Bandfest to take flight
By Samantha Yale

The music department's Bandfest 2003 is scheduled to honor two air pioneers on Saturday.
This year's Bandfest is entitled "A Wind Instrument Spectacular" and will feature the Cal Poly Wind Ensemble, the 100-member Mustang Band and the Wind Ensemble. The show will take place Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Human Hall of the Chris Poly Performing Arts Center.
Music senior Holly Ransom will be featured in Gordon Jacob's Concerto for Bass Trombone and Wind Orchestra.
"I performed and enjoyed other works by the composer in the past, and was excited when one of my teachers found this piece written to feature the bass trombone," Ransom said.
The opportunity for Ransom is rewarding, especially considering that this will be her last performance before graduating.
"After working so hard for four years at Cal Poly, it is really rewarding to end my career here with a solo at the front of the stage," she said.

see BANDFEST, page 2

Microchips save pets
By Amy Hessick

It was a mutual decision to come to Cal Poly together. They have been friends since fourth grade and are virtually inseparable. But finding housing together was more difficult than for most roommates.
Computer science junior Lisa Shealy and Coco, her American Eskimo dog, eventually found a place to live on a ranch in Nipomo.
"It's a long drive, but I can't imagine giving him up because he's been with me for more than 10 years," she said. "If he passed away, I would definitely move closer to campus."

Students with pets can experience a strange sense of attachment to them. For those who do, looking into microchip identification implants may be important.

The San Luis Obispo County Animal Shelter was able to return close to a dozen lost animals to their owners because of microchip identification technology implanted in pets, said Eric Anderson, animal services manager for the animal shelter.

The microchips that are implanted in dogs and cats are about the size of a grain of rice and are implanted under the skin between the animals' shoulder blades. The microchip injection causes about the same amount of discomfort as a vaccine injection, Anderson said.
However, some people may choose not to force their animals through the procedure because the syringe is huge and frightens them, Shealy said. Personally, though, she said that despite the pain and chance of infection the long-term benefits are greater.
But architectural engineering junior Kristen Powell received an visual scent.

"No, if my dog runs away, it runs away," — Dan Lake has a yellow fish named Action

"I would because my fish lives in a really big tank," — Sarah Dalglish has a purple beta fish named Bubbo

see PETS, page 2

Paint dumped in creek
By Graham Womack

The smell of paint was thick. A Foothill Boulevard resident who requested anonymity was on her way outside to attend to a load of laundry Monday afternoon when she perceived an unusual scent.
"I walked out the door and it smelled like paint thinner," the woman said. "It smelled like it was right outside the door. I didn't think to look at the creek."

When she did take a look from her back porch, milky white coating clouding the creek caused her to immediately dial 911, just before 5 p.m., ultimately summoning three fire trucks, county health officials, and a pumping company, among other people to the 1200 block of Foothill Boulevard, just outside the bank of canyon.

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see CREEK, page 2
arduous materials specialist on the first engine, firefighter Matt Callahan said.

Paint spread about 100 feet by the time the first unit showed up and firefighters moved quickly to limit the contamination. They set up three jams, hooves and absorbent material for the paint, firefighter Rik Grencik said.

"The first hour was the most labor intensive," Grencik said.

Firefighters then waited almost three hours, while a truck could be brought in from San Ardo, just north of San Miguel, to pump out the water from the dam. The last firefighters left the scene about 8:30 p.m., as the water was taken for further analysis at County Health.

Grencik stressed that his operation was tedious, not grueling. "It's a hurry-up and wait type operation," Grencik said.

Because of the location of the spill and the quick response, no wildlife was harmed. "We were really fortunate to hold it to 200 feet," Grencik said.

Further parts of Stoner Creek pass through downtown and eventually lead to Arvi Beach, where steelhead and salmon populations being restored could have been in danger, James said.

"If we don't take it out that's eventually going to make it into a more populated habitat," James said.

As the water was removed, firefighters also took out soil and moved to restore the creek bed. Overall, many were impressed with the quality of the operation, including the anonymous woman who, because of the location of her house was on scene for the duration of the firefighters eight-hour operation.

"It was really impressive with how quickly they responded and how thoroughly they cleaned it up," she said, whose two and a half-year old son received an in-depth tour of one of the fire trucks.

