

'It's one fight' for CSU Faculty and Students

BY RACHELL REYES
Pride Staff Writer

Cal State San Marcos faculty, staff and students rallied for fair contracts and affordable education on Thursday, March 9, in front of the Kellogg Library.

"We wanted to let President Haynes know that we think it's time for her to demand that the Trustees reinvest in the CSU," said Lance Newman, secretary of the CFA San Marcos. "We want them to reduce student-faculty ratios and approve fair contracts for the unions."

The Unite to Win rally was co-sponsored by the California Faculty Association (CFA), the California State University Employees Union (CSUEU), and the Academic Professionals of California (APC), and according to Newman, the demonstration was well-supported, with over 250 people participating in the rally.

According to the San Marcos Chapter of CFA, the faculty



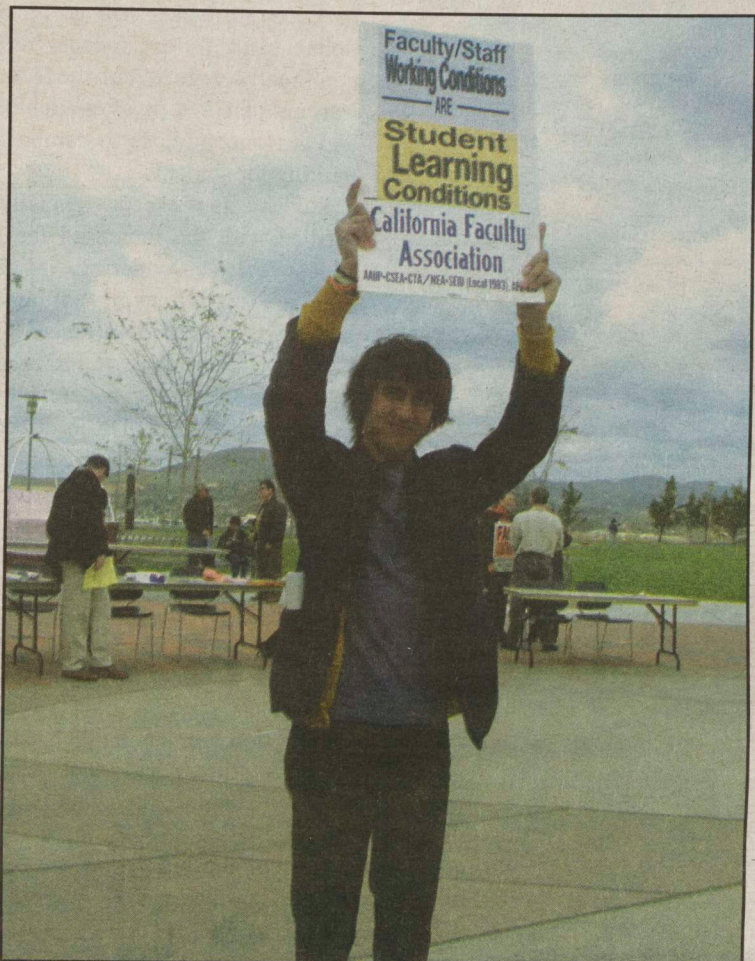
Photos by Rachell Reyes / The Pride

and staff agreed to have a two year pay freeze to help the state through its financial problems. At the time, the CSU system saw \$500 million in budget cuts and the student fees went up by 76 percent. Recently, the Trustees identified \$1.5 billion in financial needs that will not be met this year. However, the CSU Board of Trustees have chosen

not to ask the state for additional funding. For the next five years, student fees will increase by 10 percent each year.

CSUSM faculty, staff, and students are protesting the Trustees' decisions and are preparing to lobby in Sacramento for more funding, more resources in

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Playing in the Dirt

ELC students dig in the dirt with President Haynes at the ground-breaking ceremony for the new Center for Children

BY CHRISTINE VAUGHAN
Pride Staff Writer

President Haynes, alongside the cheerful students of the Early Learning Center, celebrated a California State University San Marcos first at the ground-breaking ceremony for an on-site childcare center, on Tuesday, March 7.

"This has been a long-standing dream of Cal State San Marcos," said President Karen Haynes.

The Center for Children and Families was made possible through a grant awarded to Cal State San Marcos from the First Five Commission of San Diego in the summer of 2004, providing \$7,681,356 in funds to build the 22,000 square-foot facility. An additional contribution from the 2005 approved fee referendum has made this ASI dream into a reality.

The ground-breaking ceremony began with a delightful twist of "Hi-Ho ... it's off to Cal State we go," cheered by the pre-kindergarten class from the Early Learning Center, operated and funded



Photo by Christine Vaughan / The Pride

by Associated Students, Inc. With the construction of the new facility, the ELC will relocate out of their current leased-space, making Cal State San Marcos their new permanent home.

Licensed to accommodate and serve an expected 300 infants and pre-kindergarteners, including the 48 from the ELC, the new Center for Children and Families will utilize programs

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Poullard wishes campus 'farewell'

BY ANTOINETTE JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

Cal State San Marcos prepares to bid farewell to Dean of Students, Jonathan Poullard. Poullard will go on to work at UC Berkeley at the conclusion of the Spring 2006 semester.

"The community at Berkeley is one that I can benefit from both personally and career-wise," said Poullard in explaining why he decided on employment at the UC.

For Poullard, the CSUSM community served as a place where he benefited from his commitment to keeping student interest and learning at the center of his agenda. However, Poullard describes his San Diego experience as one of struggle over trying to blend his personal life with the quality of his career.

"UC Berkeley allows me to earn a Ph.D. while also working," said Poullard. Berkeley is also a community with a heavy socio-political atmosphere, an element found intriguing to the Dean of

Students. San Diego lacks the diversity and opportunities for growth that Poullard seeks in each location he travels to. So, after nearly six years of experience, he will be saying good-bye to Cal State San Marcos.

When asked about his most memorable experiences at CSUSM, Poullard chuckled upon recalling the events surrounding the Michael Moore issue during Fall 2004.

"The experience sent positive chills up my spine. The students were active in making the school their own at that moment, and it reminded me of why I am an educator," said Poullard.

During his experience here, Poullard feels he's benefited from working so closely with the student body in forming positive bonds to give rise to strong leadership. He also commented that campus organizations are

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Parking frustrations aim to be alleviated

BY LISA LANDERS
Pride Staff Writer

One of the biggest frustrations for students at Cal State San Marcos is the parking situation. First, there's the looming scheduled parking permit fee increase of \$90 for the Fall 2006 semester. Second, students and visitors can anticipate the increased daily parking rate which will go up a dollar. And third, students are continually plagued with the frustrations of the lack of available, and reasonably close to campus, parking for students.

Students do not seem especially thrilled with the increased fees, consequently wondering what they are really paying for and how it will benefit them. There is, however, much more at the root of these concerns, and a carefully calculated ten year plan in effect to alleviate them.

The Parking and Transportation Services refers to its department as a balancing act that aims to satisfy the needs and demands of everyone. They, in addition, will be the first to tell you that they cannot make everyone happy or everyone sad, but that they are always striving to achieve a balance.

"Every decision we make affects 25 people or more per day," said Robert Williams, coordinator of Business Operations and Technology.

Furthermore, any decision that

comes into play has multiple factors that the Parking and Transportation Services must consider such as: students, faculty, administration, staff, managers, vendors, contractors, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of State Architect, which includes ADA standards, and the California State University Chancellors Office which oversees 23 campuses and auditors.

As if the decision-making process isn't hard enough, Parking and Transportation Services at Cal State San Marcos is a self-support program established to provide parking facilities and resources. The department does not have state funding for capital outlay or operational costs. Basically, that means that the funds generated from students assist in providing the money needed to maintain and construct new parking facilities.

And, with each year, if Parking and Transportation Services does not take the initiative to prepare for the campus's growing population, the parking situation will only worsen every semester.

Currently, there are two major projects that are in the works to provide more general parking that will hopefully accommodate the growing population at CSUSM.

The first one, which is already underway, is the addition of Lot F. Lot F will be located near the Foundation Classroom Building and Lot H. Lot F will generate

1,500 new spaces for students, according to Parking and Transportation Services. It will also include a drive-thru daily ticket machine, oversized vehicle and motorcycle accommodations, car pool parking, disabled access, and new pedestrian pathways which have never been implemented before. Lot F's construction is scheduled to begin this April and aims to be available for students for Fall 2006.

The next big project, which is set to be completed in 2011, is CSUSM's first parking structure. This is where the ten-year plan comes into play. This new structure will be in the place where Lot N now resides, next to the University Village Apartments and Chavez Circle. The structure will contain an estimated 2,800 general parking spaces and it will be at least four stories tall. The project will cost roughly \$48 million.

According to Williams, the school generates approximately \$3 million a year. Also, taking into consideration that the state does not assist in financing such projects, the money consequently must be raised through increased parking fees. With the student parking fees scheduled to rise steadily over the next few years, the hope is to build up a reserve of at least \$4 million.

According to Belinda Garcia, assistant director of Parking Services, the campus will have an easier time asking for a grant for

\$44 million, as opposed to applying for a grant that will cost \$48 million.

Another important question asked frequently of the Parking and Transportation Services Department is why not increase the faculty/staff parking fees as well, which currently costs only \$14.00 a month, which in a semester is about \$88.00 less than what students are currently paying now per semester.

The answer, according to Director Dora R. Knoblock, is that some years ago parking became a bargaining issue between the Chancellors Office and the Union, and since the price increased in 1999 for faculty/staff from \$12.00 per month to \$14.00 per month, it has since remained the same.

Finally, the common question asked of the Parking and Transportation Service is why are students who are here now having to pay for a structure that they are unlikely to use. Williams offered a conclusive answer.

"Students seven years ago were paying to subsidize parking that you now use, and now you'll be paying for the future students," said Williams.

It is a circle system that seems unfair at first, but at second glance makes sense.

Both Knoblock and Williams agree that they are looking out for the greater campus community that is not just the present, but the future as well.

