

Plan to move childcare center on campus

By MELISSA RODRIGUEZ
Pride Staff Writer

Four weeks ago, Interim President, Roy McTarnaghan gave the go ahead to the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) to bring to him a clear business plan for a new building, tentatively called "The Center for Children and Families," which will house the Early Learning Center (ELC).

The ELC is a daycare center run by ASI providing inexpensive and easily accessible childcare for CSUSM students and members of the community.

New buildings added to the campus like the Clarke Field House/University Student Union, the University Village apartments and the Kellogg Library, changed the landscape and have expanded campus life.

The plan for "The Center for Children and Families" will be compiled before the end of the semester so that it will be available to the new president when he or she takes office.

The ELC is currently located off campus

at 233 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road, in a building leased from the city of San Marcos.

"Our lease is up July 31, 2004 and so we have been having discussions with the university about finding a place on campus. We recently have been told that there will be space (available) here on campus," said Lura Poggi, executive director of the ASI.

According to Russell Decker, executive dean of planning design and construction, two possible locations are under consideration. The first consideration is near the University Services building where the University Police are located, and the second consideration is behind the Science I building.

Plans for the new facility include longer business hours, to better accommodate student schedules, and an expansion of services, to include children in infancy to after school programs for older children.

At present the ELC is licensed for only 48 children and provides

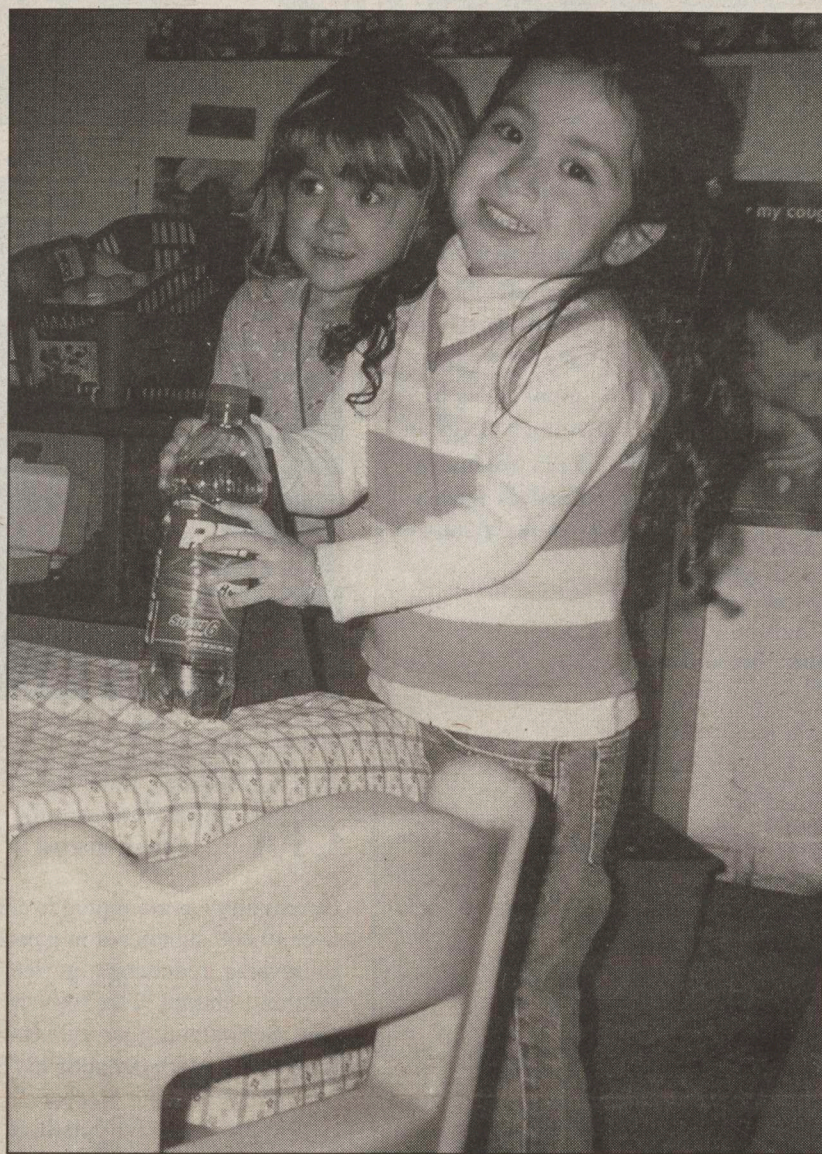


Photo by Melissa Rodriguez/The Pride Staff

Carolina Lemus and Shayla Shedley (left to right) enjoy playing at the Early Learning Center.

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Spring schedules only offered online

By MIKE DOLAN
Pride Ombudsman

The Spring 2004 Class Schedule is available, but is now only accessible online. This is the first time that the University will not be offering an actual hard copy of the schedule for students to purchase. Students who were accustomed to having both a schedule online and in their hands must now fully integrate by using only computers to find class listings.

"That it was simply a matter of time, that eventually the schedule would go from paper and online, to online only," said Associate Vice President of Academic Programs, David Barsky.

According to Barsky, the decision to abandon the published schedules was based on a combination of two factors.

**"The decision not
to print the schedule
was not ours."**

The first factor was the issue of modernization, being that Cal State San Marcos is a campus that is technology driven.

The second reason for the decision to go with only an online schedule involves the uncertainty of the budget.

The actual planning for the spring schedule began late last summer.

"The budget situation was not clear back then to allow the colleges to develop a schedule that would be both in their budgets and offer the courses students needed," Barsky said. With the state's financial problems reducing the money available to the CSU system, each department was restricted in the courses offered next semester.

Barsky said "the online schedule will be more accurate" in reflecting those changes; it is the only source to reference those changes.

The University Bookstore, which would normally distribute the class schedule, now informs students that the schedule is only online.

"The decision not to print the schedule was not ours," said University Bookstore manager, Melinda Martens.