Cleanup costs, estimated to be between $20,000 to $30,000 by Grencik, will fall on the contractor. The man identified as a lawyer, refused press time, declined an interview attempt Monday, saying he didn't have time.

Water quality specialist Kim Babu said all storm drains in the city lead into the creeks. "Nothing but rain water should be going in those drains," Babu said.

Some traffic flow was affected on Foothill and California boulevards and Hathaway Street, as police officers directed traffic.

Nightclub awarded $100M in damages

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. (AP) — A federal court jury ended a three-year lawsuit by awarding a nightclub $113,000 in damages.

Owners of the Blue Lagoon on Pacific Avenue sued the city, claiming police harassment. The city has already spent nearly half a million dollars defending itself.

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CARMON CITY, Nev. — With few leads to go on, Carson City authorities continued to search for a woman whose 3-year-old son was found in a bloody shirt and told police his mother was dead. Investigators said Bertha Augustine, 33, had dropped off an older son at school Monday morning, and the little boy was with her. The boy was found about 90 minutes later, 15 miles away in the parking lot of the Smith’s grocery store in Dayton. He had a wound on his head and was bleeding.

“She said he was pushed out of a vehicle and that he saw someone kill her,” Carson City Sheriff Ken Farlow said.

“We have no verification of that, and right now we’re treating this as a missing person believed to be in danger under suspicious circumstances,” Farlow said.

SAN JOSE — Police said Wednesday they had arrested one of three teenage girls who allegedly tied up a group home counselor and four other children when they arrived Wednesday during a standoff at an apartment, police said.

Investigators said Bertha Anaiano, 33, had dropped off an older son and was bleeding. James Jones, 17, was taken into custody in Stockton and told investigators that the others were driving one of the home’s vans — a 2001 white Dodge Caravan — south toward the Los Angeles area, said Officer Catherine Unger, a spokeswoman for the San Jose Police Department.

Police said the counselor wasn’t injured during Tuesday’s assault and managed to untie herself and notify the police.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Suspended Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore had “every legal right” to ignore an order to remove his Ten Commandments monument from the rotunda of the state courthouse, Moore’s attorneys said Wednesday at his judicial ethics trial.

Attorney General Bill Pryor, whose office is prosecuting Mixon, has said he feared two people were dead in a head-on.

The episode began about 3:40 a.m. when police went to the Smith’s grocery store in Dayton. He had a wound on his head and was bleeding.

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Experimental AIDS vaccine fails test in Thailand

By Paul Elias ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — An experimental AIDS vaccine tested in Thailand on some 2,500 drug users failed, biotechnology company VaxGen Inc. announced Wednesday.

The poor results were widely expected after the Brisbane-based company announced in February that a much larger experiment testing its vaccine in North America had also failed to prevent AIDS infections.

Most AIDS researchers agree vaccines will be the only effective way to control a pandemic that has killed 28 million people and infected 42 million more, most of them in Africa.

Now that VaxGen's vaccine has failed, attention has turned to the two dozen other experimental vaccines now being tested on 12,000 human volunteers in experiments around the world. But none of those are as advanced as VaxGen's two failed experiments and any successful candidate is years away. The Thai results underscored again how notoriously inefficient vaccines are in beating the body's immune system, company officials said.

"The outcome of this trial is one more reminder of how difficult it is to combat HIV and how important it is for the international public health community to redouble the effort to develop an effective vaccine," VaxGen president Dr. Donald Francis said.

VaxGen's vaccine, like most others being tested, didn't contain the virus itself and can't cause AIDS instead, the vaccine contained small, man-made genetic bits of the virus that scientists had hoped would provoke an immune response strong enough to stop the virus from invading healthy cells.

Three years ago, the company enrolled 2,564 people in and around Bangkok who injected drugs and were considered at high risk because of their needle-snorting habits. Half were given the experimental vaccine and half were given a placebo. All volunteers were given extensive risk-reduction counseling, the company said.

In the end, the vaccine offered no greater protection than nothing at all. 105 people given the placebo became infected with HIV and 100 people given the vaccine tested positive.

In February, VaxGen announced its vaccine was ineffective against a different AIDS strain found in North America. In that experiment, the vaccine failed in a test with 3,482 volunteers deemed to be at risk because of their sexual habits.