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CENTER, from page 1



Photo by Christine Vaughan / The Pride

President Haynes and her administration dig-into their commitment to make room for the Center for Children and Families.

that focus on preparing children for success in school, as well as early childhood development.

The new Center for Children and Families site is adjacent to the University Police Department, nestled at the northeast end of the campus property. The Center's Grand Opening is scheduled to commence before the Fall semester of 2007.

"It's about taking risks, it's

about collaborations, and it's about moving forward together," said Peggy Kelly, the woman responsible for applying for the grant from the First Five Commission. "This center is a win for children, a win for students, and a win for the community. The Center for Children is one example of the best of what Cal State San Marcos has to offer."

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Remebering the Holocaust: Survivor David Faber to speak on campus

BY KARIN REYES
Pride Staff Writer

The German Club and Phi Alpha Theta will be co-sponsoring a lecture by Holocaust Survivor David Faber in ACD 102 on March 15 at 5:30 p.m.

Faber, author of *Because of Romek: A Holocaust Survivor's Memoir*, will be on campus to recount his incredible story of survival as a young boy during the Holocaust. Students and faculty are invited to attend this important event.

"It is important for students and faculty to come. We have the opportunity to learn history from someone who was actually there. How many times in a lifetime do you get a chance like that?" said German Club president, Jean Scheuneman.

Having suffered the horrors of eight concentration camps, including the infamous Auschwitz,

Faber watched his parents and five of his six sisters murdered, and witnessed the torturous death of his brother, Romek. In 1945, at the age of 18, Faber was liberated from Bergen-Belsen, weighing only 72 pounds.

The Holocaust was the genocide of millions of Jews in Europe prior to and during World War II. Faber will recount his and his family's experience during this dark time in world history.

"It is not only an important time in German history, but in the history of humanity," said Scheuneman.

Auschwitz became the killing center for Nazi Germany, where the largest numbers of Jews were killed. Men, women, children and infants were murdered through mass gassings, shooting, starvation, and burning. Young children were often shot upon arrival to the camp.

Having heard Mr. Faber speak before, Scheuneman believes hearing him speak will have a tremendous impact on the audience. "I was 13 the first time I heard David Faber tell his story, and I never forgot the things that he told my class that day. It just leaves an impression on you. Students will never forget this experience."

Faber travels to schools and universities offering a free lecture on what happened to him and his family. He hopes that by sharing his horrific past future generations will not make the same mistake. His goal is to promote peace, love and tolerance in order to help prevent hate, all in memory of his family.

"Hearing someone's own accounts of what really happened," said Scheuneman, "gives you a completely different perspective of the whole situation."

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what he will miss most about CSUSM, as he's come to work closer with O-Team, Residential Advisors, the Progressive Activist Network, and the ASI Board of Directors. During the time he was here, Poullard and his colleagues strove to make Student Affairs a more visible entity on

campus. As he prepares to leave Cal State San Marcos, he feels that this goal has been met by the department and is seen through an increase in student utilization of these services.

"I would like to think I made positive contributions to the community and campus. If students can attest to this, then I will have done a good job," Poullard said, in summarizing his experience.

As a final word to CSUSM students, Jonathan Poullard left this lasting message: "Students, make this campus your own. Don't just make this a place where you go to school, but engage in the events of your university; do not just be a bystander."

RALLY, from page 1

classrooms, and to negotiate for fair contracts. But negotiations have shown little progress over salaries.

"A good education depends on good faculty," said Newman. "And we can't attract the best professors at the current pay rates."

CSU San Marcos was not the only campus to participate in the statewide rally. All 23 CSU campuses hosted rallies and other public events aimed to send a clear message to each campus president.

"We want students to know that the faculty and staff are fighting in their interests," said Newman. "Our working conditions are student learning conditions."

Cal State San Marcos student, Jacob Sherreitt, attended the event to support his professors. "The funding for teachers and their pay shouldn't come out of the students' pockets; it should come out of the state."

Many raller-goers held signs, and others chanted along with the speakers.

"For unity. Solidarity. Union.

Union. Solidarity. Unity. Sisterhood. Brotherhood. In the hood," shouted Sharon Elise, master of ceremony.

"No contract, no peace," said Elise and Newman. The crowd then joined them in their chant again.

Minutes later, Newman took control of the microphone and urged the crowd to shout, "Si se puede."

After the chants and drum beating, a few members of the rally spoke to the crowd.

"Sometimes we get tired and we just gotta stop. We gotta get

somebody to pay attention," said Elise.

Janet Powell, President of the Local Chapter of the California Faculty Association, called out to President Haynes. "We want you to represent us with the Chancellor's Office."

Silverio Haro, president of the APC, reminded the audience how Caesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta changed their conditions by uniting.

"By bringing all these different groups together: students, faculty and staff, we're sending a signal out there that let's people

standings, CSUSM finds itself in second, trailing by six pounds of recyclables per person. In this competition, institutions are competing to collect the largest amount of recyclables per person.

While Cal State San Marcos pushes to regain their title, the campus proudly maintains a strong and powerful lead in the special division of Targeted Material-Corrugated Cardboard competition, with 35 pounds per person, a strong comparison to second place campus, Kalamazoo College, far behind the Cougars with barely 15 pounds per person.

This year, the competition has been especially intense with traditional powers such as Colorado State, Washington State, and Miami (Ohio) chasing close behind the Cougars.

Cal State San Marcos's Green Team and Blue Crew need the campus's added support as they work to keep the championship in San Marcos. Together, CSUSM can make everything count.

Halftime Results of RecycleMania

BY CHRISTINE VAUGHAN
Pride Staff Writer

Cal State San Marcos reaches the halftime mark in the ten-week competition of RecycleMania, the annual EPA sponsored recycling and waste reduction contest.

With 93 colleges and universities participating in the program, Cal State San Marcos continues to strive for the RecycleMania title.

But at this midpoint, one neighboring San Diego county campus stands between Cal State San Marcos and another national recycling championship. Point Loma Nazarene University maintains a tiny, but stubborn half percent overall recycling rate lead over CSUSM in the Grand Champion division of the competition. The Grand Champion division measures the combined results of the Per Capita Classic and the Waste Minimization competitions, and demonstrates the greatest achievement in both source reduction and recycling.

In the Per Capita Classic

"This year, we need to do more. Everything that needs to be recycled needs to be recycled. From newspapers, to old classroom assignments, every piece makes a difference." - Carl Hanson, director of the Green Team at Cal State San Marcos.

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LUNAFEST Anniversary raised money for ASI Women's Center

BY RACHELL REYES
Pride Staff Writer

The LUNAFEST Anniversary fundraiser was held in "The Clarke" Grand Salon to raise money for the new ASI Women's Center, on Friday, March 10.

"We are proposing the ASI Women's Center budget to the Associated Student Inc. Board of Directors in April which we hope will fund the bare necessities of the center," said Cheyenne Barr, director of Women's Issues.

Hosted by ASI, University Student Union Advisory Board

(USUAB), the Arts and Lectures Series, and Student Leadership and Life Multicultural Programs, the LUNAFEST Fifth-year Anniversary presented films from, by, and about women. CSUSM students paid an entrance donation of \$15 while other attendants paid \$25. Before the filming began, there was a wine and cheese reception. In addition, there was also an auction for more donations. All the money raised from this event goes directly to the funding of the ASI Women's Center.

"Funds raised from outside ASI will supplement programs,

services and resources, and build on a savings account for the future of the ASI Women's Center," said Barr.

These funds will also bring Advocate Scholarships for CSUSM students, mentioned Barr.

"The ASI Women's Center is a pull-together of many on campus and community resources and services as a sort of 'information hub' for services already available from programs all around campus," said Barr.

The ASI Women's Center will be student run, will advocate for support and will expand services

to students. Resources such as pamphlets and referrals will be available for as informational tools. The center will provide a network to various groups on and off campus. The center will also provide counseling and support groups. Students can also visit the center for menstruation and contraceptive supplies.

"The ASI Women's Center is a safe space for women to come for information, resources, services, and programs that affect them," said Barr. "It is a hub of information and a place for all students to feel like they have a voice and a resource."

ASI Women's Center will continue to host many other events that will help raise money for the new facility.

Currently, the Stand Up for Women campaign is accepting donations. Anyone who donates \$15 or more will have a plaque dedicated with their name. The deadline for donations, with a plaque, is March 24.

The ASI Women's Center will be located in Commons 201A, around the corner from the other ASI offices.

The ASI Women's Center grand opening is scheduled for April 4.

Iraqi-woman campaigns for peace through story

Tour promotes unitification of women world-wide to end violence

BY CHRISTINE VAUGHAN
Pride Staff Writer

Baghdadi journalist and co-founder of the organization Act Together: Women's Action in Iraq, Faiz Al-Araji, will be speaking at Cal State San Marcos on Thursday, March 16, to educate Americans about the reality of the escalating spiral of violence in Iraq.

"These women are not politi-

cians, but ordinary Iraqis who are desperate to see an end to the violence and are taking great personal risk to come to the US," said Medea Benjamin, co-founder of the CODEPINK and Global Exchange, the two groups organizing the delegation. "It's a rare opportunity to hear from Iraqis themselves, and we hope that US officials will listen."

Al-Araji is among a selection of seven Iraqi-women touring the

nation to share her experience with Americans. Al-Araji is a civil engineer, blogger, religious Shia married with a Sunni husband, and mother of three. After one son was recently held as a political prisoner by the Ministry of the Interior, the family fled to Jordan.

Sharing her story and calling for peace, Al-Araji will be making several appearances in classroom forums, as well as speaking at the

scheduled lecture event at 6:30 p.m. in Markstein Hall, Room 125. Her visit to Cal State San Marcos promotes the campaign Women's Call for Peace. The campaign aims to encourage the withdrawal of all foreign troops and foreign fighters from Iraq, to instate negotiations to reincorporate disenfranchised Iraqis, to endorse full representation of women in the peacemaking process, and to gain support for the

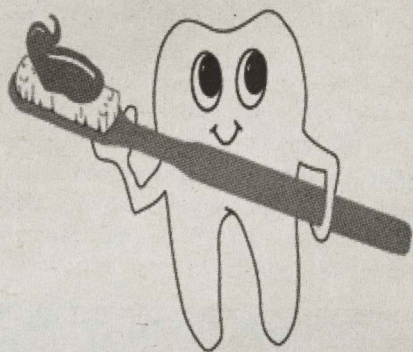
commitment of women's equality in the post-war Iraq.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for the students of Cal State San Marcos to hear firsthand from a woman from Iraq, who has experienced the reality of war and violence," said Fredi Avalos, adjunct professor for Communication. "She has an important story to tell, and I'm honored that we are able to have this opportunity available to our campus."

