Quality of classrooms differs drastically across Poly campus

There is a huge discrepancy between certain buildings and classrooms on campus, and no one is more painfully aware of the contrast than the Cal Poly professors who teach under varying conditions on a daily basis. When asked, 13 faculty members said they know exactly which classrooms were the best and worst on campus.

Among the best classrooms are those in some of the newest buildings on campus, including the Business and Engineering IV buildings. In addition to the large Business Rotunda, room 204 of the Engineering IV building was especially high on professors' list.

"It was especially designed for the materials engineering curriculum that is student-focused and encourages team work," said Kathy Chen, materials engineering department chair and professor. "It has comfortable chairs, and can be reconfigured for a variety of different purposes. There are lots of whiteboards and a LCD projector. It's very comfortable and has a lounge and bistro area. The students love having class there," she said.

Professors also said good things about rooms in the Alan A. Erhart Agriculture building, especially those on the first floor.

"Updated several years ago through the generosity of a donor, room 101 is a smart classroom complete with a smart board, video capture capability direct to DVD and more," said Robert Flores, department head and professor of agricultural education and communication. "It also has wireless connectivity of a color laser printer plus 30 notebook computers.

In its first move toward fulfilling that promise, the college welcomed its new president, David Pelham, to its ranks Monday. The ACCJC, which is part of the larger Western Association of Schools and Colleges, is the accrediting body for private and public two-year colleges. According to the commission's Web site, "accreditation is the process for evaluating and assuring the quality of education used by the American higher education community."

Cuesta College is working hard to redeem itself over the next few months after being placed on a warning status by its accreditation commission. The college was officially warned in January by the Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) to heed its recommendations for improvement or risk losing accreditation altogether.

Located six miles north of Cal Poly off of California Highway 1, Cuesta acts as the junior college for many students who hope to eventually transfer to Cal Poly and complete their four-year degrees.

With 10,781 students currently enrolled, the college offers short courses, continuing and distance education, vocational and technical training and various associate degree programs, as well as many lower-division courses which students can receive credit for when they transfer to a four-year university. If Cuesta were to lose its accreditation, Cal Poly would no longer be able to accept the junior college's transfer units.

In response to the warnings of the ACCJC, the college penned a letter Wednesday pledging to fill all the vacant positions in its administration by this early 2009, and an apparently unsatisfactory response by the school.

"A warning is issued when the commission finds an institution has pursued a course of action which deviates from the commission's eligibility criteria, standards of accreditation, or policy to an extent that raises a concern regarding the ability of the institution to meet accreditation standards," according to the ACCJC Web site.

Cuesta first faced reprimand in 2003, when it was forewarned that certain problems could place its accreditation in jeopardy if not addressed.

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After a November 2007 site visit and accompanying status report by the school, the ACCJC decided during its January meeting to warn the school that it was at risk of losing accreditation. January's warning came after years of calls for improvement from the accrediting commission, dating back to early 2003, and an apparently unsatisfactory response by the school.

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A letter from the commission to Cuesta on Jan. 31 warned that "institutions out of compliance with standards or on sanction are expected to correct deficiencies within a two-year period or the commission must take action to terminate accreditation."

Pelham said that despite the serious tone of the warning, he thought it "unlikely" that Cuesta's accreditation would be affected in the future.

"There are some issues the accreditation commission wants us to address and we're working on that," he said. He noted that there are approximately 20 other junior colleges in California currently facing the same situation as Cuesta.

"It would be highly unusual for a college to lose accreditation over something like this," Pelham continued. Without accreditation, Cuesta would no longer be eligible for federal financial aid, and — most significantly in relation to Cal Poly — lower-division credits would no longer be transferable from the junior college.

Cuesta first faced reprimand in 2003, when it was forewarned that certain problems could place its accreditation in jeopardy if not addressed. Cuesta performed an in-depth self-study in 2002, wherein it recognized that it needed to enhance communication within the college; improve professional development for faculty, staff and managers; strengthen efforts to diversify its faculty and staff; and generally improve college procedures, including its program review process.