The company was criticized when it said results from a tiny population of blacks and women in the experiment suggested the vaccine may have promise in those groups. VaxGen said more extensive human studies would be needed in blacks and women to decide.
Mustang Daily

News

Thursday, November 13, 2003

Spammers clogging blogs, cells, IMs

By Matthew Fordahl

SAN JOSE — Three years ago, Adam Kalsey set up a Web log to share his thoughts about online busi­ness and the digital revolution. Like countless other "bloggers," he lets his readers post comments on his entries. Recently, his site has been getting remarks like "Thanks for the information," and "Sounds great!" They're not from supporters, but from people — or machines — who leave names like "Generic Viagra," "OnLine Gambling," "Free Poker" and links to other unsavory sites.

"We ought to be legislating general concepts; things like you can't market to somebody who's asked you not to," said David Sorkin, a professor who studies spam laws at John Marshall Law School.

"It's possible legislation targeting unwanted e-mail could be used to fight other unwanted communication: text messages on cell phones, or spam mail originating from e-mail. Laws limiting telemarketing also might be useful.

But that assumes the legislation will work, and that spammers won't move outside the law. Kalsey, a Web consultant who lives near Sacramento, has taken matters into his own hands. In fact, many of his comments of late are focused on combating Web log spam, including the creation of a "Comment Spam Manifesto."

"What you failed to understand is that bloggers are smart, better connected and more technologically savvy than the average e-mail user," said Kalsey, who runs his own blog.

"It forces you to either turn off the comments and lose some of the value of the medium, or spend your time deleting spam," said Kalsey, who runs his own blog.

Today, most of the attention of lawmakers has been on e-mail spam, which is estimated to comprise nearly half of e-mail traffic. Attempts to write broader laws have not succeed­ed, and might whittle away at free speech. "We ought to be legislating general concepts; things like you can't market to somebody who's asked you not to," said David Sorkin, a professor who studies spam laws at John Marshall Law School.

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Toddler revived after drowning

By Kady Togulov

ORANGE (AP) — Brain scans of a toddler revived two hours after she was believed dead from drowning showed no serious problems, a doctor said.

Twenty-month-old Mackayla Jepersen, listed in serious condition, had opened her eyes and at times moved her arms and legs, said James Cappon, a critical-care specialist at Children's Hospital of Orange County. He said Tuesday that doctors were awaiting further neurological improvements "though that very much remains a day-to-day thing."

The girl was found floating face down in her family's swimming pool Friday morning and was rushed to the hospital, where doctors pronounced her dead.

About 40 minutes later, police Detective Mike Kendrick was conducting a routine investigation into the death when he noticed Mackayla's chest was moving. He summoned doctors, who were able to revive her.

Diagnosis a day-to-day thing

The hospital did not release the names of doctors involved.

Sex ed off limits in Kyrgyz schools

By Kadryogu lov

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan — The book was written more than two years with input from high school students.

"We looked for people to write the book, but we couldn't find anybody who was ready to do it," Shapiro said. "Teachers were saying they didn't know AIDS and sexual transmitted diseases. And doctors were saying they didn't know methods of teaching."

AIDS is spreading rapidly in this nation of 4.5 million. More than 450 people are registered as being infected with HIV — a 300-fold jump in three years — but the actual number is believed to be far higher. Most HIV cases are related to drug use, and prostitution is also rising due to poor economic conditions.

"After allowing for public comment on the sex education text — during which Shapiro said he received none — some 2,000 copies were published in 2001 with $60,000 in funds from the government and the United Nations," it was then that criticism came flooding in.

Akin Toktaliyev, a well-known Kyrgyz nationalist, filed a lawsuit against Shapiro for $120,000 in moral damages, which included medical attestations, cartoons displaying a man putting on a condom and a passage on masturbation.

"Can you imagine your kids being taught how to put on a condom? How would you feel?" asked Education Minister Isheghal Boljunov, who took office in mid-2002 after the text had already been introduced at Kyrgyz high schools.

She said parts of the book had merits, but the ministry had received many letters — including from top officials — prompting her to recall the book.

"Many complaints came from rural areas, which is considered more conservative."
WASHINGTON — Hospitals hired 100,002 new nurses last year, the majority over age 50 or foreign-born — easing but not ending a severe, nationwide nursing shortage, a new analysis found.