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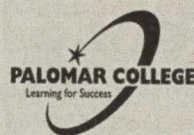
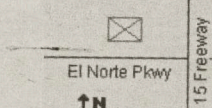
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Canes hosts the CSUSM 2006 'Spring Fling'

BY KAYONNI WILLIAMS
Pride Staff Writer

At Friday night's sold out "Spring Fling," not even pouring rain was enough to keep the cougars in their dens.

While huddling in the entrance-way at Canes Bar and Grill, partygoers reflected on the drive from North County to Mission Bay and, despite the fact that it's more than 30 miles and 43 minutes from campus, many students did not seem to mind. One student, Shanika Sawyer, complained about the drive, but later admitted, "it was worth it ... I'd do it again". Other students, like this reporter, actually commute to campus up from San Diego, so the location was actually very convenient.

Canes' security directed the entrance line and issued wristbands to those of us who were 21 and up, and could prove it with ID, of course. The line moved quickly, though, and eager partiers only had to deal with being cramped for less than five minutes.

I caught up with Tanja Schroeder, the student to thank for planning and organizing this event. Schroeder, with a smile, said that, "everything turned out as planned, the food is great, the music is awesome and everybody's dancing." Food and beverages were self-served and conveniently located at serving tables around the build-

ing. The chicken wings were particularly finger licking good.

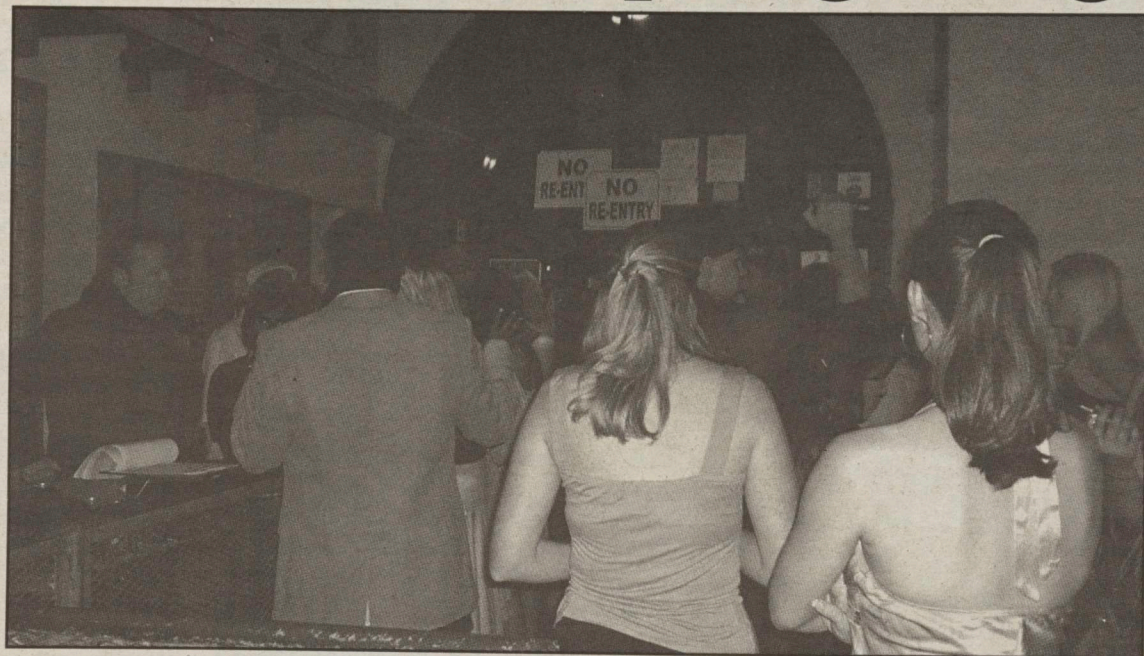
The bar, however, was a different story, inconveniently located in a separate room in the back of the club. To get in you had to flash the neon orange wristband and as if that wasn't enough, security went table to table constantly doing wristband checks. This time around they actually pulled at the wristbands to check for tampering. Although this annoyed us, it's obvious they were just doing their job to prevent underage drinking. The bartenders were friendly and the drinks were reasonably priced, not to mention well-made.

Two cranberry and vodka drinks, priced at only \$4.00 each, delighted the taste buds.

One attendant complained that the bar did not have any Hennessy, his drink of choice, but he opted for a Long Island Iced Tea with a Smirnoff Ice to add to his buzz.

After throwing back a few more drinks, many of us were ready to rejoin the festivities in the main room with DJs spinning the hottest hiphop and R&B tracks to a scene where everyone seemed to be dancing and having a good time. One student requested Rick James' "Mary Jane," and the DJs obliged. It was then that many students cleared the dance floor.

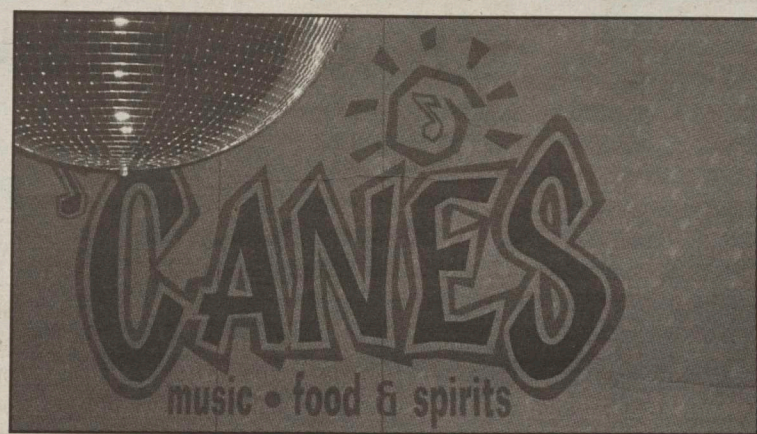
The highlight of the evening was the dance battle waged towards the end of the night. In fact, that's the only time this reporter actu-



ally danced. A big circle formed in the middle of the dance floor and those who had rhythm participated in the battle by dancing in the middle of the circle against an opponent. Those who didn't have rhythm ... well, it's best not to mention them.

In comparison to the Masquerade Ball (fall '05), "Spring Fling" seemed much more fun, with Students citing the informal dress code and more involvement on the dance floor.

And speaking of informal dress, inclement weather certainly didn't stop many ladies from sporting skimpy dresses. Others opted to sport jeans, slacks, or capris with cute tops and sexy shoes. Most



Photos courtesy of Tanja Schroeder

guys were dressed in jeans and cool shirts, while others went the extra mile and wore button downs (business casual top) with funky ties. Everyone looked nice, even

those who were scantily clad.

It looks like the Spring Fling is here to stay; rain, sleet or snow, CSUSM students are down to play!

Pakistani educator speaks to students during 'Coffee Hour'

BY LORA PAINTER
Pride Staff Writer

For the second time this semester, Cal State San Marcos hosted the International Coffee Hour. Held on March 8, and sponsored by Global Connections in support of Women's History Month, the event featured as guest lecturer Fulbright Scholar Dr. Shagufta Iqbal.

Following a similar format to previous Coffee Hours, it was both social and educational, with attendants enjoying free coffee, lemonade and snacks. Local and international students and staff also took the opportunity to get reacquainted and meet new people.

Aside from the more tangible benefits, the lecture from Dr. Shagufta Iqbal also helped attract those in need of a coffee break. Dr. Iqbal is the principal of an all-female government degree college in Sibi, Pakistan. Visiting the United States on a Fulbright scholarship, Dr. Iqbal discussed her desire to apply U.S. teaching

methods to females in Pakistan.

Dr. Iqbal's lecture was powerful. Her diminutive stature and soft voice made a striking contrast with the large vision and motivated passion she has for her cause: effectively reforming the current education system for the females of Pakistan.

"Cultural barriers, limited finances and [an] inadequate education system" are the most striking hurdles Pakistan must overcome in order to improve education, said Dr. Iqbal during her speech.

According to UNICEF, a mere 32% of Pakistani women are literate, this in the sixth most populated country on Earth, where two-thirds of people live in rural communities. As the population increases, resources become more limited, including educational facilities and funding. Dr. Iqbal works in these rural areas where the female literacy rate is 7%.

During the beginning of her speech, she gave a brief background on the current state of

the Pakistani education system. There is still strong segregation between genders and an insufficient number of female teachers. Meager means of transportation also hinder students' abilities to attend school. Children able to access schools usually attend from when they are four to sixteen years old, earning an equivalent to a tenth-grade education. From there, they can continue onto public or private universities and possibly attain degrees.

Extreme poverty is one of the biggest challenges facing educational reform in Pakistan. "Parents are reluctant to send their children to school because they are earning money instead," Dr. Iqbal said. Through her efforts, she wants to enforce the idea that education will help their children get better jobs in the long run.

Most American students might believe that complete segregation of the genders is unusual, but Dr. Iqbal mentions that this system works in the females' best inter-

ests. She says that the women feel more comfortable, both socially and academically, when learning with an all-female staff and student body.

The body of her speech honed in on the types of reforms she hopes to implement in her home country of Pakistan, including a revamp of current curriculums and introducing a variety of new courses. There was also acknowledgement that teachers would need more education and training themselves.

Of particular interest to test-weary students in this country, Dr. Iqbal stressed the need for reforming the assessment/examination mold. She explained that in Pakistan, there is too much emphasis on a single test, that the norm of using a single examination to gauge students' knowledge. Current tests emphasize memorization and, in her opinion, are inadequate means of predicting students' potential success.