Students who come to the bookstore in hopes of purchasing a class schedule will be told of the change. Students are told to direct any comments on the new accepted format for the class schedules to the Office of Academic Programs in Craven Hall 5201.

Although there is no printed schedule available for purchase for the spring semester, there is a Registration Guide and Catalog Addendum available at the bookstore. The addendum only includes new classes and their description, not their scheduled times or days.

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Campus Equity week raises educational awareness

By DANIELLE BOLDT
Pride Staff Writer

In the spirit of Campus Equity Week, Wednesday, Nov. 12, faculty, staff and students came together to voice their concerns at a campus rally. In effort to raise awareness about higher education, Coalition of Contingent Academic Labor and the California Faculty Association (CFA) organized a petition-signing to "Save classes/Save our teachers."

The aftermath of 2003-04 legislative reductions to the California

State University (CSU) system has negatively impacted higher education.

The CSU administration has failed to meet the guidelines of the Supplemental Report Language (SRL), that the CSU will "ensure the quality and availability of CSU class offerings, student services, and libraries," (as outlined in Education Code Section 66010.4).

Because the integrity of education has been threatened, particularly harming non-contingent faculty and students, the Cal State



Mayra Besosa, Ethnic Studies professor and CFA lecturer representative for Cal State San Marcos, shares her concern for contingent faculty at the campus rally, Nov. 12.

Photo courtesy/Steven Weiner

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The Pride

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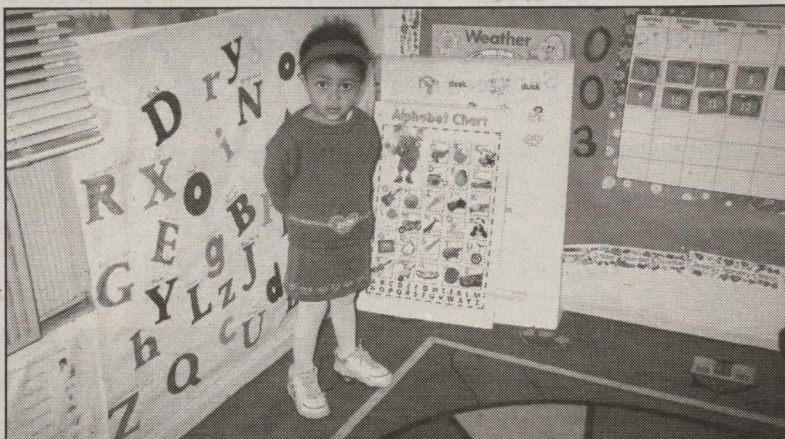


Photo by Melissa Rodriguez/The Pride Staff

Elena Reynolds stands next to her numerous games and teaching tools that are available to play with at the Early Learning Center.



Elizabeth Hoffman, English prof. and lecturer rep. at CSULB, hosts the petition signing at the campus rally last Tuesday, Nov. 12.

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community has attempted to collect over 10,000 signatures in a petition to reverse reductions in lecturer jobs and classes. The hope is that Gov. Schwarzenegger will endorse the petition, with the need to "Save our classes/save our teachers."

"We are here, on behalf of the students," said Tasha Iglesias, education major and CFA intern for fall 2003. Iglesias has helped lead the student voice concerning the petition.

Iglesias shared her concern that many students are ignorant to what they are signing. With music and free food available (at the rally), most students are willing to sign anything. At the same time, it came as a comfort that "some students were skeptical, and asked lots of

questions about the petition."

The petition expresses the concern over the manner in which CSU administration has implemented budget cuts. By laying-off hundreds of contingent faculty (statewide), and in turn, directly affecting the students' education, the outcome has not gone unnoticed. From crowded and unavailable classes to the limited office hours of faculty, students are faced with limitations, making it more difficult to graduate on time.

"This pin says it clearly, 'Teachers working conditions are student learning conditions,'" said Elizabeth Hoffman, English lecturer and CFA representative for Cal State Long Beach.

It is the hope that a week of campus equity will reap enough signatures and support from the CSU community to send the petition to legislature.

Iglesias said that over the past several weeks the CFA, student organizations such as Lobby Corps, ASI, PAN, Mecha, and WSSN (Women's Studies) have worked to achieve their goal.

Iglesias said, "We have sent out bundles of invitations, crashed classes, and handed out information regarding campus equity week and the petition signing."

"That's why we are here," Hoffman said, "a profound change is needed (at the University). The faculty needs to nourish students, and in turn, the university needs to support the faculty."

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care for children between the ages of 2 through 5. The new facility could allow potentially hundreds of children to register.

ASI has been working in conjunction with the College of Education to plan the programs to be implemented in the new facility. The intention of both groups is to provide not only childcare for students, but also a learning laboratory where future teachers could attain in class experience right here on campus.

"We are thinking holistically about student needs," said Dr. Peggy Kelly, Interim Associate Dean in the College of Education.

"I believe that providing affordable childcare to students gives students access to education and that is the primary mission of CSU," said ASI President, Honey Folk.

In the university's mission statement the promise to meet the needs of its students is explicit, "CSUSM provides a range of services that responds to the needs of a student body with diverse backgrounds expanding student access to an excellent and affordable education."

In this time of financial crisis the issue of funding is looming.

"ASI and CSU cannot afford the debt. The key for us is that it all has to be externally funded," said Dr. Francine Martinez, Vice President of Student Affairs.

Dr. Martinez provided a rough timeline outlining projections for each step: Fall 2003, complete fundraising plan; fall 2004, secure funding and complete an architectural plan; fall 2006, building complete.

This timeline allows one year in raising the millions of dollars it will take to build the proposed facility; however, Dr. Kelly added, "There is a high level of enthusiasm and interest from donors."

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Barsky refers to the addendum as a valuable tool with useful information, "It is all the information that was in the schedule without the actual class listings."

"We hope that students will see their advisers to answer questions on classes," said Barsky. After students become comfortable with using the schedule online, Barsky hopes that it will increase communication on campus. An increase in student-adviser communication will decrease a lot of the uncertainty in degree requirements and reaffirm that the students are on the right course for graduation.