The surge of older nurses is welcome, but only temporarily helpful because they’ll retire at the same time. Hospitals need even more nurses to keep up with the aging population, said study co-author Peter Buerhaus, associate dean of Vanderbilt University’s nursing school.

The number of foreign-born nurses is sure to continue growing, a trend that hospitals and policy makers must plan for so that decisions on how to incorporate and train these workers can be made, said the report, published in the journal Health Affairs.

The current nursing shortage began in 1999, fueled by, among other things, longer hours and increasingly demanding working conditions that caused experienced nurses to leave the field.

The government has projected that the nation could face a shortfall of half a million nurses by 2015.

Buerhaus used a Census Bureau employment survey to analyze trends in nursing employment, and found that hospitals hired 100,002 new nurses last year, a 9 percent increase from 2001. (Nursing employment in non-hospital settings, such as nursing homes and doctors’ offices, dropped almost 1 percent.)

Almost all the new hires were over 50 or foreign-born.

There are several possible reasons for the sudden jump. Wages for hospital nurses grew by nearly 5 percent last year, providing an incentive for some nurses to re-enter the field. A poor economy may have led some nurses back to work if their spouses had job trouble, Buerhaus added, noting that married nurses accounted for almost all of the increase.

Also, hospitals may have felt pressure to hire more staff because of media reports that the nursing shortage was harming patient care, he wrote.

At the same time, employment of nurses younger than 35 dropped 8 percent last year, and the number of nurses age 55 to 49 — long the bulwark of the work force — grew by just 4.5 percent.

Recent efforts to get younger people more interested in nursing are running into budget snags. Buerhaus noted. Nursing schools turned away more than 5,000 qualified applicants in the past year because of shortages of faculty and classroom space.

The American Nursing Association agreed that the hiring upswing didn’t mask an end to the shortage.

"What will be important is to see if hospitals are able to return nurses over the long term," said ANA spokeswoman Cindy Brice. "You need to change the working conditions of nurses in order to tackle the larger problem."

On the Net:

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MAKING A STATEMENT

Installation art projects do exactly what their creators intend: make people react.

STORY BY
KIMBERLY MASCUINE

PHOTO BY
NATHAN CASWELL
Landscape architecture class confronts issues through a visual medium

Dexter Lawn was bombarded with rockets, while human-sized cell phones loitered on the lawn in front of building 34. An empty shanty was surrounded by the paperwork that can plague migrant farm workers, leading to the question "who really pays the price?"

Last week’s installation art was large, confrontational and different.

And there are 15 pieces of artwork to come.

The installation art around campus is part of a group project completed in the landscape architecture design theory class. Beth Diamond, the instructor of the class, said the point of the project is to create dialogue.

"Everyone is not going to agree with everything," she said. "The point is to engage the public, to transform society by confronting difficult social relations."

The class is required for landscape architecture students and is only offered during Fall quarter. Students form groups of two to five people and design and build the art while seeking any necessary permission to put up the art.

Eighteen different projects will be displayed throughout November in various areas of campus. This year the whole campus is open for display, but groups must schedule when and where they are allowed to put art up with the university scheduler and sometimes must get permission from maintenance, campus police and people in charge of the desired area. Diamond said.

"This is a learning tool," Diamond said. "The campus is here as the workshop."

Half buried in Dexter Lawn and the brick walkway surrounding it were three hefty missiles that left students questioning their presence. "I didn’t know what to think," said agriculture junior Beth Vukmanic. "Are they supporting the people on them or opposing them?"

The front sign read "That's my bitch" and was seen by some as offensive. Diamond said the group wasn’t trying to take a side on the issue but rather provoke students saw this display as an attack on them since it was placed directly in front of students questioning their presence.

The display in front of Campus Market hit closer to home, highlighting migrant farm workers, California taxpayers and the issues surrounding what the group calls the "Black market of labor."

This was the most controversial project so far. The comment board that accompanied the display was filled with opinions, accusations and support, Diamond said. Landscape architecture junior Tom Hessel, a member of the migrant worker display team, said the group wasn’t trying to take a side on the issue but rather provoke students to talk.

Diamond said many agriculture students saw this display as an attack on them since it was placed directly in front of an agriculture building. "These projects are not about attacking," she said. "They are about communication."

The cell phones bearing expressions was the only installation art to generate a call to campus police.