Cuesta College may lose accreditation

Marlize van Ronsburgh
MUSTANG DAILY

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Cuesta College may lose accreditation
High school students get a good look at Cal Poly
Brian McMillan  March 10, 2008
A Cal Poly club, Farm to Agriculture, gave high school students from economically disadvantaged areas a chance to learn about the university’s agricultural offerings.

Together with the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES), the club hosted the 22nd annual 20 Hours of Science and Technology in Agriculture event last Thursday and Friday.

The conference brought together 140 students from 13 California high schools, Farm to Agriculture advisor and agricultural education and communications department chair Robert Flores said the event occurs because “we want our student population to honor the population of California’s high schools— it doesn’t.”

He added, “We have a college of agriculture here of about 3,700 students and we haven’t met our target in terms of serving the needs to all of California’s student population. Meaning, the CAFES needs to diversify.”

Participating students spent 26 hours at Cal Poly and attended workshops and presentations about horticulture, livestock evaluation, agricultural engineering, soil science, entomology and even a chemistry “magic” show by Phil Young, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics.

Students and faculty conducted the presentations.

“Essentially, we’re trying to just keep everyone informed, not all of them, but just enough to give them a pretty good taste of what we’re about,” Flores said.

Dairy science professor Rafael Jimenez had a presentation about the various careers available in the dairy science field Thursday and showed an episode of the History Channel’s “Modern Marvels” which was about Cal Poly’s goat. The goal of his presentation was to “show them there’s more to agriculture than just kidding dirt,” he said. At one point, he pointed out to the students that dairy products are used in pharmaceuticals, paint and cosmetics. Jimenez said people often associate agriculture with boring jobs or boring people—it’s “a very hard job.”

Farm to Agriculture president and agricultural science senior Salvador Murillo said the presentations helped the students to understand that agriculture is a profitable job that requires a higher education and a sense of technology.

High school sophomore Joe Jain, in, said the event changed his mind about college. “I kind of got away from college likeilinx, I don’t want to go there,” he said. “I came and was like ‘school, it’s not too bad.’

High school freshman Earl Reched sat at the back table during Jimenez’s presentation and was not enthused.

“When I get older I’ll probably start thinking about that. But right now, I’m really not into thinking about the future,” he said.

Cal Poly alumni and agricultural teacher at Perini High School in Riverside Marla Barrera, 25, said the presentations had a noticeable effect on her students.

“They weren’t planning on going to college before because they thought it was not affordable with their income and their parent’s income, so once we got there, they’re like ‘Oh, I want to take some classes so I can get a degree,’” she said.

Barrera added that the programs introduced more than just the students in attendance.

“(The students) go to the school and they share all this information with the other students and they inform them of the possibilities of going to college where before they didn’t think it was possible,” she said.

Another Cal Poly alumni and agriculture teacher at Gonzales High School Erna Moraca, 25, said that before his high school was invited to come to Cal Poly, one of his students begged to go with him.

“Since Flores said the event has been successful, ‘We’re bringing students in but so we’re changing, it’s very, very slow,” he said.

Cuesta
continued from page 1

As CACCJ reviewed that self-study report in January 2000, and reaffirmed Cuesta’s accreditation, but strongly suggested the college strengthen its program review and unit-planning process and take appropriate action to assure the tie-in of that program review with its budget and priority-setting processes.

Even with those four years to improve, Cuesta’s most recent progress report and on-site visit on Nov. 6, 2007 found many of the same problems still unaltered, echoing almost verbatim the language of its previous recommendation in its letter to the college on Jan. 31, 2008.

“You think you’re making the right decisions and be­cause of those we’re losing the students,” said Barbara Morningstar, a professor in Cuesta’s Business Administration Department.

There were no new visits or assignments of recommendations.

“The ACCJC team further noted that out of Cuesta’s 10 senior administrator positions, six were interim and one was vacant at the time of the visit, and that their Inter­im President Ed Maddil was also a finalist for In­ternal Vice President for Student Learning. Pelham replaced Maddil as Cuesta’s new president on March 17, 2008.”

Now daily burdened with a new president at the helm, Cuesta is working hard to meet the requirements of the ACCJC by filling the remaining vacancies by June 30, and refining its budget priorities and academic program development process.

