Rec Center exercise room expected to open today

By Michelle Hatfield
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

As students and faculty return to Cal Poly to make good on their New Year's resolutions, administration at the Rec Center hope to have most of the facility open today.

Parts of the exercise room have been closed during the break for remodeling.

Fitness Program Coordinator Nancy Clark said that, barring any unseen complications, the east side of the exercise room will be open 11 a.m. today, instead of Jan. 8.

"It's very odd because we're ahead of schedule," she said. "The story is that something is usually behind schedule."

The smaller room, the west room, will open Sunday. The west room has been closed since Nov. 17 and the east side has been closed since Dec. 9.

During the remodeling, the only part of the Rec Center that was closed was the exercise room. The racquetball courts, pool, locker rooms and two gyms remained open, Clark said.

The biggest part of the remodeling was tearing up the damaged floor of the exercise room. "The room had a wooden floor that was sagging and breaking," Clark said. "Cement replaced the wood and rubber flooring was layered on top, she said."

Other new features include a new layer of paint for the whole exercise room, eight ceiling fans to help improve air circulation, new mirrors on walls to help brighten up the room and racks mounted on the wall for magazines.

"As a whole, we think people will be really glad that we did it," Clark said. "We tried to inconvenience the fewest amount of people that we could."

Every winter break, the Rec Center is completely closed down for two weeks. Clark said that they scheduled the remodeling during these two weeks to help make it less inconvenient for people.

Front Line Service worker Stephanie Barnes said that she heard many students complaining about the closed gym.

see REC CENTER, page 6

Rose Float takes Founder's Trophy

By Robin Nichols
MUSTANG DAILY ARTS & FEATURES EDITOR

This year's Rose Float wasn't a grizzly situation at all for Cal Poly, which took home the Founder's Trophy at the annual Tournament of Roses parade on New Year's Day.

After months of work, the Cal Poly Rose Float entry, "A Grizzly Situation," received the Founder's Trophy at the annual Tournament of Roses with a trophy that is unfamiliar to the students and faculty that coat the set. The float included a sign that said, "A Grizzly Situation," while the float was built off of the Founder's Trophy.

"The finishing (of the float) is a great feeling of accomplishment," said Brett Davis, a mechanical engineering sophomore and Rose Float Club president. "And to have it recognized by the Tournament of Roses with a trophy and award ... that gives a feeling of gratification."

The float was moved from San Luis Obispo to Cal Poly Pomona, where the halves are joined together. During Deco Week, the final week before the parade, the club members go to Pasadena and finalize decorations and planning.

"As interim director, my job wasn't to take on new things as much as keep things going," Johnson said. "My job now will be just maintaining what they've had in the past, but being responsive to changing needs and ideas were first discussed. The following months were devoted to design and construction."

"After finals, only 50 to 75 percent of construction is complete," Davis said. "It needs to be done by the middle of December to pass final inspection by the Tournament of Roses. During the final week (of December) it gets a final coat of paint on it, it gets decorated. Nothing is glued down until Dec. 26, when almost two tons of flowers and organic matter (are put on)."

During Thanksgiving break, the float is moved from San Luis Obispo to Cal Poly Pomona, where the halves are joined together. During Deco Week, the final week before the parade, the club members go to Pasadena and finalize decorations and planning.

"It's a moment of intense pride to see the float come down the parade route and know that there is a feeling of gratification.

see FLOAT, page 6

Merit pay, trials, ASI make news over break

Election 2000 update

With Vice President Al Gore presiding, Congress formally appointed George W. Bush on Saturday as the victor in last year's close and bitterly contested presidential election.

After more than a month of election battles, Bush finally won the presidency when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in his favor on Dec. 9, halting the manual recount of votes in Florida. This decision was reached following the Florida Supreme Court's order to manually recount so-called "undervotes" in Florida's presidential election.

On Dec. 13, Vice President Al Gore conceded the 2000 presidential election in a televised speech to the nation. This move made Bush the third president-elect to receive the largest share of the electoral vote but not the popular vote.

Trial for Rex Krebs

A hearing was held in the case of Rex Krebs, the man charged with killing two local college students, in regard to an interview held last year.