Installation art projects have been sparking conversation around campus the past couple of weeks. A display in the University Union on Wednesday targeted corporate greed (above), while another on the Mathematics Building lawn commented on society’s attachment to cell phones (left). Beth Diamond, the instructor of the class that creates the projects, said 15 more will pop up by the quarter’s end.

Diamond said many agriculture projects have been sparking conversation around campus the past couple of weeks. A display in the University Union on Wednesday targeted corporate greed (above), while another on the Mathematics Building lawn commented on society’s attachment to cell phones (left). Beth Diamond, the instructor of the class that creates the projects, said 15 more will pop up by the quarter’s end.
Local funk-rock band Siko has rocketed the Central Coast since 2001, with its cool, youthful tunes that span hip-hop, jazz and funk and rock. The band will hit up UU Hour today at 11 a.m.

Their debut album, "Elephant Dream," features each band member's own take on melodic rhythms via their self-written lyrics and self-composed music. The band draws great influence from the Red Hot Chili Peppers to San Diego's Siko prides itself on its ability to turn any situation into a party via their self-written lyrics and self-designed department chair Eric Johnson. "He is one of those social and family pressures often lead talented young artists to lose their priority to jobs and other commitments. For others, art is a way of life. Densham's career spans many years and several industries, from his original background in illustration, to graphic and package design, to extensive life drawing, painting and digital printing. He has done free-lancing and has worked in commercial illustration and design.

He also spent two years as a freelance designer in Oslo, Norway, while taking a break from teaching. Densham said he gained much from the experience. "Learning a new language made me realize how language determines the way you see the world." Densham said.

His time in Norway was also valuable because he gained experience in finding and generating his own commercial art projects. But for Densham, drawing the human figure has been his great passion. He sets aside formal drawing time each week. "The constant for Robert, in the great tradition of visual artists, is his sketchbook." Johnson said. "His work with pencil on paper is at an extraordinary level of accomplishment." Johnson said the sketchbook is how Densham interprets the visual world. "This show is a chance to see that, as well as his whole career," Johnson said.

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Established in 1933, we're celebrating by offering selected merchandise at 33% off!

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Opinion

GWR insults the student body

I imagine you're a student in the mathematics department working on your senior project and anxiously anticipating your future graduate school, lucrative employment with a successful NYSE-traded company or a fulfilling position teaching algebra at a local high school. Imagine further that you are a decorated student, with several Dean's List certificates and ample reasons to believe a respectable future as a promising graduate.

Now, imagine that, prior to graduation, you have to waste $25 to pass the Graduate Mathematics Requirement (GMR). How can you spend $25 during which you spend Saturday morning factoring equations on what amounts to an Algebra II course?

Why should a successful student be subjected to a menial exam on material he or she has spent the last four or five years studying? The unavoidable answer should be that Cal Poly administration lacks faith in its curriculum or its faculty or both. Such an exam would suggest that students have who have passed some, or all, of the required mathematics courses are still suspected of lacking the most basic understanding of their major.

In other words, the faculty, the institution or both would have to fail utterly if this hypothetical exam were instituted as a graduation requirement. Such a redundant test would be necessary if Cal Poly's mathematics students learned anything.

One would think that the liberal arts college at Cal Poly is largely inert. Liberal arts majors spend four years in the course of which they are required to write. Professors then evaluate their writing. If these professors are successful in their jobs, their students will have learned to construct coherent sentences, and those that haven't can fail. Therefore, if a liberal arts student passes his class.

Letters to the editor

Women can choose what clothes to wear

Chris Ferrier is an industrial technology senior.

Provocative clothes send wrong message

Editor,

In regards to the Nov. 5 column "Sudden Exposure," it would be a great thing if women abandoned the current fast-driven subculture of exposing their most vulnerable areas. Choosing clothes that send a message, and honestly, plunging necklines and jeans that cut off circulation enough to make the wearer's legs fall asleep. If you are a woman who desires respect, then dress respectfully. You will provide. If you are a woman who desires respect, then dress respectfully. You will provide.

Chris Ferrier is an industrial technology senior.

Letters to the editor

Letter policy

Letters become the property of the Mustang Daily. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, profanities and length. Letters, comments and cartoons do not represent the views of the Mustang Daily. Please limit length to 250 words. Letters should include the writer's full name, phone number, major and class standing.