Priority registration for the spring semester began on Nov. 17 and will continue through Dec. 19.

The online class schedule is accessible from the main campus homepage at www.csusm.edu. Click on Schedules & Events then on Class Schedule. One may then select the semester they wish to browse and employ a number of different filter criteria to locate their desired courses.

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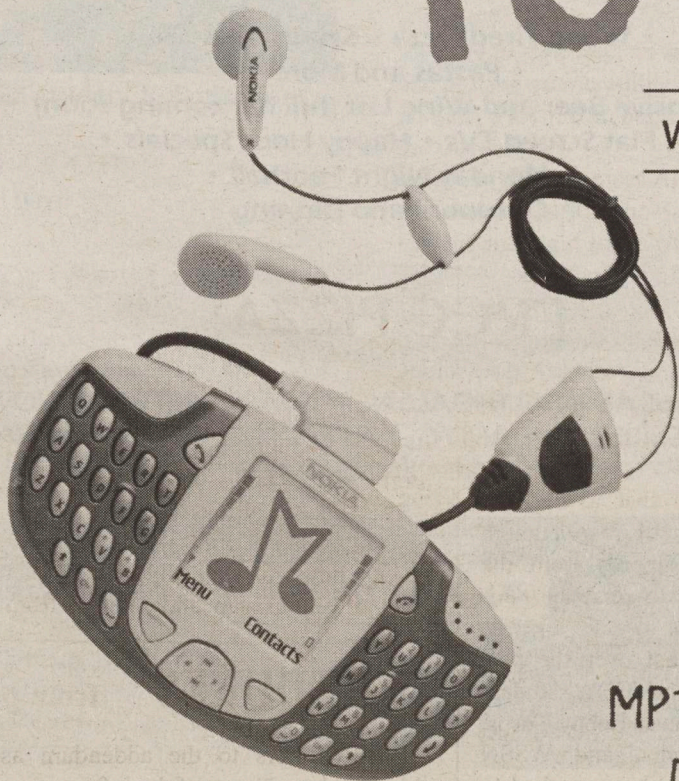
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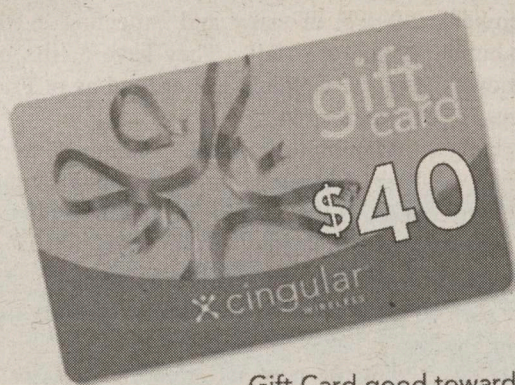
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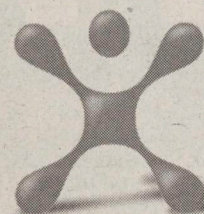


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Meeting of the minds: *coffee hour unites world travelers*

By MARK PERRERA
Pride Staff Writer

Tuesday, November 11, 2003 ended this semester's gathering of the International Coffee Club by welcoming International students who were studying overseas. The good-bye offered a special panel discussion with faculty, staff, and students discussing topics including: what motivated the students in deciding to study overseas, what they learned while overseas, and cultural differences they had to adapt.

Yoko Suzuki, a junior and Japanese native is majoring in sociology. She spoke of her positive experiences with the educational system. "It's the best system compared to the rest of the world. America is the only place where no matter what your age group you can still go to school and get a degree. In other parts of the world, this is not possible."

When Suzuki was in Japan she took her

traditions for granted. Now in the United States, she is more aware of her customs, which allows her to feel more independent and self-confident as she must make decisions without close guidance from her family. She loves the support her family gives her as well as her fellow classmates and professors.

Samson Manickarej, from India, agreed with Suzuki about the high quality of United States education system. Manickarej, a computer science major is very in tune with his culture and smiles when he discusses how his stay in America enabled him to see his homeland differently. He compared America to a melting pot or "international market where everyone is welcomed." His classmates, loved ones, and professors support him. His one wish is that more students travel abroad to experience a world different from their own and get a perspective of what it is like to be in a foreign country.

Kim Quinney is a history professor and of Italian-American ancestry. Her passion for world travel is to research her family roots.

Scott Greenwood, a professor of political science visibly enjoyed his discussion about his time spent in Jordan studying Arabic. Terry Allison discussed his experience while in France. He said the younger generation loves everything about the western culture from its fashion to hip-hop. The older generation does not approve of this trend and find that the youth are displacing their rich heritage.

Students and professors alike had a wealth of information to share with faculty, staff, and students. The quality of the United States education system continued to resurface.

Having the opportunity to study abroad changed their lives from an educational standpoint and touched and changed their personal lives.

Snowbound for the mountains



Snowboarders chill at the bottom of a hill at Mtn. High Resort last weekend. Big Bear, Mtn. High and Mammoth opened their slopes earlier this month.

By TIM JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

Check the screws on your bindings, wax your board, and zip up your jackets 'cause the winter season is here. The snow is ready to fall and the lifts are ready for action. It's the middle of November and

the resorts are now open for business. Mountain High, located in Wrightwood off the 15 at the Cajon Pass, opened on November 3. Big Bear, located in the San Bernardino Mountains, opened November 7. Mammoth, a few hours north from here in Mammoth Lakes, is also open.

Mountain High does not require any

mountain driving. The resort opened with three trails and three lifts. The Upper Chisolm, Lower Chisolm, and Cruiser contain up to 12" of snow with some obstacles on the way down.

The runs are equipped with fun boxes and rails for snowboarders and skiers to challenge on their way down the slope. The snow is thin, but it's only November. There is plenty of winter for snow to build up on the ground. Mountain High is open from 8:30am to 4:00pm on weekdays, 8:00-4:00pm on weekends, and night riding everyday from 5:00-10:00pm.