According to prosecuting attorney John McClatchey, the defense and the prosecution subpoenaed notes from an interview Krebs had with Fresno Bee reporter Michael Krikorian. In it, Krebs said, "If I'm not a monster, then what am I?"

After the subpoenas were filed, McClatchey newspapers filed a motion to quash, citing the reporter's shield law. Judge Barry Laffalbuh decided in a hearing on Wednesday that he was going to honor both subpoenas, and that the rights of the defendant outweighed the rights of the reporter in this case, Trice said.

ASI executive director

Associated Students Inc. has a new executive director, but he is not an unfamiliar figure.

Rick Johnson, who has been interim executive director of ASI and the University Union since June, officially started his new position last week.

As executive director, Johnson will act as a liaison between ASI and the university to help shape the future of some programs at Cal Poly.

"As interim director, my job wasn't to take on new things as much as keep things going," Johnson said. "My job now will be just maintaining what they've had in the past, but being responsive to changing needs and
BRIEFS  
continued from page 1  
planning for the future.”

One example of something Johnson  
has worked on is planning new facilities,  
such as recreational areas, for the  
growing number of students expected in  
the next few years.

Johnson was chosen from three  
other finalists for the position.

“I feel like what came out of the  
interview process was a need for an  
advocate for students and seeing that  
their needs are met,” he said. “I’m  
thrilled. I think the future of ASI is  
very bright.”

ASI President Sam Abarne has  
worked closely with Johnson since  
the summer and will continue to have a  
day-to-day working relationship with  
him.

“I’m excited that we have someone  
who’s bringing that level of energy we  
have gotten so far,” Aborne said.

Johnson has worked in various  
positions at Cal Poly since 1983. He was  
the director of Rec Sports when the  
Rec Center was built, and he was  
included in the creation of the  
University Union master plan. He is  
a graduate of the University of  
the Pacific and has his doctorate in public  
administration from the University of  
La Verne.

CSI rejects fact-finder report

After months of disputes about  
merit pay and other issues, hopes that  
the California State University and  
members of the California Faculty  
Association would work out their dif-  
fences have once again been crushed.

The CSU system rejected the report  
of Richard B. Pandoe, a neutral fact  
finder on Jan. 2, claiming it offered no  
compromise.

“The majority opinion of the fact-  
finder report was flawed and was not  
helpful in the California State  
University’s efforts to reach an agree-  
ment with the faculty union,” said Sam  
Strick, chief negotiator for the CSU  
system and senior director of employee  
relations, in a press release last week.

The CFA was pleased with the fact  
finder’s report.

“Our case has been strengthened  
significantly,” said CFA President  
Susan Meisenhelder in a CFA press  
release. However, the CFA’s response  
to the CSU system’s rejection was one  
of disappointment.

Cal Poly political science professor  
and CFA chapter president Paul Fetter  
said the response from the CSU system  
was disappointing, but expected.

“The fact finder was pretty critical  
of the merit pay,” Fetter said. “He went  
along with our position on the argu-  
ment.”

The CFA will likely have a state  
board meeting next month to decide  
what to do next.

“Now we'll just carry on the old  
contract in what's called imposition,”  
Fetter said. “Even if they impose the  
contract, they'll honor the salary  
adjustments from legislature-allocated  
money. Everything can be bargained in  
June.”

Horse theft unresolved

After the four stolen horses from  
Cal Poly stables at the end of  
September were recovered in October,  
the University Police were left investi-  
gating the identity of the perpetrator.

University Police Chief Tony Amts  
said last Friday that the investigation  
was open. He couldn’t comment at  
length about the case but said, “The  
investigation looks really good.”

Three of the four stolen horses were  
found on Oct. 11 in Kern County after  
police received an anonymous tip.

They were returned to their owners  
in good condition. The fourth horse was  
found a week later in Orange County  
and was also returned safely.

Dorm theft still a  
mystery

University Police are continuing  
their search for the perpetrator of the  
burglaries of North Mountain dorm  
rooms that occurred sometime  
between Nov. 23 and Nov. 24.

“At this point it's still open case,  
but it's not where I'd like it to be,” said  
University Police Chief Tony Amts  
on Friday.

