or at an airport gate waiting for a delayed flight, I slide out my phone and start up a game.

For one, at least, the success of the iPhone as a gaming platform is directly connected to the fact that I carry it around with me to do things other than play games on it. Its ability to play games is never the reason I carry it with me.

Now look at the iPad. Big, beautiful, luxurious in its design. But what purpose does it serve beyond time wasting?

So now, preparing for a day out working, traveling, having fun, I have two questions that I ask about whether the iPad should come along. Once that happens, once you have to think about bringing along another device, you consider, knowing that taking along an iPad means a bag, the device is directly competing with my DS, my MP3, my laptop for space in that bag. The ubiquitous iPhone slides into my pocket without a thought because it is a phone, a device that does other things, not the other way around.

The iPad can certainly deliver more but is increasingly interesting gaming experiences, but where the iPhone is a phone at heart, the iPad seems to be an e-reader at heart, a far less necessary base device.

Maybe Nintendo is right to say it doesn't fear the iPhone, the iPad, or the Touch or the iPad.

Speaking recently with Nintendo of America President Reggie Fils-Aime about Nintendo's DSi XL, an oversized version of the popular, portable DS, I brought up the iPad.

What sort of impact have the iPhone and iPad Touch had on Nintendo's strength on portable gaming? Are they concerned about the iPad?

Apple "is not having an impact on Nintendo when you look at our business, our volume, our hardware, our software," Fils-Aime said. "I've seen data that suggests that while consumers are constantly downloading Apps, they play with them for a few times and then they are moving on to the next thing. "Clearly it doesn't look like their plan is to continue on this path for game development because so many of the games are free versus paid downloads.

Fils-Aime believes gamers will stick with Nintendos because the gaming experience remains different.

"If our games represent a range between snacks of entertainment and full meals depending on the type of game, (Apple's) aren't even a mouthful, in terms of the gaming experience you get."
Obama’s distorted priorities are bringing the U.S. closer to socialism

Upon his election in 2008, the world seemed to revolve around approval for President Obama. “Obama mania” swept across the globe, as he had sold them on the notion that he was nothing like his predecessor. But why were other nations so receptive to the hope and change that Obama promised? Quite simply, they could relate to it.

Europeans have acknowledged themselves to socialism over the years, and for the most part, that not paying more than 60 percent of their income to the government. Redistribution of wealth is and has been a reality for them. The reason Europeans like Obama is because he believes they hold similar political values. Europeans are used to big government, and are willing to sacrifice some of their freedom as a result.

On the other hand, Americans have become accustomed to the freedoms established in the Constitution. We are a society based on individual rights and the ability to run our own lives. These principles have gradually been washed away by the growth of the welfare state, but are nonetheless guaranteed in our constitution, and are more important, are supported by the general public.

Blind to the principles of our nation and to basic arithmetic, Obama dreams that the state can take care of everybody and become a European-style socialist state. He is only concerned about the lower class and lacks a complete economic perspective. As a former community organizer, he has experience in breaking the banks and spreading the wealth around. Democrats mocked the Republicans for their use of the “Joe the Plumber” incident during the 2008 campaign, but Obama has shown his true colors in the past few months. Although he claims that he’s giving everyone a fair start, he really only wants to be a modern-day Robin Hood. After all, who’s going to pay for all the federal subsidies of Obamacare?

And while Obama has appealed to the masses overseas, he has been blind to the wishes of his own citizens. A recent CNN poll reported that almost 60 percent of Americans would like to repeal Obamacare. Another warning sign to the American public is the support of communist dictators such as Fidel Castro that applauded Obama’s public policy.

Amid this resistance, Obama has disregarded the political integrity of his office. His commitment to liberals in Congress has induced bribery and intimidation. He believes he knows what’s best for the people, and in using the tactics of his radical role model — Saul Alinsky — he will do whatever it takes to get what he wants. He rallied like a madman for his health care legislation and strategized with Pelosi and Reid about how to bypass conservatives. Since when did the presidency come to mean “community organizer-in-chief?”

At the same time, Obama has been blind to foreign policy. French President Sarkozy views him as weak, and in-formed him that “we live in a real world, not a virtual one.” Of course, Obama has discredited the importance of his allies. He recently announced that he will not attend the annual European Union summit. Rather than recognizing the potential to expand world trade and stimulate the American economy, President Obama only views foreign policy as a way to boost his popularity and ego. How will Obama maintain his State of the Union Address promise to double exports in the next five years? Last year, Obama took 10 foreign trips to 21 nations in order to enhance his international image and to apologize for America’s presence in the world. Yet, after a year in office, the Obama administration feels it should limit travel. What about all the time that he wasted on health care reform?

