

SOFTBALL



ANTHONY MARTINEZ/FILE

After allowing just one home run through the first 30 games of the season, Henderson somehow conceded eight in the span of two weeks to Pac-12 foes Oregon and Arizona.

# Henderson struggles

## Junior pitcher attempts to right the ship against St. Mary squad

By Sean Wagner-McGough  
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The Cal softball team could use a breather right about now. Having lost three of their past four games, the Bears don't look anything like a team eager to defend their Pac-12 title.

It's a good thing, then, that the Bears' next opponent is Saint Mary's on Wednesday in Berkeley. The Gaels have a 12-15 overall record, including an abysmal 2-8 record on the road. The nonconference clash should provide Cal with an excellent opportunity to rebound before its schedule takes a turn for the worse again.

The No. 1 goal for Cal has to be to get star pitcher Jolene Henderson back on track. The Bears have to be concerned that three of Henderson's past four outings have resulted in losses. However, it's the manner in which Henderson has lost those three games that is most alarming.

After only giving up one home run through the first 30 games of the season, Henderson's allowed home run total has skyrocketed to nine. During Sunday's game against the Ducks, Henderson was responsible for giving up four longballs. In her past three losses, Henderson has

surrendered 14 earned runs in 16.1 innings pitched, bad enough for an ERA of 7.83. Her ERA for the season is 1.31.

However, the losses can't be pinned on Henderson alone. In the past three defeats, the Cal offense has only managed to put seven runs on the board. On the season, the Bears average just above five runs per game. In those three losses, the Bears runs per game average shrank to slightly more than two.

If the Bears don't improve these numbers next weekend, when they take on No. 15 UCLA in Los Angeles, they shouldn't expect to come away with any wins.

That's why Wednesday's game against Saint Mary's is so important. It gives Cal the perfect opportunity to get its confidence and game back on track. A dominating win would do just that.

The Gaels' highest-hitting player is currently Megan Smith, with a .298 batting average. That number would be fifth on Cal's roster. Saint Mary's next-best hitter is Monika Reichardt, who has a .250 batting average. That number would be eighth on Cal's roster.

No other qualified hitter on the Saint Mary's roster has a batting average in the .200's. Meanwhile, Cal doesn't even have one everyday player batting

below .200.

In terms of a mismatch, the equivalent would be matching up the New York Yankees' payroll against the Houston Astros' payroll.

The question isn't, "Can Cal can walk away with a win?" The question is, "How much will Cal win by?"

This scenario actually puts Cal in a pressure-packed situation. If the Bears find themselves in a close game with the Gaels, or if Henderson fails to shut down their subpar offense, it could be destructive to their championship mentality.

Cal head coach Diane Ninemire probably had no idea how important Wednesday's date with Saint Mary's would be back when the schedule was first released. Just one week ago, this game looked like an easy win for the Bears.

And it most likely will be. The Bears should expect to dominate on Wednesday.

They should expect Henderson to regain her All-American form. They should expect to get back to their winning ways.

But if they don't take care of business, the Bears will enter the most crucial stretch of their season on the lowest possible note.

Sure, it's unlikely. But, then again, wasn't it just a week ago when the idea of Henderson giving up eight home runs in a week seemed completely ludicrous? ■

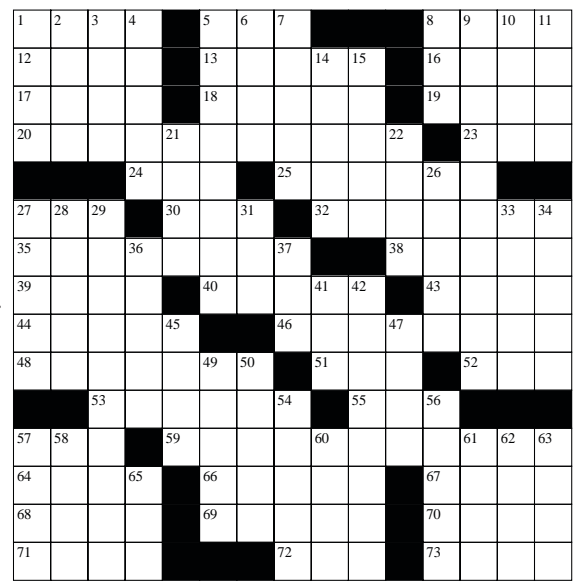
PUZZLES

ACROSS

- 1. Actress Arthur and others
- 5. Officeholders
- 8. Con game
- 12. Wheel rod
- 13. Upholster anew
- 16. Magazine title
- 17. Fencing item
- 18. Fragrance
- 19. Amusement park ticket
- 20. Music style
- 23. Distress signal
- 24. \_\_\_ Lanka
- 25. Courtroom events
- 27. Distant
- 30. Place for a ring
- 32. North American natives
- 35. Dignified richness
- 38. Sidestep
- 39. Ripening agent
- 40. Slakes
- 43. Prestigious school
- 44. Talked with excessive enthusiasm
- 46. Bing and others
- 48. Penguin or auk
- 51. Phonograph piece
- 52. Direction: abbr.
- 53. Imposed a fine
- 55. Accessory
- 57. African antelope
- 59. Sped up
- 64. Bank transaction
- 66. Very willing
- 67. Writer/director \_\_\_ Ephron
- 68. Old TV dog
- 69. Work hard
- 70. Poetic name for Ireland
- 71. Low-bottomed
- 72. "Yes, \_\_\_!"
- 73. Pungent vegetable