Nine dorm rooms were broken into  
and approximately $1,400 worth of  
goods was stolen. Items lost ranged  
from fish tanks to CDS to belt buckles.

Amts said the police have stopped  
a variety of suspicious people on campus,  
but "nothing has gone produced at  
this point.” Police have also inter-  
viewed many dorm residents and were  
given a lead by a female resident  
who allegedly saw a white male with dark  
hair in his twenties climbing out a  
dorm window.

“There isn't anything there that  
we're really going to be able to pursue,”  
Amts said. He encourages all dorm  
residents to report any suspicious behav-  
or.

Plane  
crashes near SLO  
airport

SAN LUIS OBISPO (AP) — A  
small Cessna plane crashed about  
one mile north of San Luis Obispo  
airport, killing two people.

Witnesses heard the plane crash  
around 8:30 p.m. Saturday, less  
than 200 yards from a residential  
area, authorities said.

The man and the woman,  
believed to be between 25 and 30  
years old, were the only two aboard  
the Cessna 172F four-seater, said  
Sgt. Mike Sheridan from the sher-  
iff's department. Their identities  
were not immediately released.

Carolyn Huber, operation super-  
visor for the San Luis Obispo  
County airport, said the plane had  
just taken off when it crashed.

The local tower was closed at the  
time of takeoff, but Huber said there  
was no “call of distress.”

It is not unusual for an experi-  
enced pilot to take off after-hours  
or in fog, which was thick Saturday  
night near the airport, she said.

The National Transportation  
Safety Board will investigate the crash.

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The Daily needs a  
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Manager.
Why is there a paper practice is to he^in publication on the first Thursday.
But, in fact, we are publishing three extra issues this week to make up for lost ad revenue due to Monday holidays.

News

**Fox defends 'Island'**

PASADENA (AP) — Fox television set in a race to a new reality series, "Temptation Island," is not about sex — but the show's participants were tested for sexually transmitted diseases.

Conservative and religious groups are up in arms after only seeing promos for the series, which debuts Wednesday. It depicts four couples brought to a steamy island overrun with scantly-clad singles, urged to test the boundaries of their relationships. They execute defenses "Temptation Island" on Sunday, while at the same time stepping back from last year's promise to stay away from raunchy reality.

"This is not a show, as you will see, that is about sex," said Sandy Grushow, chairman of the Fox Television Entertainment Group. "This is a show that is exploring the dynamics of serious relationships."

Still, Fox tested participants for sexually transmitted diseases, part of an effort by TV networks to be extra careful about the background of reality show participants. Fox was burned last spring when it came out that its "Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire?" groom, Rick Rockwell, had a restraining order issued against him by an ex-fiancee. Fox refused to say whether any of its participants suffered similar drawbacks or had restraining orders issued against them by ex-fiancees.

"I don't think this is a show that is about sex," said Brent Pocacl, founder of the Parents Television Council. "It's a long way, Bozell said, from "The Dating Game," which celebrated the creation of new relationships.

"I don't think this is a show that endeavors to pry apart couples," Grushow said, urging people not to prejudge it.

He claimed the show is low-provocative than the commercials hawk it. After having seen two episodes, he said it falls "within the boundaries of appropriateness."

When the quick marriage of Rockwell and Dara Conger blew up in Fox's face last spring, Grushow publicly said the network was getting out of the lazy reality show business it pioneered.

"They're gone," he said then. "They're over." Any subsequent non-fiction programming had to meet tougher tone tests, he promised.

Since then, the success of "Survivor," on CBS proved the public has an appetite for the genre, Grushow said. Rockwell and Conger publicly said they were married in a "Millionaire?" gown, Rick Rockwell, 26, of Seattle, after he and Conger tied the knot.

DeCar makes his living as a musician Elvis. He also owns the motel behind the chapel and takes pride in its pink and black Elvis and Priscilla theme. Anyone interested in sleeping in a bed that is built into the front half of an actual 1954 pink Cadillac would love it.

Sleeping like the King is one thing, but having him perform your marriage ceremony?

"Most of the people that come to Las Vegas envision themselves being married by the King," declares Elvis. "1 didn't realize how much people love it."