Big Bear, now two resorts with Bear and Snow Summit merging, has also begun the winter season. Big Bear has between 6"-18" of snow on the mountain. The park known as "Claim Jumper," has 6 jumps and 19 jibs for riders to hit during their day on the mountain.

Bear has also opened Big Bear Express for the snowboarder or skier seeking to test their carving or cutting abilities on the snow. The season should bring more snow to the mountain to help keep your board or ski's free from dings and scratches. Bear is open Monday through Friday from 8:

30am-4:00pm and Saturday and Sunday from 8:00-4:00pm. If you are planning to spend less time on the slopes, Bear also has half-day sessions from 12:30-4:00pm.

If you are willing to take a longer drive, Mammoth is also open. Mammoth, the largest resort in Southern California, is a thrill seeker's backyard. Mammoth has 2-3 feet of snow and expecting a whole lot more to fall. They have 5 lifts open and the Gondola has opened as of Friday, November 14.

Mammoth has the "Unbound" Terrain Park featuring multiple 60'-80' jumps and jibs that will put your stomach in your throat. The park is also equipped with the super-duper pipe that is not opened yet, but will open soon to give the greatest riding experience.

For the new snowboarder or skier that does not understand the above language, it's time to learn. Check out one of the local resorts: Mt. High or Bear and learn the extreme before advancing on to Mammoth. Both resorts offer lessons seven days a week and private lessons. They also have complete ski and snowboard rentals so you can try it before you buy it.

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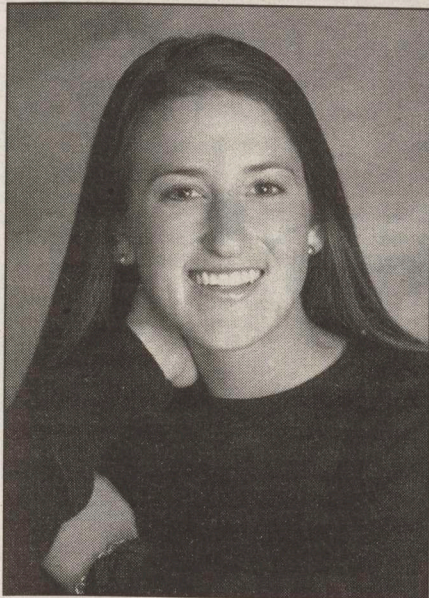
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Q&A with Kyle Stafford, record breaking freshman



CSUSM student Kyle Stafford

By NICOLE SULLIVAN
Pride Staff Writer

Why did you choose Cal State San Marcos?

CSUSM offered me a scholarship and I wanted to stay in San Diego for school.

What is your next step with golf?

I want a LPGA (Ladies Professional Golf Association) card, but not to play pro. I hope to start my card my senior year of college, get started to have it. I want to stay in the golf industry for my career.

What is your major?

I am undeclared now but it will most likely be Business.

What do you want to do with your degree?

I want to be a General Manager of a golf course.

How long have you been playing golf?

13 years

Who introduced you to the sport?

Mainly my grandparents. I also had a really good coach that got me more into it, but when I was in eighth grade he passed away.

What have been your biggest rewards with golf?

Meeting new people, traveling with people and playing on incredible courses. It has all been a lot of fun, but the best has been the traveling.

I played for the Juniors American Cup this past summer at Rancho San Diego Golf Course and eight states were involved. There was also the Mary Cave's cup and six people from San Diego were chosen to play for the girls through the San Diego Junior Golf Association, teams of six could play individuals or partners

What has been your best experience in golf?

Winning this last tournament. It is still the beginning of the season. I did not expect anything like that. It was very cool for me at Grossmont (High school) my sister and I played on the same team, along with another set of brothers and a brother and a sister. I was really sick that day and my

coach said it was really cool that we were all siblings playing together and I medaled that day. I shot even par, I won the whole thing.

How has your commitment to golf affected your school or social life?

It affected me more in high school, but with all the traveling I do, I miss a lot of school now and it's really hard.

Have you ever faced discrimination on the course?

Oh yes, big time with CIF. My sophomore year I was playing on the boys' team. We did not have a girls' team yet. I was not allowed to go to girls CIF because I was on the boys' team and I was not allowed to play boys' CIF because I was a girl. The CIF president and all the coaches were male and the president said that girls aren't meant to play on the golf course and that they weren't supposed to play on the boys' team either and he told me to go play on the girls' team.

Tell me more about this discrimination.

The CIF president was very rude. He could not understand why I wanted to stay on the boys' team. He couldn't see that I wanted to play for the competition and the coach and I got along very well. I had fun with the guys. I was pushing my game while I was on that team. I wanted to work on my strength with the guys. They have longer tees and it pushed me to go forward on my game and work really hard.

What keeps you going with golf?

My grandparents. They are both good golfers. They brought me up with the game and they are very supportive. Their life is golf. They are so involved in my life and golf and they want to make sure I am still in school. I get to play golf with them and spend time with them.

Kyle just made a record for the lowest score in a tournament and first female freshman

Where have you traveled with golf?

I go to Monterey every summer for a tournament (which you have to apply for) which is also Northern Cal against Southern California. I played on the team of six for Southern Cal.

Monterey Peninsula Country Club, Hawaii, Florida and a lot of California to play golf, since my sister and I play so much with my parents. We also go a lot to the desert with my grandparents. Arizona next semester, Washington and hopefully Idaho.

Do you have other obligations in your life right now?

Yes. I am involved at College Avenue Baptist Church in San Diego. It's totally worth the drive to me on Sunday to go down there. Also I also work(ed) with the Girls Scouts doing golf clinics. I just received the Gold Award from Girl Scouts which is the highest community service award. I teach golf camps at Singing Hills golf course in El Cajon in the summer. I also do some volunteer day camps there.

Clubs with compassion: donation drives at CSUSM

By NICOLE SULLIVAN
Pride Staff Writer

It is that time of year when many people get a little more sentimental. They come together with family, and give to their community a little more. Several clubs are extending the opportunity to help to the whole campus. Here is a list of some of the drives taking place this week.