During her speech, Dr. Iqbal also showed photographs of Pak-

istani schools and the devastation left after the October 2005 earthquake. Through these photos, it was clear that a lack of technology and facilities present huge obstacles to Pakistanis gaining an education. Often there is no plumbing, and children sit on the floor because they have no desks. Some classes are held without a physical classroom, resulting in teachers lecturing to their classes in the hot desert sun.

"I was shocked at the condition of their schools and lack of financial aid," said Aya Okada, an international student who attended the International Coffee Hour.

After hearing Dr. Iqbal's lecture, it was evident that the U.S. education system had made a good impression on her. She plans on applying many U.S. teaching techniques to schools in Pakistan, listing such methods as student-involved instruction, reduced test anxiety, research/activity orientation, and need-based technical skills.

"[There are] so many issues, I could talk for hours and hours," said Dr. Iqbal about the obvious factors that affect education reform.

But she remains optimistic about Pakistan's future. \$430 billion have been budgeted for the next fifteen years in a governmental program called "Education for All." While it is a vital cause, Dr. Iqbal said that "reaching this goal will depend on [Pakistani governmental] leadership."

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Cougar Pride on the Prowl

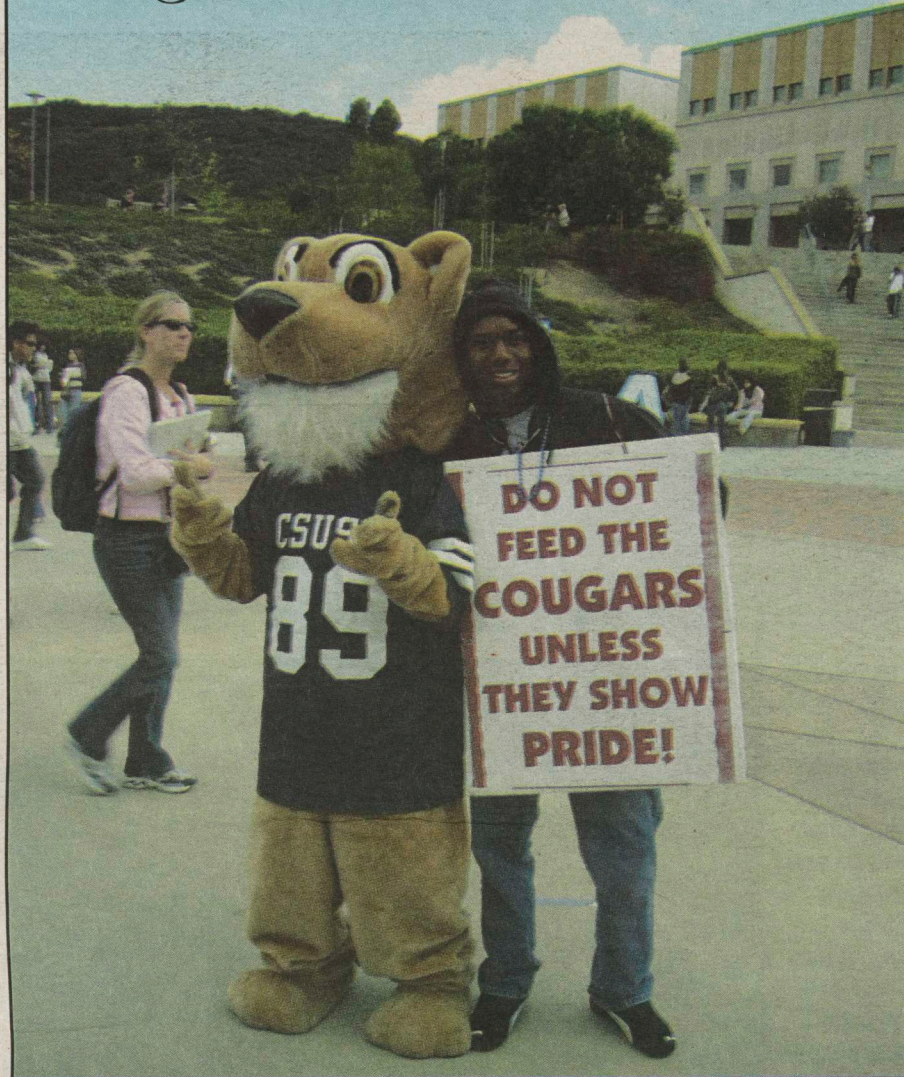


Photo by Christine Vaughan / The Pride

Energized with campus spirit, CRASH and Freshman Casey Evans enjoy the delicious taste of "Think Blue Week", sponsored by ASI. The week-long festivities aimed at uniting students and promoting Cougar pride, said Kellie Klopf, vice president of communications for ASI. Free food, energy drinks, and plenty of giveaways, attracted a good-size turnout. "I have more school spirit than anyone else on this campus," said Evans. "Except, of course, my man CRASH!"

Unveiling a cultural myth

BY SUMMER CONNERY
Pride Staff Writer

Sura XXXIII, Verse 59 of the Koran is most often cited in support of veiling. It states, "O Prophet! Tell thy wives and thy daughters and the women of the believers to draw their cloaks close around them. It will be better that way, so that they may be recognized and not annoyed."

From the first days of Islam, around 600 BCE, Muslim women, as well as many Judeo Christian women, wore concealing scarves of different types, used mostly to cover their hair.

There are many common misunderstandings when it comes to the reasons why a Muslim woman wears her traditional scarf, or "hijab", but on Tuesday March 8, 2006, in The Clarke Field House, a group of curious CSUSM students found the clarification they were looking for.

In conjunction with women's "her-story" month, ASI brought two very different and equally fascinating women to speak about this controversial garment. In "Uncovering the Mystery of the Veil," Tehseen Lazzouni, co-founder and director of the Islamic Speakers Bureau, brought a spiritual side to the presentation. Next to her sat Doris Bittar, a Lebanese artist with a Masters in Fine Art from UCSD, who brought light to the everyday wear of hijabs.

Adorned in one of her many beautiful scarves, Tehseen introduced the audience to the reason why a Muslim woman, one who follows Islam, would wear a hijab in front of most people, with the exception of her husband.

From the time they reach puberty, many Muslim women wear clothing that will cover all of their body, with the exception of the face and the hands. These garments must also be loose enough and thick enough to cover their "hidden adornments". As a Muslim woman's hair is often

considered to be her 'crowning glory,' it too must remain covered, for only her husband and family to see.

"Modesty is a form of spirituality," stated Lazzouni, going on to explain that a Muslim woman must have modesty to have purity. "The Muslim women wear these garments to honor themselves and protect their dignity."

As an Arab who was raised Christian, Doris Bittar presented a diverse set of facts and observations and was quite insistent on the idea of choice amongst women in Islamic areas. Going against the pervasive emphasis on a 'submissive' Muslim woman, she introduced the idea of women wearing scarves for a different reason: "They have a role of power. They can watch; see, and not be seen," said Bittar.

On a recent trip to her childhood home in Beirut, Doris wore a hijab when she wanted to, but did not feel out of place without one. According to her travel experience, women are treated with the utmost respect in that part of the country. "I felt quite cradled in that country in a way I do not feel here," explained Bittar. This reinforced her idea of the woman having a choice in terms of the garments that they wear.

Though most of the attendees at this event were students that were either required or given extra credit to attend, when asked whether or not they would take time out of their schedules to watch the presentation, the answer was unanimous.

"I would have shown up to a presentation like this (on my own)...if I'd known about it," said student Lacey Ledesma, suggesting that the student body may be more interested, and less informed, than organizers expect.

Fortunately, those that made it to this latest "Her-story" event were able to learn from two very diverse examinations of Muslim women and the religious garments they may, or may not wear.

Fill 'er up! Enter to win \$100 Gas Card from ASI

BY KARIN REYES
Pride Staff Writer

Just by attending an ASI sponsored or co-sponsored events students have a chance to win a \$100 Shell Gas Card.

With the continuing rise of gas prices and tuition, Commuter Student Services developed the Gas Card Program. The Gas Card Program is a chance for students who attend ASI sponsored and co-sponsored events to enter in a monthly drawing to win a \$100 gas card.

"The goal was to provide a useful and needed service for the 90 some odd percent of students that commute from throughout the county to our campus," said Director of Commuter Student Services, Jeremy Mill.

Some students may be unaware of the program or free gas incentive, but since the programs initial start in September of 2005, there have been nine winners from the Fall semester and five from Spring semester.

When a student attends any ASI event, he or she is eligible to place one ticket into the drawing for each event that student attends within that month. The drawings are held on the last business day of each month with the winner being contacted with the information that was provided on the ticket. If for some reason the winner does not respond or pick up the card within one week from initial contact, another winner is chosen.

A student has the possibility to win



Photo by Christine Vaughan / The Pride every month if their name is drawn, however, there are some restrictions. A student cannot win more than one card per month, and students that work for ASI (Programming Board, Board of Directors, intramurals, or Recreation) are not eligible to enter the drawings.

The gas cards are for Shell Gasoline and are accepted at all Shell Gas Stations. The nearest Shell Station is about 3 miles from the campus at the cross-section of San Marcos Blvd. and Grand next to In & Out.

The gas card program will run until the end of the semester. To check out the schedule of upcoming events, go to the ASI website at www.csusm.edu/asi.

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Sex Toys Workshop educates and excites

BY ZACHARY J. SIMON
Pride Staff Writer

The eager, the apprehensive, the lucky few who could find close seats, all spread into Com 206 last Tuesday at 8pm to attend the latest presentation of the Sex-toys Workshop.

As the presentation was readying to begin, student Christine Weir, a junior with a double major in social science and women's studies, learned about the event from other students passing out flyers in her class. When asked if she had any expectations, she replied that, "I've never been to a 'workshop' before, but I'm looking forward to seeing how this stuff works." Speaking with her further about whether this kind of event was good for the campus, she believes "it helps make the campus more progressive, and ease negative stereotypes about sex-toys."