“Because of accreditation standards are very broad,” Pel­ham explained. “It’s a great deal of work to make sure all the requirements of the commission are met. My job as president is to make sure the checks and balances are in place, but it’s a huge, campus-wide effort to maintain those standards.”

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Jeff Donn, Martha Mendoza and Justin Pritchard

Pharmaceuticals in drinking water affectaging wildlife and humans

Jeff Donn, Martha Mendoza and Justin Pritchard

"We recognize it is a growing concern and we're taking it very seriously."

— Benjamin H. Graham

Assistant administrator for water at the EPA

In 2008, Iraq war will cost $12 billion a month

Charles J. Hanley

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The flow of blood may be ebbing, but the flood of money into Iraq and Afghanistan has not receded...

That total far surpasses the $670 billion in 2007 dollars the Congressional Research Service says was the U.S. price tag for the 12-year Vietnam War. Although American military and Iraqi civilian causal­ties are counted by the thousands, the war's finance cost is measured in trillions. It has shot up a fully funded 2008 war budget will be 155 percent higher than 2004, the CBO reports.

The situation is undoubtedly worse than the federal government doesn't require any reporting. astonishing $12 billion a month, triple the "burn" rate of its earliest campaigns, No one knows what the cost of the Iraq and Afghan wars, including long-term U.S. military occupations of those countries, will cost the U.S. budget between $1.7 trillion and $2 trillion — or more — by 2017.

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The AP's investigation also indicates that water, the natural sources of most of the nation's water supply, are also contaminated. Tests were conducted in the wake of the Sept. 11 issues. One study found alarming effects on human cells and wildlife.

"We recognize it is a growing concern and we're taking it very seriously."

— Benjamin H. Graham

Assistant administrator for water at the EPA
Foiled terror plots targeted Olympics

Christopher Bodeen

Chinese police broke up a terror plot targeting the Beijing Olympics and a flight crew foiled an apparent attempt to crash a Chinese jetliner in a separate case, officials said Sunday.

Wang Leguan, the top Communist Party official in the western region of Xinjiang, said materials seized in a January raid in the regional capital, Urumqi, had described a plot with the purpose "specifically to sabotage the biggest threat facing the event."

Police found guns, homemade bombs, training materials and "extremist religious ideological materials" during the Jan. 27 raid in Urumqi, in which two members of the gang were killed and 15 arrested, according to earlier reports.

Chinese forces have for years been battling a low-intensity separatist movement among Xinjiang's Uighurs, Turkic Muslims people culturally and ethnically distinct from China's Han majority, but Beijing has largely suppressed the violence, however, and no major bombing or shooting incidents have been reported in almost a decade.

Wang said the group was trained by and followed the orders of a Uighur separatist group based in Pakistan and Afghanistan called the East Turkistan Islamic Movement, or ETIM. The group was labeled a terrorist organization by both the United Nations and the United States. East Turkistan is another name for Xinjiang.

China says its main terror threat comes from ETIM. Although the group is not believed to have more than a few dozen members, terrorist experts say it has become influential among extremist groups using the Internet to raise funds and find recruits.

Chinese forces reported raids in ETIM training camp last year and killing 18 militants allegedly linked to al-Qaida and the Taliban.

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SPRINGFIELD, Ore. (AP) — For guys who park in front of the TV during college basketball's March Madness, the Oregon Urology Institute has a suggestion: Why not use that time to recover from a vasectomy?

"When March Madness approaches, you need an excuse—to stay at home in front of the big screen," the clinic's radio ad says. "Get your vasectomy at Oregon Urology Institute the day before the tournament starts. It's lit city."

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ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Authorities have arrested a mother who was videotaped spraying her young daughter with a high-pressure water hose at a Florida car wash.

Deputies arrested Niurka Ramirez in Orlando on Friday on a child abuse charge.

Ramirez said she was trying to discipline her 2-year-old daughter for drawing temper tantrum.

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RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — State legislators passed a law Saturday that would require adults who french kiss a child younger than 13 to register as a sex offender.

Those convicted of tongue-kissing a child would be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and a $2,500 fine. The House of Delegates passed the legislation 96-1 and the Senate 96-0.