DOWN

- 1. Max of "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- 2. Public show, for short
- 3. Mr. Guinness
- 4. Hunts for
- 5. Esfahan residents
- 6. Bookish kid
- 7. Pastime
- 8. Calendar abbr.
- 9. Kids in a row of desks
- 10. To boot
- 11. State of disorder
- 14. Dean Martin's "That's \_\_\_"
- 15. Surrealistic paintings, familiarly
- 21. Length times width
- 22. With 62 Down, one of five "Greats"
- 26. Animate
- 27. Terrors
- 28. Underwater plants
- 29. Appraise anew
- 31. TV brand
- 33. Scents
- 34. Feel
- 36. Web-footed bird
- 37. Common Latin abbr.
- 41. Period
- 42. Evil magician
- 45. Opera singer
- 47. Mr. Khayyam
- 49. Sieves spuds
- 50. Bumper sticker
- 54. "At the Milliner's" painter
- 56. Discussion group
- 57. Cheery
- 58. Facial feature
- 60. 1 of 12 Genesis brothers
- 61. Split
- 62. See 22 Down
- 63. Disagreeably damp
- 65. Downy surface



1	2	5	7		
	7	1	2		
	6		9		
7	1	3	6	5	4
3					1
6	2	4	1	8	9
	5			3	
	3	8	4		
8	9	3	5		

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

C	L	A	W	S	L	A	T	E	L	U	N	A	
L	A	T	H	L	O	S	E	R	E	V	E	N	
A	L	T	A	O	A	K	E	N	D	E	A	D	
P	O	N	T	O	O	N	N	I	A	G	A	R	A
N	A	P	P	E	E	V	E						
C	O	L	O	R	G	E	R	O	R	A	T	E	
S	C	O	T	T	O	R	S	I	S	T	E	R	
A	T	T	C	H	A	F	F	E	D	O	R	G	
R	E	T	I	R	E	E	A	T	A	L	S	O	
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A	L	E	C	E	N	U	R	E	T	R	E	Y	
N	E	S	T	S	T	E	E	N	S	E	E	S	

2	1	4	9	6	5	7	3	8
5	3	7	1	8	4	6	2	9
8	6	9	3	7	2	5	1	4
3	8	1	4	2	7	9	5	6
4	2	5	6	1	9	3	8	7
9	7	6	8	5	3	2	4	1
7	4	8	5	3	6	1	9	2
1	5	2	7	9	8	4	6	3
6	9	3	2	4	1	8	7	5

by The Campus League of Puzzlers

Solution to ROAMIN' NUMERALS:

Each of the given words contains a Roman numeral: o[V]erture, gen[II], nonnat[IV]e, opportun[II]st, subser[VI]ent. Take the nth letter of each word, where n is the value of the Roman numeral it contains (e.g. take the 5th letter of overture). These letters spell the final answer TENOR, which is an English word that contains a numeral.

Congratulations to Shang, Matt W., and Ken Cheng who were the first three to submit the correct answer to last week's puzzle on our website (<http://puzzle.berkeley.edu>).

The 2013 Berkeley Mystery Hunt is coming up on Sunday, May 5th. The hunt is a 12 hour puzzle solving competition based on the MIT Mystery Hunt. Teams of up to 10 try to solve puzzles as fast as they can to ultimately locate an item of interest hidden somewhere on campus. If you and your friends like puzzles, start getting together your team. No previous puzzling experience necessary! For more information, or to register, visit our website.

Last week, we started presenting a series of "game puzzles". (You can find an archive of past columns on our website). In this kind of puzzle, we'll give you a box with some information, but no instruc-

tions. Figuring out what to do is the hardest part. Each puzzle will have a TITLE and some will have a short sentence called *flavortext*. The title and flavor-text usually indicate the theme of the puzzle and provide clues about how to manipulate the information you've been given. The full meaning of these clues may only be evident once you've figured out what to do.

Solving the puzzle requires extracting an ANSWER from the given information. The answer will be a single English word. It should become clear when you've found the answer. Sometimes you may think you need to consult external information; that's okay, no resource is off-limits when solving. When you think you know the answer, check it on our website.

NOT ALWAYS TOTALLY OBVIOUS

- California mountain range
- Sesame street muppet
- Fantasy Bra model
- Mythological nymph
- Character from *Twin Peaks*
- Holiday month

<https://www.facebook.com/CalPuzzlers>

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