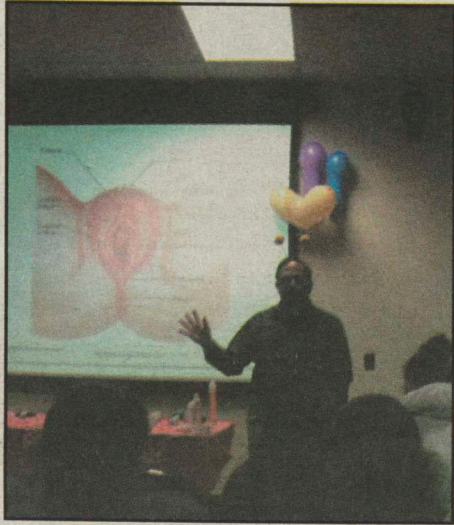
Amid the ample display of erotic tools and seasonings, the phallic and fake-breast-like balloons, students looked about for familiar faces and snacked on cookies served from a baking mold resembling male genitalia and drank soft drinks, but mostly hoarded energy drinks from an ice container that, sadly, only resembled a bucket.

Sophomore and computer science major, Muege Loundu, who had clearly never been exposed to anything related to sex-toys, said he was expecting, if anything, "some instruction on how and why to use them." Even if a little apprehensive, he had no trouble saying: "I'd go even if the event wasn't on campus, I always like to learn about new things, and this is something I knew virtually nothing about." Mr. Loundu also felt that it was, "good to have it on campus, to make more people aware."

Though last Spring's event was organized by the Women's Studies department, this year the task was in ASI's hands. The audience was thusly welcomed by organizer Cheyenne Barr, who took a moment to alert students to other events celebrating 'Her-story' month. Attendants were also encouraged to participate in raffles for both the workshop and the regular drawing open to all who attend an ASI event and are interested in winning such student-friendly prizes as 100\$ of gasoline.

Next to the stage was Dr. Ghiara, or as some affectionately call him, 'Dr. G.'

He began his lecture with a seemingly serious story about 'men in dark suits' coming to censor the presentation, primarily his slide show. It was then that he guided the laughing crowd through an



Photos by Zachary J. Simon / The Pride

Above: Dr. Ghiara explains the science of our systems.

Right: Presenters Crystal and Honey help us to understand and enjoy.

Bottom-right: Gentlemen, meet "Gigi."

assortment of photos displaying cute kittens and proud roosters. (Those unaware of the slang-pun implied here are welcome to email the Pride for further explanation.)

Once everyone settled, Dr. G then proceeded to explain in very simple terms the precise functions of the female and genitals and the human sexual response, emphasizing the relationship between mental and physical stimuli as well as the individual nature of our sexual selves. There is, to those concerned, much natural variation between one person and the next, specifically in what they find pleasurable. Dr. G also gave a brief explanation of the both enigmatic and, for some, irrelevant 'g-spot' as well as a history of Kegel exercises and how scientifically recommended they are.

Following the lecture, a Q&A session rewarded those who paid close enough attention to both the subject matter and its significance. Naturally, some prizes drew more hands than others. Dr. G. also emphasized his desire to raise money for a cancer research fund, offering free professional and private sex consultation to those who donate to the cause. Those interested should contact consults@DrGonline.com.

The women of Passion Parties themselves kept things both fun and relaxed, offering free samples of pheromone oils and an all natural 'enhancement gel' promised to greatly increase sexual experience for half a day; half a dozen of each gender was quick to their feet to step into the nearby restroom. Some of these volunteers came back smiling, others smiling a lot. Naturally, the toys themselves



commanded the largest presence, despite their varying sizes. Students opened their mouths wide, either stunned or mesmerized by the many feats of engineering and novelty ... though the room grew noticeably, if predictably, quiet at the introduction of the 'playful plug.'

Calm, yet still attentive and eager to laugh, senior liberal studies major, Juana Molina, reflected a moment to compare this workshop to last Spring's event, held in the much larger Clark Field House.

"These presenters had lower priced items, and a smaller audience made it seem more interactive."

The unofficial Passion Parties motto of "a little vibration never hurt anybody," was clearly convincing, as more than half the attendees stayed behind to either discuss the presentation or visit the Passion Parties ordering table, where they offered hand jobs. This reporter got one himself, amazed at how good it felt to have one of the presenters put on a plastic textured mitten and rub massage oil onto his hand. In addition to such demonstrations, they also offer the highest of confidentiality to those ordering their products.

Catching up with Ms. Christine Weir again, it was clear that she'd been pleasantly surprised, particularly by "how much health related information they provided ... it (the whole event) was great."

John Hall, a sophomore majoring in Biology, and another who clearly never considered sex-toys a major factor in their lives, also spoke well of the event.

"Initially, I just went along with my friends, but now I feel these things could help anybody."

Speaking with Cheyenne about any resistance she received to putting on another workshop, she was happy to say that there were only a couple people "concerned that the event would promote immoral-intercourse, yet virtually all of these things could be used solo." She went on to remark that something like a sex-toys workshop on campus is "like the second course to sex education, and for some it's the first."

Dr. Ghiara was also very adamant in his



stance on issues surrounding the controversy.

"Encouraging people to know more about themselves is not advocating hedonism."

As to issues of hesitation or hostility towards supporting such an event, or of having to constantly defend its 'educational value,' he admitted that it was certainly something to consider, "but if this were a more residential college that wouldn't be as big an issue."

He also brought to light a bit of American context with a slightly mortified laugh, pointing out that in many of the states that outright criminalize sex-toys, the open sale of automatic weapons is perfectly legal.

Honey and Chrystal, of Passion Parties, are both CSUSM alumni and former ASI members. They've brought their passion to campus before, but only as vendors at last year's performance of The Vagina Monologues. Typically they're invited to private homes, but both agreed they'd love to present at universities more often because, as Chrystal points out, "sex is everywhere, but sex education isn't."

To anyone still uncomfortable with the idea of a sex-toys workshop on campus, Honey explains warmly how "continued conversation about sex and sexuality provides people more comfort with their bodies and their partner's body." Once more, Honey echoes the evening's clear stance that it's not merely 'permissible' to provide these kinds of venues; "It's important to equip students with the tools to make healthy decisions about their sex lives."

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Jock Talk With Josh

BY JOSH SANDOVAL
Special to The Pride



The upcoming sports weekend for San Diego will be an all-time great. It will also be a great opportunity to show off San Diego to the world.

It's not often that playoff games take place in San Diego, because the Chargers and Padres play in their respective post-seasons about once every decade. During this weekend, however, San Diego will have playoff fever.

On Thursday March 16, the NCAA Men's basketball tournament will kick off with first round play at Cox Arena on the campus of San Diego State. The March Madness tourney is something that every sports fan needs to experience. I have not had the opportunity to attend an NCAA tourney game, and if I don't get a chance to go to the first round, then maybe I will get a shot at the second round which will be played on March 18 at Cox Arena. The first round always sees plenty of upsets. One No. 12 seed seems to always beat a No. 5 seed on the first day, but don't get too upset-minded, though, because no 16 seed has ever beaten a No. 1 seed, so don't forget about that when filling out your brackets.

If the NCAA tourney wasn't enough on Saturday, the World Baseball Classic Tournament semifinals will be held at Petco Park in downtown San Diego. I have tickets for both games which will take place at noon and 7 pm. Maybe I will

be able to sneak in a second round game of the NCAA tourney in between the two baseball games.

The San Diego sports weekend will officially end on Monday, March 20, when the WBC championship game takes place. On January 24, I predicted a Dominican Republic versus United States championship game. I stand by that prediction with a forewarning that Venezuela looks strong, so don't be surprised to see them take the Dominican's spot.

San Diego athletes will also get the opportunity to shine. The SDSU Men's basketball team will be playing in the NCAA tournament and has an excellent chance at winning a game since they have two likely future NBA prospects in Brandon Heath and Marcus Slaughter. Mohamed Abukar gives SDSU a third scoring threat and any team that has three players who average 14 points or more per game definitely has a shot to shock some teams. In the other sport, Jake Peavy will have a spotlight on him if the United States WBC team makes it to the semifinals because Peavy is the probable starter. If Mexico makes it to the semifinals, then another Padres player, Vinny Castilla, will get some attention. The Mexican WBC team captain would be playing just 30-minutes from his home country, at his home ball park in front of the world.

For all you non-sports fans (you probably tuned out a long time ago), don't forget

that there will be an extraordinary amount of people in town for the festivities over the weekend. Expect longer waits at all your usual spots around town because the San Diego economy will be booming with out of towners from all around the world. Expect even larger traffic delays on the I-8 freeway near College Avenue and on the I-5 from La Jolla to downtown. Also, the

typical tourist spots will be jam packed, like the Zoo, the Gaslamp district and the beaches.

By the end of the weekend, the world will realize that "San Diego" is German for "great sports town", not a "whale's vagina". That's an "Anchorman" reference for the handful of San Diegans who didn't see that movie.

Comments can be sent to Sando026@csusm.edu.



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Art can get under your skin

BY PIYAMAS SABLAN
Pride Writer

Students across campus express their individuality through numerous mediums. Clothing, mode of transportation, hairstyles, and lingo give clues to their personality. Tattoos are no longer limited to certain stereotypes but are now used as a means of expression by a variety of people. People can't judge what "type" of person is prone to getting a tattoo because the range has expanded to the point of non-existence. Tattoos are no longer synonymous with drunken sailors or leather clad rebels without causes. Gone are the days of tattoos being only socially accepted on men. Currently, there are so many people that have tattoos that it's probably harder to find someone who doesn't have one.

A lot of individuals get tattoos that are really personal and mean something to them. Some people even create their own tattoo designs because the design is unique and accurate

to who they are and what they want to express about themselves. There are of course individuals who get tattoos for purely aesthetic reasons or because tattoos happen to be the "in" thing. They may choose a tattoo by its popularity and not necessarily its meaning. These people probably have tattoos of dolphins, flowers, butterflies, or tribal bands they picked off a wall or their tattoo artist's portfolio. They probably have belly ring or tongue piercing scars to remind them of the days when piercings were the in thing. Some of them will probably regret their tattoos and eventually end up having them removed.