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CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela said Sunday that it is reopening its embassy in Colombia and will allow back Colombian diplomats expelled last week by President Hugo Chavez in a crisis sparked by a cross-border Colombian attack on rebels in Ecuador.

The government cited an easing of tensions at a summit in the Dominican Republic on Friday, where President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela and Ecuador's President Rafael Correa shook hands with Colombia's U.S.-backed leader, Alvaro Uribe, after a tense debate.

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CAMP SALERNO, Afghanistan (AP) — A 19-year-old medic from Texas will become the first woman in Afghanistan and only the second female soldier since World War II to receive the Silver Star, the nation's third-highest medal for valor.

Army Spc. Monica Lin Brown saved the lives of fellow soldiers after a roadside bomb in the eastern Pakistan province in April 2007, the military said.

After the explosion, which wounded five soldiers in her unit, Brown ran through insurgent gunfire and used her body to shield wounded comrades as mortars fell 100 yards away, the military said.
Coral Snyder

Beginning last Friday and continuing through Sunday, San Luis Obispo will buzz with a little slice of Hollywood. This year marks the 14th annual San Luis Obispo International Film Festival, an event that showcases several films and special events.

The films showcased at the festival are a variety of both new, contemporary films from around the world as well as older films. The county will also host hundreds of visiting filmmakers.

Movie screenings, which began last Saturday, feature independent films from several different genres, including art, politics, sports and romantic comedies. After several of the screenings, there will be public question-and-answer sessions.

The films are from more than 12 different countries and many were entered into the George Sidney Independent Film Competition. Awards for the competition will be presented Saturday.

"This is the first time in the festival’s history that we’ve been able to fly people in from other countries to take part in the festivities," festival director Wendy Eidson said.

The 1960 film "Easy Rider," co-starring and produced by Peter Fonda, will be one of the highlighted films at the festival. Foods will be honored with the Kings Valley Career Achievement Award at the festival this year.

"Easy Rider" will be fun for people to watch for the first time or see again on the big screen at the Fremont Theatre," Eidson said.

The award will be presented following the George Sidney Independent Film Competition and the event will begin at 7:30 p.m. This red-carpet event costs $20 for students and film society members, and $25 for general public.

Another major red carpet event is Surf Night, which will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. The event will be a tribute to Bud Browne, a prominent surfing filmmaker.

His film, "Surfing the 50's," will be shown at the Fremont Theatre; a question-and-answer session and a beach-themed party will follow. Other screening legends, such as Gerry Lopez, Walter Hoffman, Linda Benson and Jack McCoy will attend. The event costs $25 for the general public and $20 for students and film society members.

"I think Surf Night will be a big success. It’s a culture, not just a sport, and these people are cultural icons," Eidson said.

There will also be a variety of panels and workshops that include meeting filmmakers, acting for the camera and stunt work with the pros. Tickets for all workshops will be sold at the door for $10.

The other festival highlights include the screening of a short film directed by Josh Brodin called "X" and a sing-along version of the film "Hairspay." The event will be followed by a costume and hair-do contest.

"Every year when the filmmakers come they submit their films because they want to come visit San Luis Obispo. It’s a beautiful area, and we’re just trying to capitalize on it as much as possible," Eidson said.

Passes for the event can be purchased in four different ways. Individual tickets to screenings can be purchased on a first come, first serve basis for $9 for the general public and $7 for students and film society members.

There are also three different passes that can be purchased. The film festival pass costs $45 and pays for any six screenings for one individual or any three screenings for two individuals. The movie star pass costs $85 and pays for all screenings as well as panels and workshops. The movie mogul pass costs $150 and pays for a full-access pass to all screenings as well as all workshops, additions, panels, red carpet and Hollywood and Vines events.

For more information about festival events and to purchase passes, visit www.sloffinfest.org.

Brian McMenen

I’m always on my grind; I ain’t got time to count sheep. So I’ll take these pills and start a life without sleep.

America’s tank is on empty. We have so many different energy-inducing products on the market, seemingly people don’t stay awake on their own anymore. For real, America, it’s getting pretty damn ridiculous.