External Affairs is still collecting monetary donations for the fire victims at Cal State San Marcos. Wednesday is the last day to give cash or checks to this fund. M.E.Ch.A and C.A.M.P (College Assistance Migrant Program) are hosting a clothing drive. They are collecting clothes and non-perishable items for local farm workers and their families. Donation boxes can be found in Craven Hall 4107



TKE's help the needy during the holidays at their booth in Founder's Plaza

(EOP office), Craven 1st floor, University Hall 4th floor from

8 am - 5 pm. The ending date for the drive is November 20th. For more information, contact Olga Martinez at marti132@csusm.edu or 760-943-0071.

College Republicans are hosting a donation drive. Proceeds will go to the Red Cross.

They are also hosting a Toys for Tots Christmas dance at the Clarke Fieldhouse on Saturday December 6th from 7 p.m. to

11 p.m. Admission is a toy or a monetary donation at the door. For more information, contact Renee Knitter at knitt001@csusm.edu or 760-212-6715.

S.A.L.S.A. club and the Pre-Health Society Club are working together with their 2nd annual clothing drive. Donations will be collected in front of the Dome this week from 7am to 3 pm. All clothes will go to the San Diego Rescue Mission or Tijuana Rescue Mission. There will be an opportunity drawing at the end of the week for a chance to win some great prizes. Contact Martin Kubin at kubin001@csusm.edu.

TKE (Tau Kappa Epsilon) will hold a blanket drive and a Thanksgiving drive this week, 17th-21st. All the food donated for the Thanksgiving drive will be given to a local church. Contact Frank Pompeo at pompe001@csusm.edu or 760-745-1465.

SAE (Sigma Alpha Epsilon) is holding a canned food drive on campus this week, all proceeds will go to a community shelter. For more information, contact Tyrell Fiduccia at tyfulr@hotmail.com.

Alpha Xi Delta is also holding a canned food drive. Location was not provided.

Each of these drives is available for students to bring an item(s) to any of the above drives and bring a smile to someone's life.

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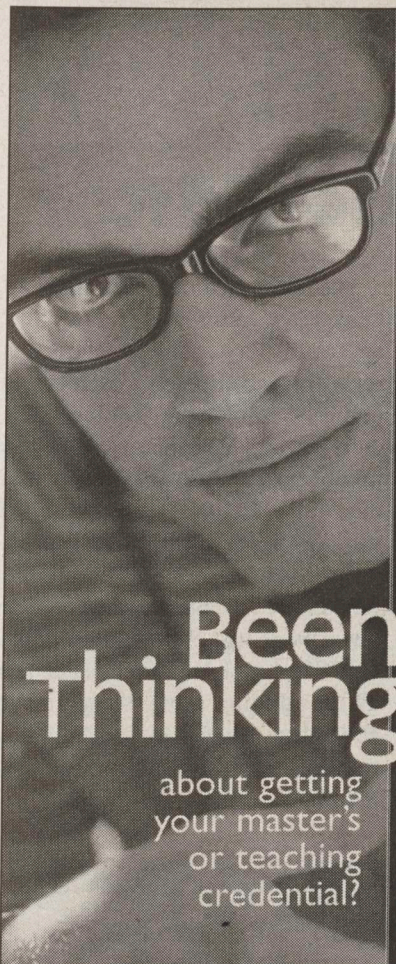
Come take a look and ask questions at Graduate Information Night

Thursday, November 20, 2003 • 6:30 p.m.

Join faculty and staff at PLNU Mission Valley for appetizers, raffle prizes (including an iPod and a trip to Big Bear), and most importantly, graduate program information! Meet faculty and staff and find out how PLNU can help you meet your personal and professional goals.

R.S.V.P. by calling toll free 1.866.868.GRAD (4723) or on the web at www.ptloma.edu/missionvalley

[Directions and program details are also available on the website.]



Been Thinking

about getting your master's or teaching credential?

Food at CSUSM tastes so bad when it hits the lips

By RYAN MOCK
Pride Staff Writer

The food prepared and served on campus has often been characterized as "less than appealing." Even though our days of public school designated lunch menus are over, the students at Cal State San Marcos are still spoon fed food that looks almost as bad as it tastes.

Unless you're willing to give up a parking space that took you thirty minutes to find, the average student usually takes his or her chances in the Dome.

Starving after a three-hour block of monotonous classes one morning, I ventured into the Dome to see what I could scrounge up.

After ordering a burger, I glanced down toward the taco bar in disgust. Swimming in the salsa, and skipping from dish to dish was a congregation of flies.

Sneeze guards are one thing, but wrapping the food up after each order, that's not too much to ask. Suffice to say, I thanked the girl and left that morning with an empty belly.

I recently consulted Rick Moore, director of communications for



CSUSM, and the Cal State San Marcos Foundation on the standards and practice of food served here on campus.

I first asked Moore if all food handling staff in the Dome were certifiably trained to state health standards. Moore assured me they were, and I reluctantly accepted this.

After visiting many other campuses in Southern California, I began to wonder why CSUSM doesn't rent out space to major franchises or food outlets.

"Conversations have been held with companies such as McDonalds, Carl's Jr., Jamba Juice, and Rice King... the campus does not yet have enough students to generate the volume necessary for the

outside companies to have profitable operations here," Moore said.

Yet the convenience store and the individual food retailers in the Dome remain afloat from the revenue they produce. I then asked Moore if he dined on campus, he said, "I do eat campus food and it seems fine."

I don't know about other students, but when I escape from class, my food better taste more than just fine. To quote the great Will Ferrel, "It tastes so good when it hits the lips!"

After receiving feedback from Moore, I wanted to ask some students what they thought of the food situation on campus. Who better to ask, than arriving freshman Eric Bibel and Cyprian Czarnocki.

After eating on campus, Bibel said, "I got a two and a half dollar pizza which sucked and a sandwich that blew."

Bibel and Czarnocki said that the Cal State San Marcos Foundation should try a little harder to entice outside organizations into sponsoring outlets here on campus.