Letters to the Editor

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Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
By: (805) 756-6784
E-mail: mustangdaily@hotmail.com
Letters must come from a Cal Poly e-mail account. Do not send letters as an attachment. Please send the text in the body of your email.

Attention: The letter will not be printed unless you submit it in the correct format.

Tony Moreno is an electrical engineering senior.

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Editor,
I have the right to write this commentary, and no one is going to take that right away.

It was granted to me in the U.S. Constitution, and unless the First Amendment is somehow abolished, I am going to hold on strong to my right to openly speak and voice my opinions.

Freedom of speech is one of the basic civil liberties on which the country prides itself; yet, in schools across the nation, newly founded "zero tolerance" policies are depriving citizens of their First Amendment rights.

The proliferation of school violence in the late 1990s has resulted in widespread fear, and school officials are doing their part to protect the nation's children. The zero tolerance policies developed by school districts to safeguard youth are doing the opposite by stripping away their constitutional rights and freedoms.

The expulsion of a Georgia high school student is the latest of such censorship. According to a recent CNN article, Rachel Boim was expelled on Oct. 22 for writing a fictional account of a student who falls asleep in class and dreams of killing a teacher. Boim and her father said in the article that the piece was purely fiction.

After her initial expulsion, school officials allowed Boim to return to school while the matter was further investigated, but the emotional damage was already too much for the student, so she fled to find refuge in a school to a far-off country.

This is just one of numerous accounts showing the loss of freedom of speech in schools across the nation.

We recognize that such attitudes are the underpinnings of, if not a rape culture, a culture where men and women are reduced to stereotypes: Man as rogue sex-crazed stud who will commit rape because he can, and woman as passive victim who is always ready to please men but unable to say no.

Rapists will never take responsibility for their actions because you say they should. All men and all women are equal and must be treated equally.

When will our societal norms reject the perpetuation of abuse and violence that girls and women experience when they are victims? Isn't it time that we changed our societal norms and allowed women and men to be equal?
Sports

GOLDEN
continued from page 15
van, meeting up with a band and a small group of Mustang faithful assembled just outside Tomaino field.

Once the game starts, I dive to sit in the press box, so that I can see the game. My new Running Thunder friends are in the Cal Poly section across the stadium. They stand for the entire game, cheering wildly as the Mustangs comeback from a 14-13 halftime deficit to get out of a 19-14 victory over the Aggies.

Players, band members and fans celebrated on field afterward. Having cheered for most of the game, my van buddies’ voices are hoarse, their eyes glazed. It hits me now that I don’t mind that Running Thunder is small and underappreciated. I know what it’s like to rarely get a big response.

Arid Saturday brought with dri­v ing and football, I’ve found allies.

Graham Womack is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily staff writer. He intends to create his own fan club to cheer on his columns.

KOBE
continued from page 16
Bryant, 25, is accused of raping a 19­ year-old woman June 30 at a mountain resort near Edwards where she worked and he was a guest. Bryant says the two had consensual sex.

If convicted, Bryant would face four years to life in prison and 20 years to life on probation.

This week’s brief hearing will occur between Lakers home games. Wednesday and Friday Bryant’s attorneys had sought to allow him to skip his Aug. 6 appearance in Eagle County Court, but they made no such request for Thursday’s hearing.

During his preliminary hearing last month, a sheriff’s investigator testified the woman’s blood was found on Bryant’s T­Shirt. Defense attorneys sug­ gested the woman was promiscuous.

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Sports

Sun Devils angelic in Poly's eyes

By Graham Womack

The Cal Poly women's soccer team onResumeed Monday at The Graduate in need of their NCAA tournament first-round match-up with Arizona State University based on ESPN2.

The 19th-ranked Mustangs (18-1-2) never played. Senior goalkeeper Greta Shirdon broke the silence with words directed at her teammates spread between three tables and glances at television screens.

"Guys, we can take them," Shirdon said. "We can move on to the second round, guys."

The Mustangs have reached the second round of the tournament once, in their history in Division I, although they were confident they could do so again with their guard against NCAAs, 1-7, 5 p.m. Friday at Santa Clara University.