Once upon a time there was a magical drink called Jolt Cola. It used to keep me wired as I kicked ass and saved small children in the arcade game version of Michael Jackson’s “Moonwalker.” Then these other soft drinks came out and hit Jolt’s sneeze. Now we have energy beer, which is a really funny concept. People used to turn to beer when they had a rough day and wanted to sit on their couch with their pantyhose on and shoes untied. Now it’s that thing people turn to when they’re too tired to go out but don’t want to miss the “wear a piñata and share your candy” party.

What better place is there to get the fuel than where you fuel up its electric magnificence.”

Next to those are the energy shots that promise five hours of energy. “To literally jump-start my day, I’ll inject this fine product straight into my thighs.”

With the energy drink and alcohol-mixing trend going on (Caution: your heart hates you for drinking all of those Yeager bombs and Pimm’s), I wouldn’t be surprised if people started dying from upping the ante. “First you’re gonna drop this energy shot into this glass of Rockstar. Then, chug it and shoot this vodka. Then, pour this line of cracked-up energy pills, pound this, cinematic shake, take this beer bong, and sip on this non-fat, non-dairy mocha-latte-a-chino. It’s called a ‘fried by lightning.’”

Everyone’s caffeine tolerance must be going up, too, because Pepsi and Coca-Cola felt it necessary to release products with more of the drug in them. It’s like caffeine addiction is not a problem; it’s a lifestyle. Students know exactly what I mean, especially being that it’s “so tired and wired, I’m technically dead” week. I say we make I’m technically dead” week. I say we make it a "zombie day" and all come to campus wearing tattered clothes.
and fake blood.

Back to extreme energy products. I made a major discovery this weekend: There are energy-inducing lollipops for sale at gas stations. That's right, you can now suck on raw electricity. Pretty soon, the typical day will consist of a steady supply of energy supplements. Wake up, shower with calcified soap, brush teeth with energy toothpaste, eat a Powerbar for breakfast, chew on energy gum and drink energy water all day. We might as well walk around with Camelback backpacks hooked up to IV's of caffeine.

I'm not saying energy supplements are all bad. I wrote this wired on coffee after daylight-savings time stole an hour of my life (they should just have it on April 1 every year, that way I can laugh when the time on my cell phone fools me and I'm late for something). I'm saying that this trend is growing beyond healthy bounds. Do we really need energy suckers? If the answer is yes, maybe we need to re-evaluate our workload.

So have a productive dead week, you procrastinating slackers, and do it all!

Brian McMullen is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily columnist.

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**TRENDASAURUS**

By Brian McMullen

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**Happy resurrection**

Jesus

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**Dog quit hassen the Marshmallow chickens**

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**DESPITE NOSTALGIC APPEAL, LACKLUSTER COMIC A BIG FLOP**

Dustin Stone, Mustang Daily

Marvel Comics' release of a new miniseries created by Jack Kirby, the late "King of Comics," should be enough to throw the salivating glands of all of fandom into overdrive. That is, until they actually get their sweaty, little hands on "Galactic Bounty Hunters." The six-part miniseries, based on notes and characters created by "The King" in the 1960s, makes for good eye-candy for fans of the Kirby style. Aside from characters created by "The King" in the '60s, makes for a dream of righteou...
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Don’t shut down Sunny Acres

Julie Najarian cried while talking with me. She cried from exhaustion and she cried from despair. A coworker had just told her another “member of the family” had left the farm. Najarian works at Sunny Acres, a nonprofit focused on providing addiction recovery and shelter for the most vulnerable individuals. It serves as a refuge for those who are addicted to drugs and alcohol, the homeless and people living directly from their destructive habits. Not welcome in most other places in the county, these people turn to the 72 acres of land to re-establishing lives and providing support and shelter during the difficult journeys.

If you ever drive down Los Osos Valley Road, you’ll see Sunny Acres. In between a Jewish synagogue and a housing development, it is an environment conducive to recovery. The rules there are simple: you must be over 18, willing to work and most importantly, motivated to kick your addiction and reimbursement yourself to society. As we talked, Najarian told me that the founder and owner of Sunny Acres, Don DeVault, had been sick. “Prior to 2006,” she said, shaking her head, “he tears welled up over the creases of her eyes squinting in the sun.

He is just like the others, but his illness is taking a toll. I met burning stigma on the progress made on homelessness do?