Where a tattoo is placed is almost as important as what kind of tattoo is chosen. A lot of people get tattoos in places that aren't visible when wearing a t-shirt and jeans or whatever attire they may be required to wear at work. A lot of females tend to get tattoos on their lower back so that it's visible when low pants or short tops are worn. Males seem to get tattoos

wherever they deem aesthetically best. There is no norm to predict who around you may have a tattoo. The boisterous guy in class with piercings and a mohawk may be a virgin to the ink needle while the quiet introverted girl with glasses who sits at the front may have her whole back and arms covered with an ornate tattoo design. Hopefully, most people get tattoos to feed their individuality and not to feed pop culture's "what's hot today" top ten. Even if a tattoo is later removed, scarring is still visible and the experience of getting the tattoo lingers in the cranium so that the tattoo lasts basically forever. People should take heed when selecting a design and place for their tattoo. People should also shed the stereotypes they've been conditioned to accept for the tattooed and not judge someone superficially. In a world where things once considered extravagant are now mass produced, individuality is a hard path to walk and a harder path to create for oneself.

Letter to the Editor

In the Feb. 28th article, "LGBT keeps a low profile on campus," we the members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Ally Student Organization want to thank Natasha Heckendorn for taking the time to learn about our group and for educating the CSUSM community. She is the first representative from the newspaper to acknowledge and give us exposure in Pride. As much as we are grateful for this exposure we want to respond to the statement of "low profile." Many student organizations on campus function remarkably well with "noticeably low" numbers. We are such an organization.

We do want to address the comments concerning campus climate. We realize that there may be small numbers of reported hate crimes, but we want to offer a perspective on why the reports are low. We believe the incidents occur on a fairly regular basis, but because there is risk involved in reporting such incidents, people are less likely to come forward to report these incidents. According to the FBI (2000) the most frequently reported single hate

crime offense was intimidation, which accounts for 34%.

Hate crimes against LGBT individuals, like other crimes against oppressed groups, such as racial discrimination and sexual crimes, are personal and are more difficult to report to the authorities. Such reporting puts an individual in a position where they have to come out and could ultimately be subjected to added harassment. We suggest that reasons for the low number of reported hate crimes might be more complex and could be more of an indicator of the lack of safety for our members on campus.

We as an organization realize that there is a need for educating our campus about LGBT and those issues that affect us. We would like our campus newspaper to continue to educate the community on LGBT matters and inform your readers about how they can act as our allies.

With respect,
Jay Franklin
The LGBT & Ally Student Organization

See all that you can see

BY ZACHARY J. SIMON
Pride Staff Writer

It has recently come to my attention that readers, or at least some students, are put off by The Pride's decision to sell advertising space to the US army. It would be one thing if the unhappy emails went through our head editor, but the majority arrive at the feet of our advertising editor.

And all the while I've kept laughing at the initial joke that a full page ad on the features page would portray me as some kind of hyper-enthusiastic military recruiter.

If only I'd known, hell, I'd have given it a shot. We journalists are supposed to be natural adepts at

misleading people.

I don't want to follow that sentence with another 'but I still support the individual troops, just not their decision to follow the orders of maniacs and imbeciles' line. That kind of backtracking faux-diplomacy apparently commands only a little more respect than a racist joke, accidentally told within earshot of (x ethnicity), and quickly followed with 'but some of my best friends are (x ethnicity).'

I don't assume anything, much less anything negative, about someone who decides his or her best employment opportunities (currently) lie at Starbucks, Walmart, Disney, the US military, or any other monolith. By

this same token, I don't judge a piece of media by the ads it sells.

I can't tell you how many times I've laughed to see a pro-military ad punctuate a show or article or comic about the intrinsic evil of imperialism, or war itself. I'm happy that there are still bloated corporations blind enough to buy 'exposure' everywhere they can, even from the little guys who will slip a flipped bird 'under the radar' anytime they want.

A college paper can publish an editorial saying anything it likes about the off-campus world. What does it have to fear? Public disinterest? Reactionary or outright whinny letters from readers and staff alike?

Will our advertisers pull out?

Ah, now there's the clincher, so I'll be frank: most advertisers come to us, and we could charge them more than we do.

This is not to dismiss concerns about larger mass-television media, quite the contrary. You should be VERY concerned that companies rather than products are buying commercial space, thus public approval from the mass-audience, that drug companies are trying to 'sell' you things that only doctors can give you, that only doctors should be telling you about. You should be wondering if the big players aren't buying ads in between the content so much as investing IN the content. You should be ter-

rified and enraged at the utterly tiny number of companies that provide the bulk of this country's media, the kind of cash it must take to maintain power like that, the kind of influence.

No, you personally won't get a response from your favorite TV station, or even regional newspaper, but they're the ones you should be talking to, even if only to remind them why they don't have your attention.

Hell, if you think all this has been scary, just think about what might happen if 'they' realized that we've all stopped listening, just think about the last time you, you utterly commercially immune free mind, craved something, and had no idea why.

Robbins Report

BY JASON ROBBINS
Special to The Pride

South Dakota traded abortion in for a new Dodge pickup truck last week. The potential ban is significant, but I reckon that most Americans would prefer to either praise or denounce abortion itself. So let's do that.

I like to sum up the abortion issue in three basic notions:

Notion #1: The abortionists (separate from the more numerous passive pro-choicers) suppress their consciences in rejecting the embryo as human life, and distort concepts like "choice", in order to (a.) retain some power in a world that they believe hates women, and/or (b.) advance their work as diehard apologists for selfish and irresponsible behavior.

Notion #2: The anti-abortionists (I'll admit, some of them are bigoted, militant, and overbearing) can see the forest and (like abolitionists before them) will

be on the right side of history, because favoring the opportunity for life to proceed naturally over an unnatural convenience will always be more progressive.

Notion #3: George W. Bush was right about one, and maybe only one, thing: In time, the abortionists will lose. Eventually the public will decide that this particular form of death/murder is unnecessary, and public policy will bless its desire. Many politicians on the left will be observed quietly celebrating without the monkeys on their backs.

So that's my take on the abortion. I'm sure that you should agree; so go ahead.

In other news, I met a nice girl last week and she wants to go out. I also met Alexis de Tocqueville and he wants me to believe that equality can be a threat to liberty.

Tell me: Should I ditch equality, and deprive other females of an equal

opportunity to be with me by pursuing this nice girl? Or should I bolster equality, apologize to this nice girl, and give myself back up to the female community?

If I choose the latter (extreme equality) do I pose a threat to the liberty of so many others? Will the government come along someday and restrict folks from committing to one person? Will we be forced to share our love with others (I bet this doesn't sound too bad to some of you)?

Oh, the life of a political theorist! John Locke, where are you when I need you the most brother?

The lesson: Take an active interest in your studies, for you might just find yourself in a position to preserve or destroy liberty someday.

I'm going out with the nice girl. In the words of Mel Gibson, "Freeeeeeeeedommmmmmm!"

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Free-Ninety-Nine, are you outa your mind?

BY JENNY NGUYEN
Pride Staff Writer

"Free" is a word that is loved by all, but it is loved more so by college students. It seems that all college students are broke, yet many are spending a lot of money for something that they can get for absolutely FREE!

Students are always looking for some kind of fun and entertainment; what better way is there than to go to the movies! The Cougar Movies Series is in its second year and is offering free movies every Tuesday night, all semester long for students, staff, faculty, and guests. The movies are generally shown in the Clarke Field House/ University Student Union, with the exception of two movies that will be showing in Arts 240.

"There are free movies on campus?!" said Business Administration major, Glenn Ramos. "I have no idea what's free on campus; I just assume they charge us for everything."

Tim Bills, the Assistant Director at the Clarke Field House explains that the Cougar Movies Series is primarily sponsored by the University Student Union Advisory Board, Associated Students, Inc. and also by Student

Life & Leadership.

For movies that are shown on campus before their DVD release date, Cal State San Marcos pays \$750 to the movie distribution company, Swank Motion Picture, Inc. for the rights to show the movie. For movies that have already been released on DVD, the cost is \$415 to show it on campus. According to Mr. Bills, funds to pay for these movies come from student fees.

When asked why these movies are shown just one night a week, and not throughout the week, Mr. Bills replied that the school has a contract with the distribution company that limits the showing of the movies to a one-time only. It would cost a lot more to show the same movie more than once.

As to why the movies are shown on Tuesdays nights, Mr. Bills says that in the past, movies were shown on the weekends as non-alcoholic social programming. The number of attendees was low when movies were shown on campus during the weekends. This is why they are now on Tuesday nights. With an average of about 75 attendees, Mr. Bills hopes to attract more viewers.

Glenn Ramos thinks that the student fees that are put towards

this program is money well spent, if there is a great number of people interested and attending "if I wasn't already busy on Tuesday nights, I would go," says Ramos. "But it is great for those that live on or around campus."

Movies shown on campus were chosen at the beginning of the semester in the Student Organization Council meeting. Student members of the USUAB, ASI program board members, and representatives from the club organizations all had input into what movies they wanted to be shown.