DeCar makes his living as a musician Elvis. He also owns the motel behind the chapel and takes pride in its pink and black Elvis and Priscilla theme. Anyone interested in sleeping in a bed that is built into the front half of an actual 1954 pink Cadillac would love it.
Think writing is easy? I'd like to see you try!

Writing is easy, right? At least, opinions writing is easy. Probably every student agrees that essays, theses and term papers are excruciatingly difficult to put together. Most people I've met think that nothing could be easier than slapping a few sentences together, adding an introduction and conclusion and dusting their hands off to be done with it all, another column, such as this one.

In actuality, writing is hard. There aren't many people who can "slap a few sentences together." There are even fewer people who can get the sentences into some semblance of coherent order. Fewer still are capable of wielding the proper grammar, vocabulary and punctuation that is so necessary in this highly critical, literary society. Finally, only a minute fraction of humanity can make the ordered, grammatically correct sentences interesting enough to hold the average reader's attention. Forgive me for saying so, but the typical reader will be shocked from the printed page for something as trivial as the material of a particularly nasty Orange Julius.

As someone who has quite a bit of experience in writing for the opinion page, I can safely say that it is an extreme challenge to regularly craft 500 attention-capturing words. I'm not saying that I am a member of the minute fraction of literati. But I have no illusions of grandeur. In fact, I const myself as lucky if 45 percent of the people who begin reading this column are still with me at this point. Even now, readers are flling away, distracted by shoes that need to be tied, deciding what toppings to get on their next pizza and succumbing to that feeling like you need to sneeze when you walk into bright sunlight. This is my competition, and, sadly, I feel like I'm fighting a losing battle.

Maybe you can help.

I'm looking for people to write regular columns for Mustang Daily. Having opinions and being able to write a plan. I've only got so many opinions, and even most of those are pretty weak. It took me nearly two hours to come up with the idea for this column, and, in the case of 25 percent of you still with me, I haven't noticed, there aren't really any opinions in it.

If you have strong opinions and/or a witty way to express them, you may have what it takes to be a regular contributor to this fine publication.

Drop by the Mustang Daily office, building 226, room 26. Or, call me at 736-1296. You can even e-mail me at mustangdaily@hotmail.com. Provide your contact information and a couple samples of your writing. If you've got what it takes, you could become the proud owner of two copy inches and win the undying love and respect of literally dozens of people. Sound impossible? It's not. Why not just give it a try?

Really, it's easy.

Ryan Miller is the Mustang Daily opinion editor.

Opinion

Ryan Miller

Four weeks off: blessing or curse?

Is there such a thing as too much vacation? Is there a possibility that something like winter break can be too long?

A lot of you fellow students and faculty will say "Hell no!"

To tell you the truth, I was delighted when I looked at the calendar and saw that we had an extra week of vacation for winter break this year. But, as the days were on, my opinion changed. After a little too much time with my family, I started asking why we all get this extra week instead of the three to which we had all become accustomed.

Valerie Mathews of Academic Programs said the reason for the extended break had to do with starting classes on a Monday. She said the Academic Senate requested approval of the calendar, stating that "whenever it is possible, a quarter should begin on a Monday."

Heaven forbid that we come back to school on Jan. 2, a Tuesday.

Most professors think that it's good to start on a Monday, since many professors would lose a valuable day of instruction if classes started on a Tuesday or Wednesday. This quarter, professors already lose two Mondays because of academic holidays.

Students who spend their whole break working are also in favor of having the extra week. My friend Ethan spent the whole four weeks working and made an extra $150 the fourth week than he would have made working for a only three weeks.

There are some downsides to having an extended break, though.

Spring commencement was held at the end of the second week of June last year, and has been moved to the third week this school year. As witnessed by our opinion editor, some families that have already made hotel reservations for the second week have to find some place that is not already booked.

I'm still debating whether or not the longer break is a good thing or a bad thing.

I liked the extra time, but part of me thinks that four weeks is too long. I'm one of those people who gets bored fast. My family just wasn't able to keep me occupied. It's not that I want to come back to classes, but I have to say that living the college life is awesome. It's always nice to come back to San Luis Obispo to a parentless atmosphere.

And then there's the inevitable getting up earlier than you ever did over the break to get to your classes so that you aren't dropped the first day.