Within San Luis Obispo County, there is no substitute for the services Sunny Acres offers. The program keeps people off the streets and away from the habits that put them there in the first place. Without it, many will resort to the environment they were trying to avoid and many will end up reintroducing addiction into their lives.

Sadly, the process has already begun, Bailey Storke, an administration at the ranch, said the program has had contact with a few individuals forced to leave the property after the most recent conflict began. “We’ve heard from a few of them. Most are homeless, again,” he said.

Instead of putting the homeless back on the streets and destroying a program that has changed the lives of countless addicts, the County should support Sunny Acres, providing it the means to create a viable facility. After all, it is a county’s duty to support its residents, especially those on the brink of self-destruction.

According to Najarian, the ranch doesn’t use any taxpayer dollars to run its program. The self-sustaining addiction recovery center simply relies on the small rent payments of residents and its different sales activities (wine barrel making, a recycling program, etc.) as income to provide the resources necessary to run the program.

With a little monetary aid, Sunny Acres will finally have the ability to produce an environment reflecting city standards and the local community will no longer face such a negative stigma on the progress made on the ranch.

I suggest county officials visit the ranch, not to put up signs and bar its windows and doors, but to talk to its residents. The people are kind, welcoming and have an urge to dispel all the rumors that permeate from its small piece of home in the county. Once there, officials will find what DeVaulet and his friends are doing is truly a gift to the community.

Yes, Sunny Acres must abide by its rules and law and clean up the ranch but how can this be done without local support?

One resident I talked to, who wouldn’t provide his name, simply stated, “Sunny Acres saved my life. I don’t want it to go.”

Taylor Moore is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily current events columnist.

Focus on the homefront

I find it disgusting that the university is even considering supporting other universities for some discriminatory ones, while our own labs and faculty continue to suffer. To add insult to injury, they expect our overworked and understaffed faculty to support them.

If Baker is so good at making nice with industry, why not tap into some of its resources and give our campus a little more TLC. Yes, I know that engineering has shiny new buildings, but the same aging and decrepit equipment was simply relocated to a new home (with no HVAC, by the way).

I think that Baker needs to spend less time concentrating on what’s overseas and more time on what’s going on at home. Sound familiar?

Ashley Evans

Religious image goes too far

I believe in freedom of speech and freedoms of the press, but I must post a strong complaint. Your article “Religion & Art” about Mark Bryan’s painting had several unacceptable parts. In particular, the picture of the “Mandorla-like” figure was too overt. And was this the worst way to make it the biggest one in the paper. This kind of article creates hatred, disappointment and division. It’s fine to have lively discussion, but we have enough division in this country at the moment due to the political stuff going on. We need unifying stuff, not hate-generating stuff.

Dan Malone

Mathematics lecturer

Clarification on misleading PETA column

Please allow me to respond to the misleading March 5 column by Jack DeMarchi — for whom, incidentally, PETA has no record of membership.

PETA is proud to be a “shelter of last resort” for elderly, sick, aggressive, and injured animals — those whom so-called “no kill” shelters often turn their backs on. We also provide a peaceful, painless release to animals whose human guardians can’t afford to take them to a veterinarian for euthanasia. We refer almost all adoptable animals to pet stores, and people who don’t spay and neuter — it is only a tiny percentage of our work to help animals. For example, PETA’s SNIP clinic sterilizes hundreds of cats and dogs at little or no cost to their guardians each week, preventing hundreds of thousands of animals from being born only to end up on the streets or euthanized at the lack of homes. Everyone who goes vegetarian after seeing one of our attention-grabbing ads or demonstrations saves more than 100 animals every year from being confined on filthy factory farms and often scalded and skinned alive in slaughterhouses.

To learn more about PETA’s work, visit www.peta2.com.

Ryan Huling

College campaign coordinator

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Ryan Huling

College campaign coordinator
Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Last Ditch Effort by John Kroes

Calvin finally came up with a crazy money making scheme that worked.
Senior Night
continued from page 12

left, but Yarwasky hit a 3-pointer on the next possession, and Cal Poly never ceded the lead. Harrison made 9 of 13 free throws on route to 14 points and 10 rebounds for Cal Poly, and sophomore forward Rebecca Tratter was 8 of 11 from the floor while adding 12 points and five rebounds in just 18 minutes.