"Of course, they could get Burger King or Subway, and students

could then get what they want for once, instead of what's offered," Bibel said.

Czarnocki added, "Taco Bell has got seventy-nine cent tacos."

With not much of a

campus community, the two students feel it's a hassle to go somewhere else to eat.

"Hell Yeh, it's an inconvenience to leave campus and drive somewhere else just to go and eat in between class," Bibel said.

Czarnocki said, "I agree, we need some dank food here. Unlike high school, you have the choice, and the school should try harder to give its students more choices."

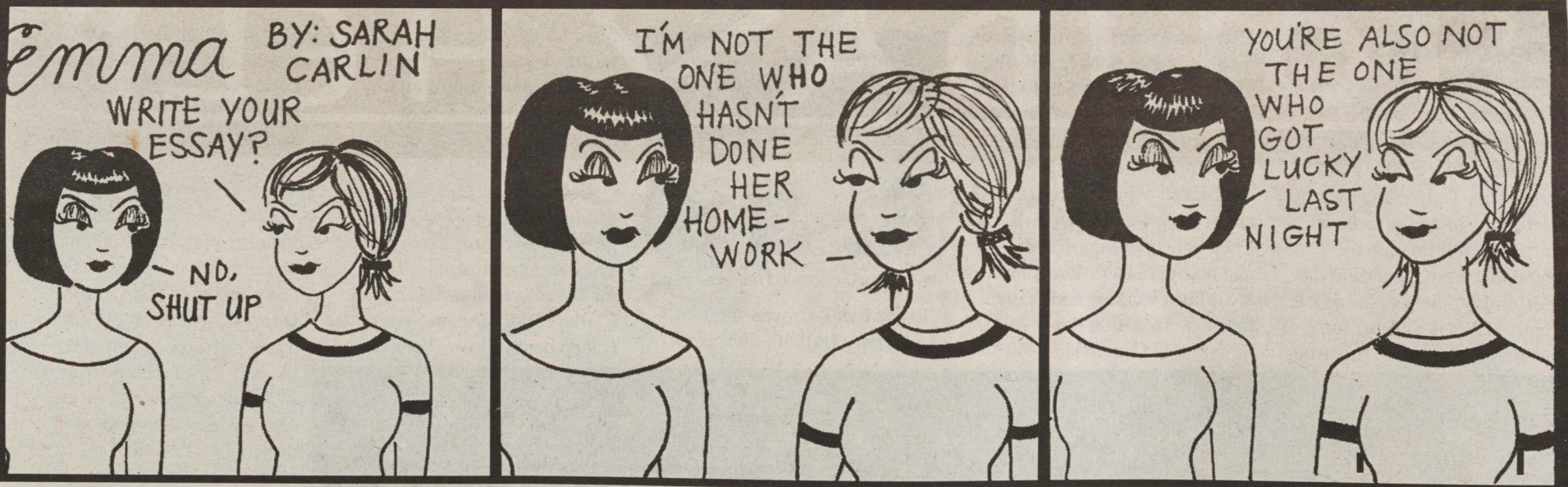
In the first of many steps to opening CSUSM to the outside world, a Starbucks will open in the new Kellogg Library. But to remedy our commuter

school situation, the school needs to try a little more in offering more on-campus activities, eateries, and options.

If the school were to invite more franchise markets onto campus, and close the deal, the student population would altogether avoid a menu of traditional school gruel and mystery meat.

With more options of food and food vendors happy, the school would then have an opportunity to charge them increased rent.

The valuable rent money, which can one day possibly fuel the construction of countless student interest facilities such as a stadium, Greek housing, or even parking relief with stack parking, or reduced rates.



Ombudsman's Notes

By MICHAEL DOLAN
Pride Staff Writer

Letters to the editor are an important source of feedback to any newspaper. As such, the editors of The Pride would like to feature letters that students write on the pages of The Pride.

However, there is a complication: neither the editors nor I are receiving any letters to feature on the editorial page.

It has been a slow couple of weeks for feedback in general. In fact, I have only received one comment in the last three weeks regarding The Pride and the coverage we are providing. This could mean several differ-

ent things.

The absence of feedback could mean we are covering the right stories and providing the right information. Or, it could mean that The Pride is adequate to the point that it does not warrant the time it would take to respond. Lastly, no feedback could mean that no one is reading The Pride. I hope the last option is not the case.

The Pride focuses its reporting on stories that affect the Cal State San Marcos campus community. We are, after all, students as well — the stories we cover involve issues that affect us also.

There are plenty of intriguing topics that could constitute a

letter to the editor. In particular, the process for selecting a new university president is under way which most certainly affects our future.

I would encourage those of you who read this to share your thoughts on the candidates in the form of a letter to the editor. The Pride asks that you include your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address with your letter. Letters under 300 words are preferred and are subject to editing. Letters should be e-mailed directly to The Pride at pride@csusm.edu.

My e-mail address is dolan005@csusm.edu for your comments, critiques, or thoughts regarding The Pride.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Pride Editors,

Thank you for the article on Campus Equity Week by Danielle Boldt, which appeared in your Nov. 11 issue. I would like to make a correction, though. The author stated: "There are currently 215 lecturers on campus: 74 who have qualified (for) three-year contracts, and nine who are vulnerable to lay-offs." Nine of the lecturers on three-year contracts presently have no assignment, or a 0-time base. All lecturers are vulnerable to lay-offs always and even more so during times of budget cuts like these. It is the temporary nature of these faculty - who in reality are mostly long-term - that needs to be challenged.

The American Association of University Professors has just approved a policy statement regarding contingent faculty in higher education (universities, colleges and community colleges) in which they strongly recommend that all faculty, regardless of title or rank, after a reasonable probationary period, be eligible for tenure or permanence. See www.aaup.org. Since fall of 2002, CSUSM has lost 40 lecturers and 22 (in addition to the 9 mentioned above) have had their assignments reduced, several losing their health benefits.