The fact is that it doesn't matter whether we start classes on a Monday or a Wednesday, we have a minimum of 147 instructional days each quarter. Even if classes started on Friday, we'd still have to serve 147 days.

I'm more troubled about only having one week for spring break. We have four weeks that separate fall and winter quarters, but only one week between winter and spring quarters.

And if you're lucky enough to attend summer quarter at Cal Poly, you don't get a break between spring and summer quarters this year. But, you do get a three-day weekend because summer quarter classes don't start until June 19, a TUESDAY!

Michelle Hatfield is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter Policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily.

Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Please limit length to 350 words. Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten and must be signed with major and class standing. Preference is given to e-mailed letters. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to mustangdaily@hotmail.com.
Opinion

Letter to the editor
Seek alternatives to alcohol
Editor,
Last quarter, Chancellor Reed spoke to students about many issues pertaining to the California State University System and Cal Poly. The one that caught my attention for more than one reason was the alcohol issue. He stated that “alcohol abuse is the biggest problem...on American university campuses.” I couldn’t agree more. I feel that it is a very big issue, not just for university students, but for all young adults. Your freshman year is often filled with many new experiences, as this is probably your first time away from home. Experimentation is bound to happen at one point or another. The problem is that often we are unable to understand the consequences that come with these new “games.” Recently, a freshman died at Chico State University due to alcohol consumption. He just drank himself to death, and no one around him realized until it was too late. I hate the idea of someone dying because they didn't understand exactly all of what they were doing. I also don’t understand how students and communities don't come up with more realistic and fun alternatives for students to participate in rather than experimenting.

Don’t get me wrong, I'm not advocating abstinence, but rather prevention and alternatives. Because I feel strongly about this issue, I was appointed to the Alcohol Abuse Task Force by the chancellor. But I am only one voice, and there are over 16,000 voices at Cal Poly. Let people know in your student government and the university if you want to see changes. They don’t know what you want until you tell them.

Veronica Shippy is a Cal Poly representative to the Statewide Committee on Alcohol Abuse.

Missile crisis looms in President Bush’s future

Does this scenario sound familiar? A young, inexperienced president is elected to office with a slim electoral majority and faces grave doubts about his abilities from leaders both at home and abroad. A Russian leader, concerned with the United States’ expanding power, decides to test the new president’s resolve by making a surprise transfer of nuclear weapons. This was the same type of events that led to the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet premier at the time, decided to give Cuban dictator Fidel Castro nuclear missiles because he thought the newly elected president, John F. Kennedy, was diplomatically incompetent. Russian missiles and weak leadership brought our country to the brink of nuclear war with the Soviet Union. And yet, a frighteningly similar chain of events has just taken place in Eastern Europe.

For the first time since the break up of the Soviet Union, Russian tactical nuclear weapons (short-range, nuclear-tipped missiles) were deployed in Kaliningrad, Russia’s westernmost territory on the Baltic Sea. Kaliningrad, which borders Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, and the Baltic Sea, broke away from Russia in 1991 but has yet to be recognized as an independent country. The deployment, which began in June, is first reported by a U.S. military intelligence bulletin.

Although Russia has denied the existence of any nuclear weapons, the Times of London confirmed that senior U.S. officials indicated that nuclear missiles had been moved. The exact type of nuclear weapons that were moved is still unknown, but the military report speculated that the warheads were going to be used in conjunction with new short-range Russian missiles. With a range of only about 182 miles, the missiles in Kaliningrad are too far east to threaten western European countries like Germany or Austria, but could easily be employed against neighboring eastern European countries such as Poland, Lithuania or Latvia.

During his campaign, President-elect George W. Bush hinted that he would support the eventual inclusion of Baltic states such as Lithuania and Latvia, into NATO. Therefore, the decision by Russian President Vladimir Putin to redeploy the nuclear weapons could be seen as an attempt to threaten Bush against such an expansion of NATO. The real question is how the president-elect and his so-called foreign policy “all-stars” like Colin Powell, Condoleezza Rice and Donald Rumsfeld will react to Putin’s new aggressiveness. In a November 1999 speech, Bush stated that “Russia does have interests in its newly independent neighbors. But those interests must be expressed in commerce and diplomacy — not coercion and domination.” One could certainly interpret this type of buildup of nuclear weapons as a type of not-so-subtle coercion.