"We chose and voted for not only great blockbuster movies,



Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures

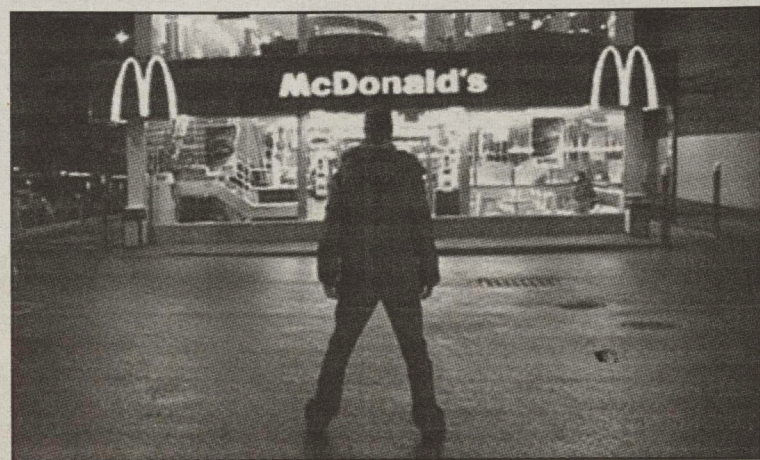


Photo courtesy of Roadside Attractions

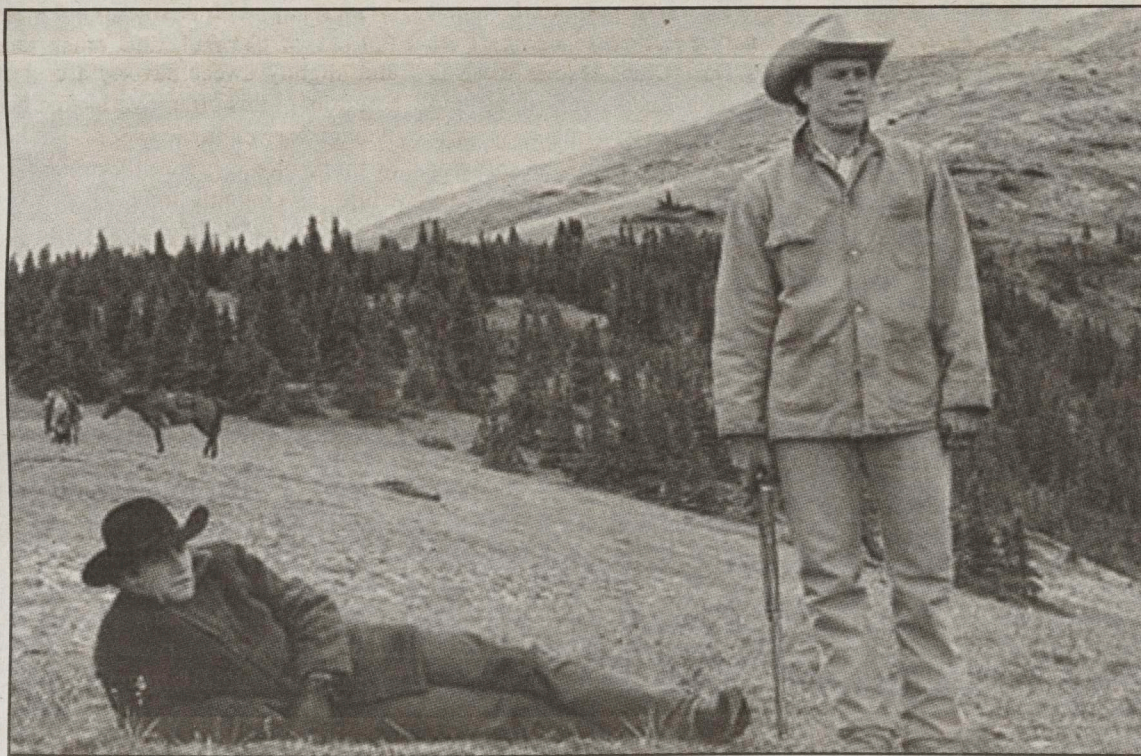


Photo courtesy of Focus Films

but also for movies that correlated with what will be going on around campus," says Bills. "For example, we showed North Country and will be showing Memoirs of a Geisha to coincide with Women's Her-story Month. Super Size Me will be shown in April to coincide with Wellness Month."

Mr. Bills states that it is within the Mission Statement of the Clarke Field House/ University Student Union to 'enhance the quality of campus life, and support the educational mission of the University through social, recreational, cultural and educational programs.'

"The University Student Union Advisory Board (USUAB) and the staff of the Clarke Field House use the Wellness Model as a lens from which to view program efforts and opportunities," says Bills.

Mr. Bills explains that the Well-

ness Model is from the holistic standpoint, encompassing physical, social, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, career and occupational well being.

"Hopefully, the movies shown will evoke discussion and learning outside of the classroom," said Mr. Bills.

So far, the Cougar Movie Series has shown The Chronicles of Narnia and North Country. Memoirs of a Geisha will be shown on March 21, Brokeback Mountain on April 4, Super Size Me on April 11, and will conclude with a showing of Munich on April 18. Sponsors will make decisions later in the semester in terms of continuing the Cougar Movie Series. Those that may enjoy and have enjoyed this great opportunity to have some free fun (that's already been paid for), Mr. Bills suggests you "Vote with your feet!"

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'The Dining Room' is not just for food

BY JENNY NGUYEN
Pride Staff Writer

For those that may be hungry and starving for some great entertainment, the Arts & Lectures Department of Cal State San Marcos proudly presents, "The Dining Room," a play by A.R. Gurney.

"The Dining Room" show opens on Friday, March 17, at 8 p.m. in Arts 111, and will play on Saturday, March 18, Friday March 24, closing on Saturday, March 25. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for the public, and may be purchased at the Arts and Lectures office in Arts 304, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The kitchen may be the heart of a home, but it is the dining room that brings people together. It is where fami-

lies get a chance to sit down and not only enjoy a meal, but to come together to talk and discuss matters of life and matters such as love, loss, joys, and tragedy.

"It's a close examination of 'WASPS,'" said Patrick Wenk-Wolff, an actor in the play and also a CSUSM Visual Performing Arts student. "It is about people with power who are fragile and have flaws."

"The Dining Room" takes place in contemporary times around a dining room table of typical White-Anglo-Saxon-Protestants. Eight student actors change roles, personalities, and ages throughout the hour and a half long play. The actors may be switching characters, but the one thing that remains constant throughout this play is the dining room.

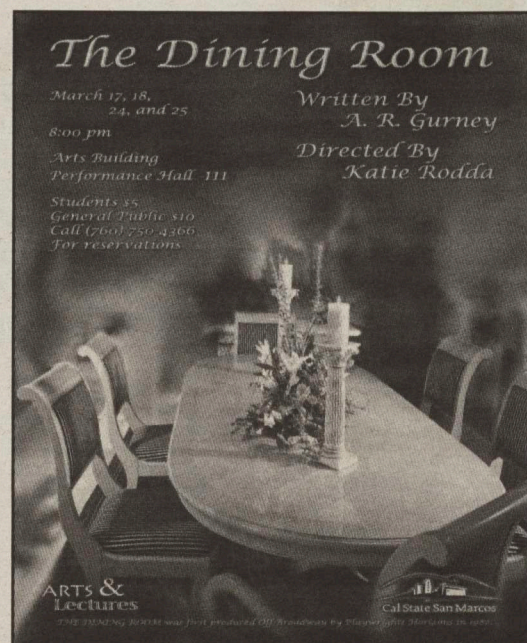
The cast and crew members are made up entirely of Cal State San Marcos students. Cast members are all enrolled in

Professor Katie Rodda's Performing Arts class. Crew members are a part of Lighting Designer Professor Karen Fijan's Theatre Productions class.

Professor Rodda, who is also the director of the play, chose to do A. R. Gurney's "The Dining Room" because it provides the opportunity for the performers to showcase something that is extremely difficult to do, and that is to play multiple characters. This is a very difficult task that requires extreme talent, according to Rodda.

"The most I've ever played was three characters in a play, but never eight! This has been the most challenging aspect," said Wenk-Wolff.

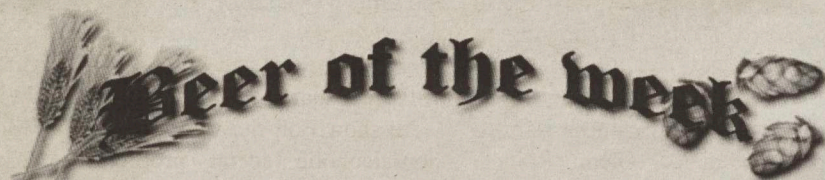
For more information and a schedule of events, please visit www.csusm.edu/art_lectures or call the Arts & Lectures Office at (760) 750-4366.



Photos courtesy of Arts and Lectures Department



Photo by Matthew Schramm / The Pride



Killian's Irish Red

BY MATTHEW SCHRAMM
Pride Staff Writer

While Guinness is the choice beer for St. Patrick's Day, and in fact, every day, there are a number of other beers bearing a little Irish color to them that should not be left out this coming St. Patrick's Day. Chief among these is Killian's Irish Red, a refreshing and mild red lager.

Although many claim that Killian's is not a true Irish beer, because its home brewery is now in the U.S., its history has more than a trace of Irish attachment in it. First brewed in 1864 by George Killian Lett in Enniscorthy, Ireland, Killian's is made with the same recipe now as it was back then. The modern Irish-American version of Killian's deserves more than a passing glance, and can readily be found on many store shelves.

Brewed using a caramelized malt, according to its website, the flavor of Killian's is unique to say the least. A red-amber, almost copper color, Killian's has little scent but lots of taste. Mild and smooth, Killian's goes down quick, with nearly no bitterness. Flavors of caramel, and other tangy and slightly sweet flavors, are at the forefront of this often-overlooked beer. Though brewed in the U.S. it's not hard to think of the green hills of Ireland while drinking this brew.

Still think Killian's is not Irish enough to drink on St. Patrick's Day? Well then take a sip and think again, from its history to its refreshing flavor, Killian's is an Irish beer with an American take, and worth more than a taste this St. Patrick's Day and every day.

For more information on Killian's Irish Red visit its website at www.killians.com.

Chin's lets you eat classy but pay cheap

BY DAVID GATLEY
Pride Staff Writer

Recently I and three of my friends enjoyed an incredibly prepared four-course dinner from the lovely people at Chin's Szechwan Rancho Bernardo Restaurant. When you first walk in the place, you know you're in for a most excellent session of quality food from the orient. Water ponds,

bamboo stalks, traditional art and most importantly, a full bar greet you in the waiting area. Generally, a manager will escort you and your party straight to your table, unless it's one of the more crowded nights where a wait should be expected. You weave your way from one room to another uncovering an intimately lit, friendly open space where there are always many friendly faces enjoying their fine dinners. From there, the night gets much more interesting.