Thank You,
Mayra Besosa
CFA Lecturer Representative

Kaleidoscope of Sound

By LISA GEORGE
Pride Staff Writer

Passion. Climactic energy and dissipating strains of melody. The power and driving force behind 80 trained musicians directed by a seasoned and energetic conductor is what makes a symphony a memorable experience. The South Coast Symphony directed by seasoned virtuoso Barry Silverman pushes the expectations of what is expected from a symphony.

Proclaimed "the unstuffy symphony for Orange County," this finely tuned group of musical magicians compliment a variety of composers. Their powerful renditions of "Apollo 13" selections, "Mission: Impossible," and "A Night on Bald Mountain," a brief sampling of the works presented at the Coast Hills Church in Aliso Viejo Friday, Nov. 14.

The resonant minor chords were backed by thunderous timpani and other percussive instruments, supported by the reverberating brass section. The musical battles and celebrations throughout the night seemed to burst through the four walls and into the surrounding city.

The setting at the Coast Hills church provided two big screens through which a camera man was projecting up close views of the musicians and conductor throughout the concert. This particular visual style allowed for a big and little picture of the energy evoked by the musicians through their finely honed skills of musical creation.

Caught in the frenzy of "Night on Bald Mountain," the cellos played pizzicato, while a mallet beat a unique cylindrical steel instrument producing a blended, yet pronounced sound that added to the full resonance created by the horns and violin sections.

The selection of this night's performance

spread throughout three centuries and dipped into cinematic highlights including "The Lord of the Rings" and "Harry Potter Chamber of Secrets."

The frenetic building to climax of musical feeling then falling back to a dénouement embodied the multitude of experiences: spiritual, emotional, and mental journey with fluid transition

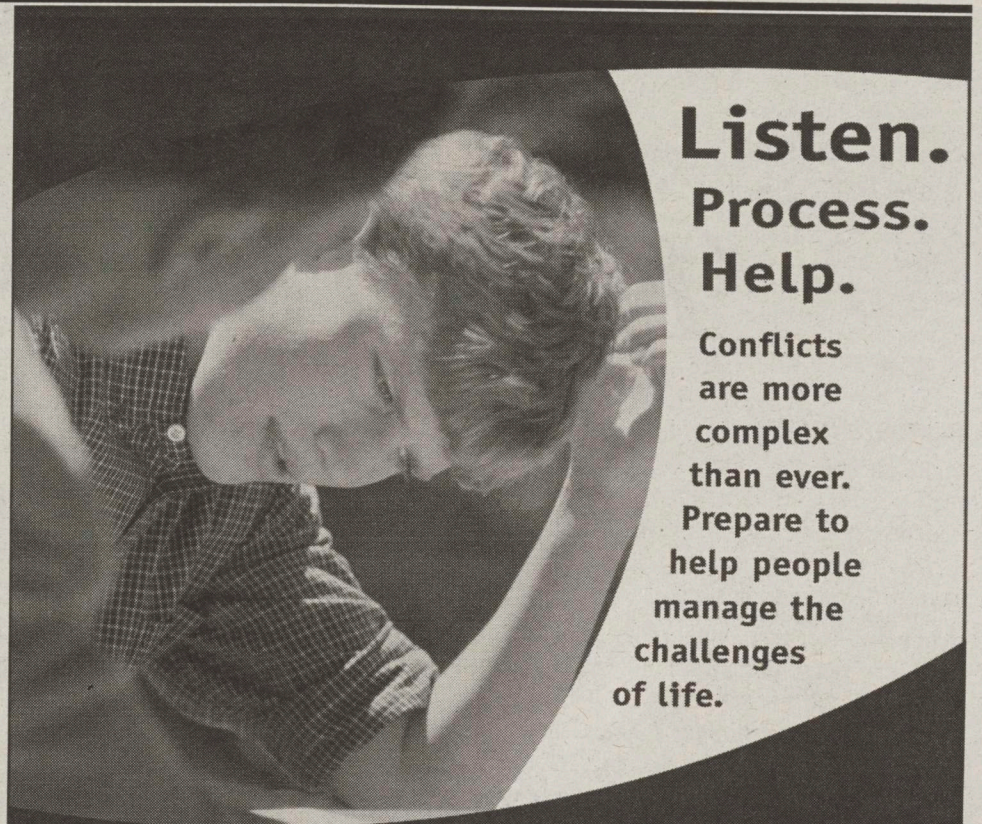


French horn musicians play at Coast Hills Church

into a slow calm retreat in "Mysterious Mountain Symphony No.2 III: Andante con moto."

"The Symphony's mission is to provide South Orange County with an accessible, professional, and affordable symphonic musical experience. Each year the Symphony provides over 15,000 patrons with the opportunity to experience the sounds of Symphonic Music." <http://www.southcoastsymphony.org>

Their projected dates for future nights of thrilling musical enjoyment are: February 6 for a performance of The Young Stars of the Future Winners of the 5th Annual Performance Competition 8:00 p.m., March 26 Masterworks Great Music for Orchestra, and Pops The Tonys Award Winning Music from Broadway. Each concert is held at the Aliso Viejo Coast Hills Community Church at 8:00 p.m.



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Movie Reviews:

By KRISTEN REES
Pride Staff Writer

What exactly made me see Jon Favreau's new film "Elf?" My little brother did.

"Elf" is the type of movie that appears extremely cheesy in the trailer and gets very little recognition until audiences discover that "Elf" is actually watch-able. It is an entertaining, holiday-themed choice that facilitates getting in the spirit of the



Photo Courtesy of New Line Cinema
Buddy travels to New York in search of his father.

season.

Whether you want to take your mind off of midterms and tests, take your little sister to a movie for some bonding or have an evening out with your VERY mature boyfriend (note sarcasm) "Elf" really can satisfy.

The PG rating makes it family oriented. The jokes are still amusing to adults.

Will Ferrell stars as Buddy the elf and his appearance alone can generate laughter. He is a gifted comic and he definitely "makes" the movie. Ferrell seems to take the character Buddy so seriously, and then wham, he'll hit you with another hilarity filled Elf-esque outburst.