But the Obama administration is not stopping there. In another attempt to promote his personal image and stay true to his unrealistic promise of eliminating nuclear arms, Obama has signed a treaty with Russia to reduce nuclear weapons. By signing the newest START agreement, Obama is sending out an image of a weakened United States to his enemies.

The president may have good intentions, but he is engaging in the wrong type of diplomacy. He is dedicating his time to pet projects rather than looking at the bigger picture.

The presidency is a distinguished seat that is supposed to represent the will of the people and the core constitutional values of America. The Obama administration needs to understand that we are not Europe, or any other country for that matter we are the “Land of the Free.” Perhaps he should take another glance at the U.S. Constitution.

Brendan Pringle is an English sophomore and Mustang Daily political columnist.

Write a letter to the editor!

Send your letter, in 250 words or less, to mustangdailyopinions@gmail.com. Or submit it at mustangdaily.com
Work-sharing could work for us

Dean Baker and Kevin Hassett
Los Angeles Times

With the nation’s unemployment rate still hovering close to 10 percent — more than 12 percent in California — and the typical unemployment spell stretching to 20 months, politicians of both parties are rightly looking for ideas to improve labor market conditions. This recession clearly threatens to do permanent damage to the careers of a generation of workers, and policy action is urgent.

After surveying policies around the world, we found that there is one that clearly dominates in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness: work-sharing.

The idea is simple. Currently, firms mostly respond to weak demand by laying off workers. Under a work-sharing program, firms are encouraged by government policy to spread a small amount of the pain across many workers.

In Germany, for example, which has used work-sharing aggressively in this downturn, a typical company might reduce the hours of 50 workers by 20 percent rather than laying off 10 workers. The government would then provide a tax credit to make up for most of the lost pay, with the employer kicking in some as well. In a typical arrangement, a worker might see his weekly hours go down by 20 percent, and his salary go down by about 4 percent.

This policy has kept the unemployment rate in Germany from rising even though the country has seen a sharper decline in GDP than in the United States. The Netherlands, which also uses work-sharing, has managed to keep its unemployment rate near 4 percent even though its GDP also has fallen more steeply than in the United States.

Work-sharing should be familiar to Californians because it’s a variation of the furlough policy that state and local governments have used to avoid further layoffs. The big difference is that the furlough policy means workers take pay cuts that are proportional to the length of their furlough — 20 percent fewer hours, 20 percent less pay.

By contrast, with a work-sharing arrangement, workers would keep their jobs while effectively dividing up the unemployment benefits that they could receive if they were laid off. For example, if a furlough requires them to take every fourth week off, instead of a 25 percent cut in pay, their pay would fall only 5 percent to 10 percent. The additional money could come from either the state unemployment insurance program or a new federal tax credit.

The cost to the government of giving this money would roughly the same as with the current unemployment insurance program.

The big difference is that instead of unemployment benefits that effectively pay people for not working, we would be paying people for working shorter hours.

California, and 16 other states, already have some form of work-sharing. California’s program dates from the 1970s and applies to both public- and private-sector employees. However, these programs are underutilized. Many workers and employers do not even know of their existence. A broad federal program, publicized extensively from the bully pulpit of the White House, would have great promise.

In addition, instead of waiting for companies to reach the point where they plan to lay off workers, the government could instead encourage companies to merely shorten hours. This could be done in any number of ways. Perhaps the simplest approach would be for the government to provide a credit roughly equal to what would be the proportional unemployment benefit to support the salaries of workers who work reduced hours.

The effect of work-sharing on employment can be substantial even when the economy has stopped losing jobs. Even now, firms in the private sector lay off or fire about 2 million workers each month. This is offset by roughly the same number of hires, so that net employment does not change much. However, if work-sharing policies could reduce the number of monthly layoffs by 10 percent, this would have the same effect on employment as creating 200,000 jobs a month.

In addition to lifting net job creation, this policy also would accelerate the recovery. As firms ramp up production, the workers they need to do the work will already be on staff. Firms can avoid spending time and money searching for new workers.

Congressional members of both parties have begun crafting a number of bills to enact work-sharing. The American people clearly want politicians to put aside their differences and focus on sound economic policies. Work-sharing would be a great place for them to start.

Bringing back the ‘soft money’ ban will guarantee neutrality

McClatchy Tribune

After the Supreme Court ruled in January that corporations may spend money to support or oppose the election of candidates, some reformers worried that the decision would doom all efforts by Congress to limit the effects of money in politics. But in a lawsuit brought by the Republican National Committee and the California Republican Party, a federal court last month upheld the centerpiece of the McCain-Feingold law — a ban on unlimited “soft money” donations to their national party committees and the California Republican Party, a federal court last month upheld the centerpiece of the McCain-Feingold law — a ban on unlimited “soft money” donations to their national party committees and the California Republican Party.