Perhaps a more aggressive Russia was an inevitable product of Bush’s defense policies. Putin sees Bush’s proposed National Missile Defense (NMD) system as a major threat to Russia’s current foreign policy. And his advisors claim the still-theoretical NMD system would only be used to defend against surprise attacks from territories or rogue nations like Iran or North Korea. But Russians believe the system would protect the U.S. from anything short of a massive nuclear attack, and would force the Russians to increase their nuclear stockpiles at a time when the country is already struggling with the edge of economic chaos.

Putin’s actions may, however, be a bit premature considering the fact that a working missile defense system has been under consideration since the Johnson administration, yet has never been perfected technologically. Apparently, Bush did such a good job of convincing people that the fictitious missile defense system could work, he even spooked the Russians. If an overly aggressive Russia does turn out to be Bush’s major foreign policy crisis, it would be wise to take a brief history refresher course. Back in 1962, Kennedy chose to pursue a non-violent policy instead of going to war against the Soviet missile presence in Cuba, rather than the more offensive responses suggested by most of his advisors. Although Bush might see himself as another Reagan, this situation calls for Kennedy-like tactics.

Let’s just hope Bush can cool things down in Eastern Europe before we revert to what things were like in 1981, or God forbid, 1962.

Dan Pollock, Dartmouth College, U.-wire.

My two cultures clash

I was always too bright to be white, and too white to be brown. Coming from differing backgrounds, my place could only be found in an imaginary place in between. No matter which side of the Atlantic I was on, I was always half a world away from one side of my family.

I remember as a child wishing I could live on an island in the middle of the Atlantic, exactly between Pakistan and the United States, so I could be close to my mother’s family in the United States and my father’s family in Pakistan.

But I know that it’s more than just ocean and land that separate my two ethnicities. The values and beliefs held by my two families conflict. So I experience a conflict inside myself while standing in the middle of two worlds.

I was born into a Muslim family on the second day of the month of Ramadan, which is observed by Muslims all over the world. In Pakistan this year, it fell during the holy month of Ramadan, during the three-day celebration of Eid Al-Fitr.

It is a time when Muslims feast after a month of fasting. The fast begins at dawn and ends at sunset. During this time, Muslims refrain from eating, drinking, smoking, and engaging in sexual activity. The fast is broken with Iftar, the evening meal.

For Muslims, this is a time to reflect on their beliefs and to be educated about their faith. It is a time to remember the lessons taught by the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and to follow his example.

For Muslims in Pakistan, this year, it fell during the holy month of Ramadan. During the three-day celebration of Eid Al-Fitr, the fast is broken with Iftar, the evening meal.

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Israel points finger at Arafat

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel on Sunday accused a militia affiliated with Yasser Arafat’s political faction of carrying out a bus bombing in Tel Aviv 10 days ago — a move certain to add fuel to Prime Minister Ehud Barak’s contention that the Palestinian leader is to blame for attacks against Israelis.

The allegation came as top Israeli and Palestinian officials met in Cairo with the American CIA chief to try to negotiate a truce. Arafat’s militants have signaled they may soften their stance to discuss terms of a US peace plan with the Palestinians until Arafat moves to quell anti-Israel unrest.

The Palestinians, in turn, say clashes are likely to continue as long as a stringent Israeli blockade of the West Bank and Gaza Strip remains in place.

Senior security officials from both sides held talks in Cairo under the auspices of CIA chief George Tenet, but the Palestinians said the meeting was not aimed at meeting Israel’s demand for a drop-off in violence.

Near the tense West Bank town of Hebron, a Palestinian man was shot dead after Israeli soldiers fired shots at a checkpoint, witnesses said. The army said he was a Palestinian militant who fled as soldiers tried to detain him.

In Washington, the White House said President Clinton planned to send mediator Dennis Ross to the region in coming days for separate talks with Arafat and Barak, in an attempt to narrow the differences between the two sides.