Holloway was 8 of 11 from the floor and 10 of 12 from the charity stripe while accruing a game high 20 points. "She, obviously, is key to their performance and they look for her all of the time," Cal Poly head coach Faith Minnaugh said. "We forced a lot of turnovers that gave us the upper hand. She still had a tremendous game, but overall we did a reasonably good job."

Junior guard Tonicia Tademy was 0 of 1.3 on her way to adding 12 points, six rebounds and five assists in a complete 40 minutes m defeat. Although they shot a better percentage from the floor, the Mustangs held a 46-30 rebounding advantage while distributing 17 assists to the Matadors' nine. Cal State Northridge (1-26, 0-16 Big West) joined Colgate (1-29) and Sam Houston State (1-28) as the only teams in the country with one win; Fordham finished 0-29.

The Matadors made just 8 of 25 shots in the second half and missed 14 of their 15 attempts from 3-point range for the game. The Mustangs, meanwhile, despite being eliminated from contention for a first-round bye in the tournament with their 78-62 loss to Long Beach State on Thursday, are happy to be heading to the postseason on a positive note. "It's good momentum for our team and it pumps us up," Santiago said. "We want to get another win."

Cal Poly's first game at the Big West Tournament, which is held in Anaheim until Saturday, is at noon Wednesday against UC Irvine (7-23, 3-13). The Mustangs easily swept the Anteaters this season, routing them 92-55 at home on Jan. 12 and then emerging 84-63 on the road Feb. 7.

"All of us in our conference have vendettas out for each other," Yarwasky said. "I think any team we play is going to be a battle to say the least. We are pretty feisty girls and people know that about us."

Men
continued from page 12

high nine assists.

Junior center Titus Shelton led the Mustangs (12-17, 7-9) with 12 points on 5-of-7 shooting. Junior guard Trae Clark (11 points) and freshman guard Shawn Lewis (10) also scored in double figures in the loss.

Cal Poly, which made 16 of its 25 shots before intermission yet just 9 of 35 afterward, was outrebounded 34-31.

The Mustangs took a 21-13 lead on a dunk by senior forward Dreshawn Vance with 10:45 remaining in the opening half but were outscored 30-17 the rest of it. Cal Poly pulled within a point, at 46-45, with 17:34 on a Clark jumper, but Cal State Northridge responded with a 15-2 run over the next two-and-a-half minutes capped by a Field layup to extend the margin to 61-47.

The Matadors, who distributed 23 assists, shot 59.7 percent from the floor overall. No one from either team played more than 28 minutes as Cal State Northridge's reserves outscored Cal Poly's 52-18.

The Mustangs open the Big West Tournament, held in Anaheim through Saturday, at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday against No. 7 seed UC Riverside.

Cal Poly split the season series with the Highlanders, falling 62-58 on the road Feb. 2 before claiming a 70-63 overtime win at Mott Gym on Feb. 28.

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Invitational
continued from page 12

In the 3,000-staplest heated softball game of the year, sophomore Carl Dargon went 9-for-9 in 9.65 seconds.

Second-place Mustangs included freshman Jose Bred in the 400 hurdles (22.55), Freshman Champa_H Brown in the 200 (23.56), junior Lauren Talley in the 1,500 (4:32) and senior Whitney DeWeese in the shot put (46 feet, 6 inches).

Third-place finishers on behalf of Cal Poly included senior Cassie Atkinson in the 800 (2:13.12), freshman Whitney Sider in the high jump (5 feet, 6 inches), sophomore Jenne Homma in the pole vault (11 feet, 9 1/2 inches), sophomore Nicki Cooke in the javelin (113 feet, 3 inches), sophomore Joe Goeby in the 400 (48.98) and senior Joey Hauser in the triple jump (46 feet, 6 inches). Cal Poly will next travel to Fresno State for a meet on Saturday.

Tennis
continued from page 12

Cal Poly, which doesn't have a senior on its roster, has now won five of its six outdoor matches this season.

"I think we've really improved a lot since last year," Beam added. "We still have a young group. I feel like we're starting to play better and better in this season progress. We're getting some good momentum going."