"Since it's an out-of-state team, we don't have much of a mind game with them," Shirdon said. "We can just go in and play our game."*

---

Road Rules: Surviving a ride with the Mustang faithful

T he rented van wavers danger­ously through crisp morn­ing air, reminding me that it's barely past 7 a.m. Saturday, and my driver is more sleep-deprived than I am.

I'm 30 minutes into a five-and-a-half hour trek to Northern California to see the Cal Poly football team play UC Davis. The seven Mustangs on the team have never played.

Although I'm wearing a club­issued green and gold Running Thunder rugby shirt, I'm the impromptu driver.

I had assumed there'd be a bus or two bringing with zealous fans. There are only seven of us and we're not in any high-tech bus, either.

Running Thunder has a small core of members these days, and needless to say, even getting the van half-filled at $10 a person challenged club president Ken Witham.

Witham is behind the wheel, piloting us to the top of the irrigation district. Win­tim tried to stay awake char­ting, laughing and requesting songs we could listen to on his lap­top as we overtake center-divides, canning down the road.

He circulates 13 road rules, too. They're mostly statutes like "Don't be a dick," but my favorite rule comes first:

1. The words of the SABICOT shall be obeyed at all times.

I ask what SABICOT is but no one answers me straight. They tell me that one person each trip is SABICOT and gets to randomly make up trip rules. Still, I don't know why the name sounds like a sexually transmitted infection.

Commentary

The vibe in the car ranges between excitement, fatigue and fear. I'm warned not to put anything inflammatory into Golden Graham.

"What happens on the road stays on the road," says event chair Scott Kirkish, who's sitting in the passenger seat.

I wish Kirkish was doing some­thing inflammatory like painting a pot or committing stock fraud while he was washing me, but nothing close to this nature happens on this trip, except for the occasional party stops.

When at last we arrive in Davis around 11:30 a.m., we look like a ragtag band of nomads than an invading army, our 50 Cent full blast. We seat out of the car.

---

Kobe returns to court

By Jon Sarche

EAGLE, Colo. — Kobe Bryant will be back in a Colorado court­room Thursday for his first hearing before the judge that will preside over his sexual assault trial.

During his initial appearance in state district court, the Los Angeles Lakers' guard is expected to be formally advised of the charge against him, his rights and the penalty he faces if convicted.

Bryant could enter a plea, though that's not expected. Attorney Dan Recht said Bryant's attorneys probably will ask for an arrangement later this year to delay the start of the trial.

"My guess is the defense wants the trial to start after the basketball season," Recht said.

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Mustang Daily

By Graham Womack

Stan's ranked again

After a four-week absence, a three-game winning streak has propelled the Cal Poly volleyball team back into the Top 25 in a pair of NCAA Division I polls.

The Mustangs (6-3) are ranked 20th in The Sports Network/ESPN poll and 21st in the Collegiate Sports Television poll following victories over St. Mary's, Southern Utah and, last Saturday, UC Davis 18-14 at Tooney Field in Davis.

Cal Poly was ranked as high as No. 14 in one poll after winning its first three games of the season, then fell out of the top 25 in both the ESPN/USA Today and The Sports Network/ESPN polls following losses.

For the third time this season, Cal Poly Linebacker Jordan Beck has been named NCAA Division I- AA Independents Defensive Player of the Week.

Beck, who broke the school record for tackles in a season, recorded 15 tackles in an 18-14 Mustang win at UC Davis last Saturday.

Beck also returned a fumble 41 yards for the go-ahead touchdown in the last quarter of the game. This was his second career fumble recovery for a touchdown.

Beck wins national honor

By Graham Womack

The 6-foot, 2-inch, 222-pound senior also had a sack among his three tackles for lost yardage and knocked down a UC Davis haul mary pass on the final play of the game. None of his tackles were solo stops.

Beck, a candidate for the Buck Buchanan Award as the top defensive player in NCAA Division I-AA, also was the Independents Defensive Player of the Week following the Sacramento State and Montana games.

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Beck wins national honor

By Graham Womack

The 6-foot, 2-inch, 222-pound senior also had a sack among his three tackles for lost yardage and knocked down a UC Davis haul mary pass on the final play of the game. None of his tackles were solo stops.

Beck, a candidate for the Buck Buchanan Award as the top defensive player in NCAA Division I-AA, also was the Independents Defensive Player of the Week following the Sacramento State and Montana games.