The story follows Buddy who's been raised at the North Pole. He believes he's an elf even though he is very different from the other elves. Buddy is then sent to New

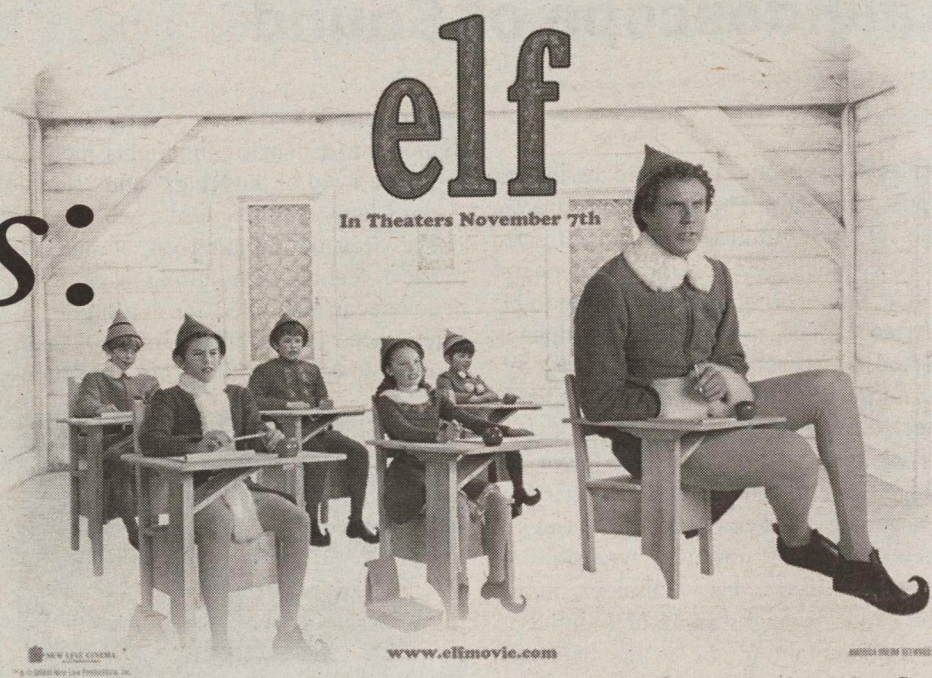


Photo Courtesy of New Line Cinema

York to find out who or what he really is and get in touch with his alienated father.

Ferrell's humor comes in often as Buddy makes his way through the city spreading holiday cheer. It's corny, predictable and sappy, just how feel good Christmas movies should be.

Ferrell keeps the movie afloat with his pokerfaced delivery of jokes and overall nutty demeanor. The only thing that I really didn't like about "Elf" was the fact that the movie wasn't balanced.

Most of the movie is filled with jokes and

is enjoyably funny until the second half approaches, and at that point, it seems like a hurried Favreau was just trying to get the project finished.

The latter half of the film quickly pours on the feel-good holiday vibe that is so cliché in films like this. That is the only place that "Elf" really went wrong.

The movie was cast well. It was slapstick style funny and other than the seemingly hurried second half of the film, Favreau should be thrilled that he took such a kooky storyline and turned it into a future family favorite.

I give "Elf" a rating of B -.

The Verdict is in-- *Runaway Jury*

By DIDILUND
Pride Staff Writer

The suspenseful psychological thriller, based on courtroom novelist John Grisham's narrative, contains an A-list cast and an explosive plot with enough double-crossing and secret motives to make this one of the best films of the year.

This box-office success begins with a bang—literally. Gun-toting killers shoot up an office building, creating a massacre, which leaves 11 dead.

The widowed wife of a businessman brings a major civil suit against the gun manufacturer she feels is responsible for her husband's death. With the increasingly hostile public opinion on guns, the powerful firearm conglomerate worries this multi-million dollar case may cripple the industry.

Wendall Rohr, Dustin Hoffman, a chivalrous lawyer who fuels the case with his honest passion, represents the widow. His opponent speaks for the arrogant gun corporation, behind which stands a brilliant veteran jury consultant, Rankin Fitch, Gene Hackman, who will stop at nothing to ensure a verdict favoring the firm.

Fitch stations his surveillance team at a high tech center disguised as a warehouse where they inspect potential jurors in order to strategically control the selection of the jury.

However, the moralizing plaintiff attorney and the ruthless Fitch soon realize more is at stake when one juror, Nick Easter, John Cusack, and his accomplice Marlee, Rachel Weisz, inform both attorneys that

the jury's for sale— for \$10 million.

A dangerous game of cat and mouse set in the French Quarter of New Orleans proceeds.

Making up for the implausible story is the extraordinary cast, which works together in creating a heated courtroom melodrama beneath a background of controversial issues.

The film is the first coupling of screen legends Gene Hackman and Dustin Hoffman, who form a climax for the movie when the two veterans battle it out in a tense scene.

The movie struggles to overcome major changes from the novel all the while keeping the character development and plot twists distinctive of Grisham. The film needlessly replaces the original scenario targeting the tobacco industry with a political debate on gun manufacturers.

Although the characters' motives are more transparent in the film, it maintains the high level of suspense from the tense courtroom novel.

Viewers unfamiliar with the book will not predict director Gary Fleder's ("Kiss the Girls" and "Don't Say a Word") perfectly timed plot twists.

Fleder produces a tightly wound thriller with his natural ability to know exactly what audiences will expect from the film, the cast's impressive performance, and the unique camera-like cinematographic techniques.

The confrontation scenes and equally heated political outcome are enough to keep any moviegoer on the edge of their seat.



Photo Courtesy of The 20th Century Fox
Rachel Weisz, Gene Hackman, Dustin Hoffman, and John Cusack face-off in "Runaway Jury." The movie is based on a John Grisham novel.



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Fall Grad Reception 2003

Wednesday, December 10, 2003

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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~ Refreshments will be served ~

Please check your campus email for further details regarding this event or contact the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Craven 5306, (760)750-4056.

Traditional graduation ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 15, 2004 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. We hope to see you there!