As time runs down on Clinton’s term, there are indications he is shifting his goal from negotiated settlement between Israel and the Palestinians to a declaration of principles to guide the incoming administration.

Mustang Daily
6 Monday, January 8, 2001
News

Flu shots now available for all Cal Poly Students at Health Services

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Student Affairs Division
Ravens stifle Titans

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — In one corner was the illustrious Baltimore Ravens. In the other were two total unknowns. Together, they sent the Baltimore Ravens into the AFC title game.

Baltimore's Keith Washington blocked a field-goal attempt and Anthony Mitchell returned it 90 yards for the go-ahead score as the Ravens again brought out the worst in All-Divine Greco in beating the Tennessee Titans 24-10 on Sunday.

Lewis, the NFL's defensive player of the year, clinched it with a 50-yard interception return after chasing the ball from the arms of Eddie George. The two TD returns accounted for more yards than Baltimore's offense, which was held to 114 yards.

The Ravens (14-4) now go to Oakland to play the Raiders next Sunday in the conference title game, the first time the franchise erased of the year, clinched it with a 50-yard interception return after chasing the ball from the arms of Eddie George. The two TD returns accounted for more yards than Baltimore's offense, which was held to 114 yards.

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New coach takes over Cal Poly football

By Brian Milne
The Mustang Daily

Twenty-four days after Cal Poly Athletic Director John McCutcheon told head football coach Larry Webb to pack his bags, Rich Ellerson was asked to unpack his.

Ellerson, 46, defensive coordinator at the University of Arizona the past four seasons, was hired as head coach. He replaces Webb, 59, whose contract wasn’t renewed after his fourth season.

"When we got into coaching 20 years ago, we visualized ourselves being in some place like this, in a community like this," Ellerson said of himself and his family during a press conference held at Mott Gym.

"I am so proud that we have this opportunity," he added. "We will continue to work hard to gain your trust and hopefully you will share that enthusiasm with us.

McCutcheon, who met with eight prospective individuals and spoke with another 10-plus candidates by phone, said Ellerson brings a perfect mix to the Division I-A program.

"He has a lot of experience," McCutcheon said of Ellerson, whose name surfaced from a number of candidates during his search. "He's been in the coaching ranks for a while now. He has been in a number of situations and is highly regarded nationally for his technical expertise and he's familiar with California, being in the Western region for quite a bit of his career. When I sat down and talked with him, I got an understanding of his ideal system of how academics and athletics blend together. It really sounded like a perfect fit for us.

This past season, while Cal Poly was 5-7, the Wildcats ranked fourth in the nation in rushing defense and, allowing just 88.5 yards per game.

"The Wildcats also ranked second in total defense (315.5 yards per game) and turnover gained with 33.1.

The Wildcats concluded the year at 5-6 under coach Dick Tomey, who resigned following the final game.

"I just came from a situation we all know," Ellerson said. "It's scary to open a paper. You open that thing and you can see big-time coaching football and the coaching changes and the money floating around out there. And at that level things get a little warped. I really believe we have a chance to do some great things competitively, but we can do them with a sense of balance and a sense of proportion."

Academics and athletics won't be the only thing Ellerson will have to focus on in his first year manning the Mustangs. He will also serve as the defensive coordinator after he was unable to lure his top choices away from various programs across the nation.

Ellerson invited Arizona in 1992 as an outside linebacker coach before taking over the entire defensive front in 1993. He was named assistant head coach prior to the 1995 season. His defense led the Pac-10 Conference and ranked 12th nationally in rushing defense in 1998, bringing Arizona a school-record dozen victories.

He was also responsible for coaching the Wildcat kickers as Sean Keel improved from making only six of 19 attempts in 1999, to making 13 of 17 tries last season, ranking him third in the Pac-10 with 1.18 field goals per game.

The Mustangs split the uprights just eight of 13 times (0.7 field goals a game) last season.

Ellerson was a four-year assistant defensive coordinator Larry MacDuff from 1992 to 1995. The Wildcats' fearsome "Desert Swarm" defense ranked No. 2 against the run from 1992 to 1993 and ranked in the top 10 in total defense all four years.

see ELLERSON, page 7

Mustangs hit the skids

Men's basketball drops first two Big West Conference games

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Cal Poly men's basketball team has had a handful of wins slip between its fingers this season.