Although the ban on soft money survived the court’s January decision, four members of the majority in that ruling — Justices Clarence Thomas, Anthony M. Kennedy, Antonin Scalia and Samuel A. Alito Jr. — may be will be willing workers take pay cuts in the proportion expenditure distinction. That means that the future of restrictions may depend on Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.’s willingness to uphold the distinction the precedent he professed in his confirmation hearings.

The 2003 holding wasn’t disturbed by January’s decision, but the Republican Party hopes it will be the next domino to fall.

That would be an outrageous outcome. In 1976, the Supreme Court has sought to strike a balance between free-speech and anti-corruption interests in the appearance of corruption in election campaigns.

Essentially, the court has given Congress broad authority to regulate contributions to candidates and parties, while rejecting limitations on expenditures by or on behalf of a candidate, unless the candidate accepts public funding.

The theory is that contributions pose more of a danger of a quid pro quo than independent expenditures because they can be used as the candidate sees fit; the only “message” they convey is that a donor supports a particular candidate.

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Please call me at 805-801-1199 for further details.

The New York Times

Crossword

Across
1. you service?
4. Equilateral
7. Want like the
10. Former "Warner" and
12. Him (8)
16. "Now, now"
17. Tanya of "The
18. Like the
20. Number on a legion
22. Where O Appalachia can be found
23. The "N.L.'s Place Bear"
24. 1939 side for 57-
Across, for which she won a
Answer to Previous Puzzle

25 "The
26 Go like the
29 Kim of "NYFD
32 Fancy neckwear
35 Nothing more
than
36 Pathway
37 Eight the hard
38 See 24- and 48-
Across
39 "Summer"
40 Fox News star
41 CBS show set in
Las Vegas
42 Bigger
alternative
44 Challenges
46 Team that failed to pay the piper
47 "Hitchin' A Ride;" the 1974 N.L.
ballpark charm
48 1951 side for 57-
Across, for which she won a
49 "No met"

50 "Foot to
52 Min from Mex.
57 Sea 24- and 48-
Across
61 Big tobacco
62 "Betting on "
63 King
64 "Tattle Davis Eyes"
65 "King" of
66 "I do"
67 "Day Tripper"
68 "I do"
69 "I do"

Down
1 Flee the scene
2 Enclosed item
3 Henry's tule
4 Lift o Est
5 No flag sports
6 "I do"
7 Modernize
8 "I do"
9 Former "Slight"
10 Must of May
11 Foot around
12 Back to Pismo
13 They might bring
14 A few bucks
15 Stark's
21 "Captain Blood"
22 "I do"
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Edited by Will Shortz No. 0303

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**Women**

continued from page 16

level of focus we'll need."

The Mustangs captured the doubles point for the 14th time in 16 spring matches, but could only grab one additional point en route to a 5-2 loss. No conference team has won a higher percentage of doubles points this season than Cal Poly, which has a 16-2 record in spring matches. Cal Poly has swept doubles nine times this season, without being shutout once. The impressive doubles squad is lead by No. 26 combination of Suzie Matzenauer and Brittany Blalock who defeated Jaklin Alawi and Rachel Matyasek of Long Beach State, 8-3. At No. 2, Cal Poly duo Steffi Wong and Alexa Lee downed Deborah Armstrong and Anais Dallara, 7-6. Mustangs Diane Filip and Ashley Pate finished the sweep with an 8-2 victory over Sarah Cantlay and Julie Luzar.

Cal Poly's lone singles win came at No. 9 as Lee edged Lover 6-2, 6-3. No. 85 Matzenauer was upset by No. 125 Jaklin Alawi at No. 1, as was No. 86 Blalock who lost to unranked Anais Dallara at No. 2.

With the Mustang loss, the Wives inch ahead of Cal Poly in conference standings with the win, overtaking first place in the Big West.

After picking together a win streak against opposition like conference opponents UC Santa Barbara and UC Davis — not to mention No. 38 Dartmouth — the No. 58 Mustangs are now heading in the wrong direction.

With five games left in the regular season, now is not the time to hit a cold streak. But for the Mustangs, the opponents haven't been easy. The Mustangs have fallen to two nationally-ranked opponents — No. 11 Stanford and Long Beach State.

Against Stanford, the Cal Poly women's tennis team produced victories against the second-ranked doubles team and No. 40 singles player, but the Mustangs still fell 6-1.

"We had a hard-fought match today and I definitely think we pushed Stanford in the doubles point."

Steffi Wong recorded a win in doubles, but a loss in singles against Long Beach State.

**Men**

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to play with a lot more confidence.”

If there is any time to be playing well, it is now. The season is nearly over and the conference tournament is just over the horizon. If Cal Poly can build of their recent success, the Mustangs are still within reach of inching into postseason play.