Last weekend, the Mustangs (7-6, 2-2 Big West Conference) swept UC Riverside, 7-0 and routed San Jose State 6-1.

"I think we're very capable of winning the conference," said Cal Poly assistant coach Paige Espinosa. "We've a young team, but I think we're ahead of where we were even last year. So it's real exciting."

Cal Poly will carry its winning into this week with home matches against San Diego State, 2-5 at 1:30 p.m. Thursday against Gonzaga, 1-11 at 11 a.m. Saturday against San Francisco at 2 p.m. Sunday against Denver.

"This is a big week for us, with six matches in the next few days," Beam said.


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**women's basketball**

**Mustangs head to tournament on positive note**

Jessica Ford  
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly women’s basketball team secured a 71-55 win over Cal State Northridge in its regular-season finale Saturday in Mott Gym on Senior Night to earn the No. 5 seed in the Big West Conference Tournament.

In the final home game of their careers, the victory was especially sweet for seniors Kyla Howell, Sparkle Anderson, Nicole Yarwasky and Tomi Newman.

“It’s bittersweet,” Yarwasky said. “This has been a big part of our life in college and it’s all starting to wind down.”

Three players reached new benchmarks in their careers during the game.

Junior forward Megan Harrison became the first Mustang to compile 400 points and 200 rebounds in a single season in 21 years, while Anderson played in her 115th collegiate game, a program record.

Freshman forward Kristina Santiago was 7 of 17 from the floor to lead the Mustangs (11-18, 8-4 Big West) with 16 points and 10 rebounds. She also had a pair of free throws to grab her fourth career double-double.

A pair of free throws by Cal State Northridge senior center Katie Holloway pulled the Matadors within 55-50 with 2:22 remaining, but the Mustangs closed the game on a 16-5 run.

Cal Poly lagged behind Cal State Northridge for the beginning of the first half until a 3-pointer by sophomore guard Shannon Gholar gave the Mustangs a 19-17 advantage with 9:31 remaining.

The lead for the rest of the half, which they led 31-28 at the break. A Holloway jumper tied the game at 40 with 11:11 left in the second half.

Together, the Mustangs won eight events.

Freshman Jasmine Pickett won the women’s 200 meters in 25.47 seconds and finished third in the long jump at 18 feet, 7 inches.

Sophomore Kevin Jones, who came in third place in the pole vault at 16 feet, 5 inches, won the 110 high hurdles in 15.05, and fellow sophomore M.J. Robotham claimed the 400 hurdles in 57.26.

**Three Mustangs meet West Regional qualifications**

Donovan Aird  
MUSTANG DAILY

Although the Cal Poly men’s basketball team’s fate as a sixth seed in the Big West Conference Tournament was already set heading into its regular-season finale at Cal State Northridge on Saturday night, it couldn’t have fared much worse in its final tune-up.

The Mustangs hit 16 of 26 at-the-bench in each event.

The distance

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The distance

**Women’s tennis team wins fifth of past six matches**

Carol Conrady  
MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly women’s tennis team won the third match of its seven-match home stand at Mustang Courts on Sunday, 5-2 over Pacific.

“I think we played really well today,” Mustangs head coach Hugh Bogue said. “We came back very aggressively to win all three doubles matches.”

In singles play, the Mustangs won four of six matches-up. In the No. 1 slot, Cal Poly’s Brittany Blalock made quick work of Johanna Twarowska, 6-2, 6-2. In the No. 4 position, Shannon Brady defeated Olga Gumenyuk 6-0, 1-6, 6-1. The Mustangs’ other singles victories came courtesy of Maria Malce, who edged Clara Schuhmacher 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 and Amy Markhoff, who swept Sasha Fisher 6-3, 6-1.

Blalock teamed with fellow sophomore Steffi Wong in doubles competition to vanquish Twarowska and Gumenyuk 8-5. Brady and Malce edged Svetlana Arens and Fisher 8-7, 7-5, and Filipp and Markhoff also won, 8-5 over Schuhmacher and Kateryna Neshura.

The Mustangs hosted its next four matches at Mustang Courts, starting with Washington State on Tuesday.