But recent heartbreaks to Boise State and Utah State to open the Big West have left the Mustangs, 5-6 and 0-2 in conference, with their hands in the air.

On Saturday, questions remained regarding the team's leadership role as Cal Poly fell to Boise State 83-79 for the fourth straight game.

Cal Poly had a chance to tie the game, trailing 82-79, in waning seconds before David Henry threw the ball past Chris Bjorklund with 29 seconds remaining in regulation.

Booster Nabors scorched the Mustangs for a season-high 22 points and Abe Jackson added 21.

Boise State (9-6 overall) led 49-41 at halftime — which was the most the Mustangs have allowed over the first 20 minutes this season. The Broncos led 6-57 before the Mustangs cut the lead to 64-63 on a three by Jamail Scott, and a pair of key free throws by David Henry.

The teams traded baskets before Jeremiah Mayes shaved the lead to 66-65 with a free throw. The senior had 20 points and five rebounds after he was ranked from the starting lineup by Cal Poly coach Joe Schmidt for lack of production.

But Nabors answered with a jumper in the paint to push the lead to 74-68 and the Broncos never looked back.

Cal Poly out-rebounded Boise State 40-30 and shot a decent 48.1 percent, but Boise State shot 60.3 percent and forced 12 Cal Poly turnovers.

Scott finished with a team-high 21 points, eight rebounds and four blocks.

On Thursday night, the Mustangs mounted an impressive second-half comeback but crumbled to Utah State 82-68.

Senior Shawn Daniels lit up Mott Gym with 24 points and grabbed seven rebounds for Utah State, which has won 20 consecutive conference games.

The Aggies raced to a 24-9 lead to open the game, but the Mustangs scrambled back to 58-54 with 9:15 remaining thanks to the inside presence of Vannay Dennis.

But the Aggies outdueled the Mustangs 24-14 over the final eight minutes.

Cal Poly, which out-rebounded Utah State 35-32, was led by Bjorklund's 19 points. Scott added 12 points and two blocks, while Wintendor had 10 points.

The Mustangs host Texas A&M Corpus Christi in a non-conference game tonight at 7 p.m. Cal Poly lost its first game of the season at the Islanders Circle K Court 86-72 on Nov. 26.

The Mustangs hope to improve on 64.4 percent from the foul line (12 of 18) and a struggling 38.6 percent from the field (27-70).

Guard Michael Hicks, a member of the Panamanian National Team, scored 40 points on 15-of-21 shooting and eight of 12 from the charity stripe. He had 14 rebounds and two steals in the game.

Bjorklund tallied 29 points in the losing effort as Scott and Favors fouled out in the game, leaving the team without its starting backcourt for most of the second half.

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The retirement of the three-time heavyweight Olympic champ Felix Savon is regarded nationally for his technical system of how academics and athletics blend together. It really sounded like a perfect fit for us.

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see ELLERSON, page 7

Sports Trivia

Previous Answer:
Rick Pitino coached Providence and Kentucky to the Final Four.

Congrats Steve Corino!

Today's Question:
Who was the only Atlanta Hawks player to have won the NBA scoring title?

Please submit sports trivia answers to sports@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu.

Scores

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Utah State 82
Cal Poly 69

Boise State 83
Utah State 70

Women's basketball

San Diego State 73
Cal Poly 63

Boise State 79
Idaho State 43

Briefs

Olympic champ Felix Savon retires

HAVANA (AP) — Felix Savon, one of the greatest boxers in Olympic history, retired and will become coach of Cuba's national team.

The retirement of the three-time heavyweight Olympic champ was announced Sunday by the Cuban Boxing Federation and the official Panam Sports news agency.

No reason was given for the decision by the 33-year-old fighter.

(Mustang Daily)

FRIDAY

• Men's basketball vs. Texas A&M-CC
  • in Mott Gym
  • at 7 p.m.

WRESTLING

• at 7 p.m.

Swimming

• at 2 p.m.

Freshman Jamail Scott led the Mustangs on Saturday with 21 points, eight rebounds and four blocks against Boise State.

Mustang Daily

8 Monday, January 8, 2001