In an odd mix of fine dining and low key casual atmospheres, Chins seems very out of place, yet very familiar and comfort-



Photos curtesy of visitchins.com

able. Don't let the looks fool you; you can get in and out of the place with a dinner for two running for as little as 15 dollars. Even with a party of four, a few rounds from the Sake gods and a beer, a four-course exceptional meal was only about 17 dollars a head. It was a

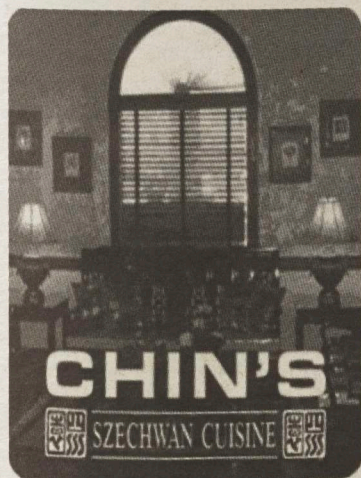
very fair bargain for a classy night out. The service was a little slow and the language barriers were somewhat challenging, somehow when we ordered one cup of soup it translated into a gigantic pot of mysterious egg like substance for the entire table, but still it was good.

All in all the experience as a whole was a very good one,

as are all of my trips to the restaurant. Chins never disappoints nor breaks the bank. Bring a date or bring a bunch of friends, the more people the better. Most of the portions are served banquet style and require sharing, how-

ever an intimate night for two is definitely an option.

No matter where you live, Chin's has a location near you: San Marcos, Carlsbad, Oceanside, Escondido, Vista, and Rancho Bernardo are just a few to mention. Grab a date, a few bucks, and try Chins your next time out for everyone's favorite foreign food. It won't be a time you soon forget.





Irish 'beer drinking' rock

Music inspired by the Emerald Isle



BY RACHEL CARRIE WAN
Pride Staff Writer

Music can no doubt set a mood, and on St. Patrick's Day, there could be no better way to get

A good place to start is with the Pogues, one of the first well-known acts to perform Irish drinking music that flirts heavily with punk rock. Don't be fooled however, into thinking the high levels of presumed intoxication alter the band's ability to produce often intelligent lyrics that tackle issues that go beyond booze, such as prostitution, self-indulgence and despair. Listen to "Rum Sodomy and the Lash" to see why these predecessors of Irish punk have no doubt been one of the greater influences to bands such as Flogging Molly and Dropkick Murphys.

Picking up where the Pogues left off, the popular Los Angeles based Flogging Molly presents a

band of seven to eight members (depending on the recording) who bring such instruments as the bodran, tin whistle, uilleann pipes, concertina, bazouki and mandola to their entourage to mix a sound rooted in Irish tradition with modern California punk rock. Pick up such records as

"Drunken Lullabies" or "Swagger" to get into the spirit of Flogging Molly.

Also be sure to check out those Boston boys who opt to sing it loud and sing it proud, the Dropkick Murphys, and the self-proclaimed Irish hybrid from Chicago, The Tossers, who have accomplished ten years of playing their blend of heated Irish folk tunes.

If you're looking for something slightly more local with a heavier punk edge, check out The Bleeding Irish, an Oceanside based trio that derives their influences from the traditional Irish band, The Dubliners, and notable punk acts such

as Minor Threat, MxPx and The Clash. The Bleeding Irish has been known to often craft odes to the homeland for their upcoming record and actively tours the Southern California area.

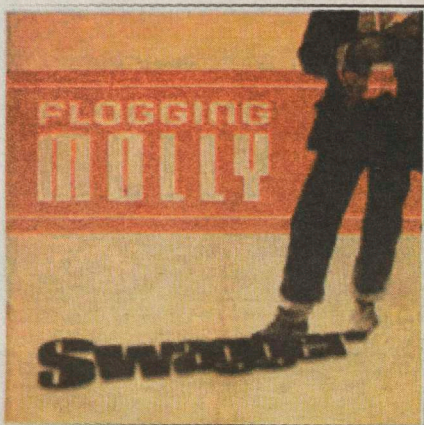


Photo courtesy of
SideOneDummy Records

some of the luck of the Irish than by introducing some rock fueled by the traditions of that beloved green homeland to your playlist.

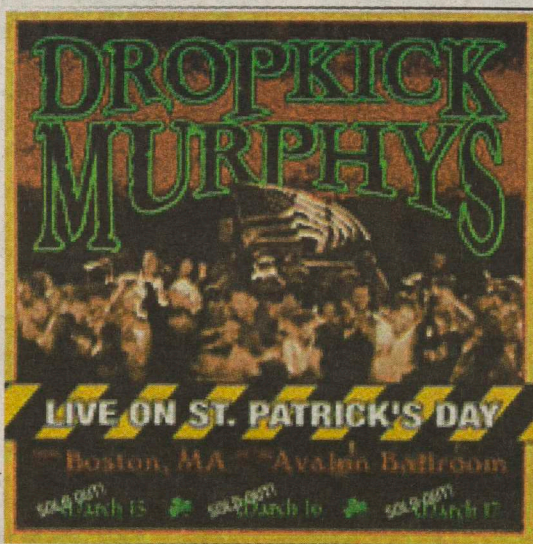


Photo courtesy of Epitaph Records

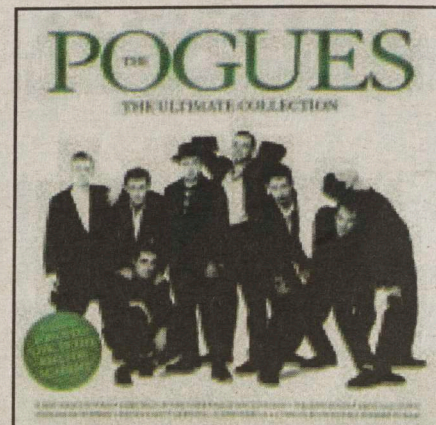


Photo courtesy of WEA Records

Whatever your favorite daily genre, make a point this St. Patrick's Day to get in touch with Irish side through music, even if it is only for one day.

How To ... Celebrate St. Patrick's Day

BY AMANDA KEELEY
Pride Staff Writer

St. Patrick's Day is Friday, the one day everyone is Irish and a great day to party. In Ireland, public houses (otherwise known as pubs for short) are a huge part of social life and act not only as bars, but meeting places, social clubs, post offices and grocery stores, according to Irelandseye.com. Luckily, there are plenty of exciting events and places to go to celebrate in Southern California. Starting with San Diego, in the Gaslamp Quarter is Shamrock 2006. According to Signonsandiego.com, they roll out 30,000 feet of green astro turf lined with Irish goodies such as face painters, stilt-walkers, hat makers, green martinis and plenty of green beer. F and Fifth Street will be filled with music and dancing, thanks to the Irish rock bands The Fenians, Crossroads, The Downs Family, NRG, Skelpin, DJ Dan (among others), hometown Celtic bands and traditional Irish dancers. This event has a \$20 admission charge and lasts from 4:00p.m until 2 a.m for those who are 21 and over. If an authentic Irish experience is what you want, then pubs are great places to feel like an Irishman or Irishwoman. Maloney's Irish Pub is a fun restaurant and bar with inviting booths and a young crowd. but be careful,

because you might miss it! Look out for the little Maloney's sign located on Fifth Avenue which points to the fun that awaits you downstairs. Also on Fifth Avenue is The Field Irish

Navy SEAL. McP's is described as having good food, great prices and live music nightly. On Adams Avenue in San Diego is The Ould Sod which is a dark and cozy little place with leather booths

craftsmen, according to David Coddon from the Union Tribune. This place has a horseshoe bar, a cast-iron fireplace with a seating area and a fun atmosphere full of live music, dancing of the jig, yummy food, and endless pints of Guinness. Hennessey's Tavern on Mission Boulevard hangs the Irish flag proudly for all to see to welcome all ages to come in and enjoy delicious food as you sit at wooden tables with green chairs, a wooden bar, and plenty of open windows. Hennessey's Tavern is open until 1a.m. and features Karaoke and live music on given nights. Located on Grand Avenue in Carlsbad is Tom Giblins Irish

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already too busy watching the game. There are specials going on all the time and live folk music. Hooley's Irish Pub and Grill, located on Jamacha Road in Rancho San Diego, is the sister pub to The Field and is also imported from Ireland. According to Signonsandiego.com, "a 'hooley,' is a raucous Irish celebration that includes the generous consumption of beer and spirits." Sounds like a good time! At D.G Wills on Girard Avenue in La Jolla is the St. Patrick's Day Open Reading of Irish Poetry. This is an open mike reading of works from James Joyce, William Butler Yeats, Edmund Burke, George Bernard Shaw, and Sean O'Casey, among others. Don't worry, Guinness and Harp will be served! For those who live north of San Marcos there is an authentic Irish pub called Killarney's which is located in Temecula off Highway 79 South. This pub was built, designed, and shipped from Ireland and features live music from local Irish bands. According to Killarneys.com the pub is a rendition of Dick Mac's Pub in Kerry, Ireland. Their claim to fame is having the largest selection of Irish whiskey and single malt scotch in Temecula Valley. There definitely isn't a shortage of things to do or places to go on St. Patrick's Day so be sure to get out there and have a good time, but remember to wear green or risk getting pinched!

Pub and Restaurant. Described by Signonsandiego.com as the most authentic of the Irish pubs in San Diego because not only is the whole restaurant built out of wood that was imported from Ireland, but many of the staff is also from Ireland. Located on Orange Avenue in Coronado is McP's Irish Pub and Grill. It's mostly a military hang-out because the owner is an ex-

and an extensive bar. Enjoy the pictures and posters on the wall that depict the Irish countryside and past St. Patrick's Day parties while being served a beer by an Irish bartender. Dublin Square on Fourth Avenue was manufactured in Ireland, shipped to San Diego, and assembled by Irish

wooden decorated pub is full of the haunting aroma of good ole' Irish food, and also features live music. Callahan's Pub & Brewery on Mira Mesa in San Diego is a fun combination of Irish pub and an American sport bar featuring 25 different taps in which five are brewed there. Callahan's also provides pinball machines, dart boards, and foosball tables to keep you busy if you're not



Photo courtesy of www.gaslampquarter.org