"You want to be playing well in April," McGrath said. "Our goal is to get to the NCAA tournament and win a conference championship. The guys are pretty fired up about it.

But, the Mustangs will have to get past Denver first. Even if Cal Poly is streaking, Denver is playing well too.

Denver is (17-2) overall this season and are on a nine-game winning streak. The Pioneers have seven wins over ranked teams and have four singles players that have records above .500.

Andrew Landwerlen Leads the singles effort with a (24-5) overall record and is the only other duo with 10 wins. After graduating just one senior last season, the Pioneers enter this season with four new players and high expectations. With head coach Danny Westerman entering his fourth season coaching the Pioneers, Denver hopes to improve upon its semifinal appearance in the Sun Belt Conference tournament last year.

Cal Poly is trying to surpass last season's season ending loss in the Big West Championship semi-finals against UC Irvine, but won't be able to unless they keep winning.

It all starts with the Pioneers Thursday in Denver.
**Women’s tennis squares off against another conference opponent**

Coming into last weekend, the Cal Poly women's tennis team was seven of its past eight matches. No. 38 Long Beach State ended its momentum.

Cal Poly (12-4, 5-2) had only surrendered nine total points at home until Long Beach State (14-3, 6-0) handed Cal Poly its first home loss of the season (7-1) Friday. Long Beach State had only dropped four sets against conference opponents prior to the match.

"We enjoyed a strong performance in the doubles point. I think the players came out strong and focused and really took it to Long Beach State," head coach Hugh Bream said in a release. "At that point, I don't think we had seen Long Beach State's best tennis. We weren't entirely ready for what they brought and fell behind early, in about four or five matches. This decision will help us if we meet Long Beach State during the Big West Tournament. We know the

see Women, page 15

**Baseball falls to Fresno State**

The Mustangs (8-19, 1-2 Big West) have now lost 13 of their last 15 games with their 7-5 loss against Fresno State Tuesday night. Sophomore pitcher Kyle Anderson allowed seven earned runs and 11 hits in five innings. Cal Poly was led at the plate by senior outﬁ elder Luke Soder who went 2-4 and scored two runs. Second baseman Matt Jensen (above) tallied three RBIs off one hit, against the Bulldogs. The Mustangs will return to the field this weekend for a three-game conference series against UC Santa Barbara.

**Men’s tennis looks to continue recent success against Denver**

Playing without Andre Dome hasn’t been easy; the Mustangs current record is proof of that. Without arguably their best player this season, the Mustangs are 5-11 with four games left in the season.

Dome underwent offseason hip surgery and has not played in a dual this season. The Arroyo Grande native has been granted a medical redshirt for this season.

"He is recovering," head coach Justin McGrath said at Monday's press conference. "Hopefully he will be back in the lineup next fall."

His teammates have struggled. The Mustangs went nearly two months before they grabbed their first win of the season. But, after starting with seven losses, the Mustangs have seemed to turn their woes around by winning three of their last five matches.

"Obviously we are in a good place," McGrath said. "We've had a real difﬁcult schedule to begin with and I think that has actually helped us.

Sacramento State defeated Cal Poly 6-3 in a nonconference match at the Rio Del Oro Racquet Club in Sacramento on Saturday. The Mustangs won two of the three doubles matches to open the contest and capture the point. Cal Poly's Jordan Bridge and Drew Jacobs defeated Holden Ching and Anton Stahs 9-8 (11-9) at the No. 2 position. Blake Wardman and Brian McPhee took down Jason Smith and Jimmy Roberts, 8-6, at No. 3 to pick up the point.

In singles play, the Mustangs were without their No. 3 player, Alexander Sonesson, but still managed to take two of ﬁ ve matches. Cal Poly tallied wins at No. 4 and No. 6 singles. Jacobs defeated Ching in straight sets 6-3,6-0 at No. 4. At No. 6, Sebastian Bell defeated Tim Lintin 2-6,7-6 (8-6) and 3-2 (retired).

With Dome out, Matt Fawcett has been asked to fill the No. 1 singles position, who lost in straight sets Saturday. Just a sophomore, Fawcett is being asked to step into uncharted waters. With most of the season under his belt, Fawcett has impressed his coach.

"He has really had to step into a role that I don't think right off the bat he was truly comfortable with," McGrath said. "But now he seems to be managing it well. He has really stepped up."

Although the Mustangs struggled early, the Mustangs never lost sight of their goal. No matter how long the losing streak, McGrath kept telling his players to keep their heads up.

"I always say it is where you finish at the end of the year, not in the beginning," McGrath said. "I give the guys a lot of credit they've stuck with it — stuck with me — and they're starting