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APR 17 2002

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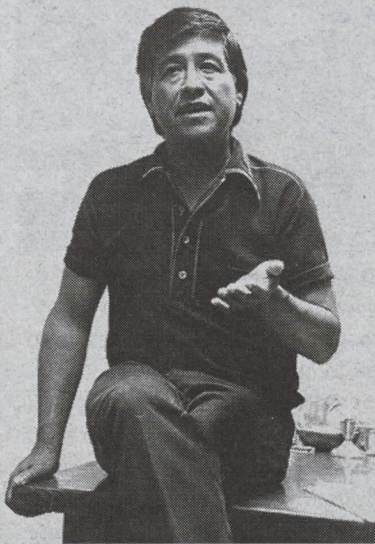
California State University San Marcos

Vol. X No.10/ Tuesday, April 16, 2002

## Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Cesar E. Chavez

By JAMIEKO LANE  
and CLAUDIA IGNACIO  
Pride Staff Writer and  
Pride Editor

For five continuous years, Cal State San Marcos has celebrated Cesar Chavez Day with great pride and success. This year the festivities were no exception. The event featured presentations from Ballet Folklorico Mixtlan, Leticia Maldonado Stamos, Silverio Haro, Candace Sames, Victor Villaseñor, COCIO Ballet Folklorico, Arturo Rodriguez, Mariachi del Sol, poetry readings and concluded with a can-



Cesar Chavez  
Photo Courtesy of Tim Bills

dleight vigil.

The event was co-sponsored by several campus groups, including the Office of the Dean of Students, MEChA, the Arts and Lecture Series, Associated Students Inc., and was made possible through funding from the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV). The celebration took place on Wednesday from 1:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. in front of Craven Hall, by the flagpole. More than 300 people, including local community members, gathered to celebrate the life and legacy of Cesar Chavez.

>>>Article cont. on pg. 3

## CSUSM Honors "Uncle Henry"

CLAUDIA IGNACIO  
Pride Editor

"Uncle Henry served as one of the most significant community consultants to Cal State San Marcos since the university's inception. His lifetime dedication to advancement of education serves as an abiding inspiration for all of the students at Cal State San Marcos," said tribute organizer Bonnie Biggs. On Saturday, Cal State San Marcos, the local Native American community and others came together to honor Dr. Henry >>>Article cont. on pg. 2



Photo Courtesy of www.nctimes.com

## CSUSM Cleared in Bell Discrimination Lawsuit

By MARTHA SARABIA  
News Editor

After eight days of hearing testimonies and months of waiting and rescheduling the trial, a discrimination lawsuit filed by Damon Bell, a former African-American Cal State San Marcos employee, against CSUSM came to an end on March 22, and the verdict cleared CSUSM on seven separate counts.

Bell, a former assistant director of Student and Residential Life at CSUSM, filed the lawsuit on October 12, 2000. He was hired at Cal State San Marcos in June 1997 and later resigned in January 2001. Bell claimed to be a victim of discrimination and harassment, and he believed these problems made his working conditions intolerable. Bell also claimed that his complaints were not taken seriously, only redirected, and that he was denied promotions and raises because of his race.

According to the jury, there was no evidence or proof that Bell's intolerable problems were caused by any racially motivated decisions made by his supervisors. Furthermore, one of the jury members said the defense had presented a better case, which ultimately led CSUSM to win.

The jury came to a decision after about 4 ½ hours of deliberation, but the verdict has not stopped Bell's accusations against CSUSM; he has decided to continue with the case. "I feel I have continued to be betrayed by employees there," said Bell. "I feel that this isn't the end. I intend to keep on going."

Michelle Perfili, Bell's attorney, said she would file >>>Article cont. on pg. 2



## The Grand Opening of the Campus Marketplace

The grand opening took place on Saturday at 12:00p.m.

The picture on the left is Long Drugs and the Alpha Chi Omega women, Leina Lo and Katie Cottrell are pictured on the right, conducting a fundraising car wash. Story continues on pg. 2

Pride Photo/Jamieko Lane

## PAN Provides Information and Fun with a Message of Environmental Awareness

By EMILY KELLEY  
Pride Staff Writer

The Progressive Activist Network (PAN) stirred up the campus with free music, refreshments and fun as part of their plan to raise awareness about environmental issues. "The 4-1-1" took place on Thursday in the dome plaza from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and was billed as "...one of the first steps in our master plan to change this (CSUSM) into a fun and cool campus with socially

aware students who make a difference," said PAN President Eric Roper, in PAN's recently released newsletter. The event is the first in what PAN hopes will become an annual event intended to encourage CSUSM students, as well as the surrounding community, to be more environmentally conscious.

The 4-1-1 coincided with National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day and came just prior to Earth Day. Some students who attended the event were given

the opportunity to test drive a new hybrid vehicle, the Prius, from Toyota, which was provided courtesy of Toyota of Escondido. The name "Prius" means "to go before" in Latin, and is so named because it is Toyota's first standard production hybrid. Although it looks compact on the outside, it has an interior roughly the size of a Toyota Camry or Honda Civic. The Prius gets about 55 miles per gallon in the city and 42 mpg on the highway >>>Article cont. on pg. 2

## Student Housing Project Takes Parking Spaces

By JAMES NEWELL  
Pride Editor

With construction beginning on the new student housing project, Cal State San Marcos has lost about 160 parking spaces in lot O, which is located on the corner of Barham road and Campus Way.

The ground breaking for the student housing project began on schedule this month and is slated for occupancy in August of 2003, which means parking lot O will have only 142 spaces, rather than >>>Article cont. on pg. 2



Parking Lot O  
Pride Photo/James Newell

## ASI President Presents 'Indian Rock Native Garden Project' To Executive Board

By SYBILLE HERWIG  
Pride Staff Writer

Associated Students Inc. President Dustin Naylor presented information regarding the 'Indian Rock Native Garden Project,' a collaborative project involving faculty member and visual artist Deborah Small, anthropologist Bonnie Bade and the Native American San Luis Rey Band, to the Executive Board on Wednesday.

"I see a lot of potential for some great community-university relationships that can be built," said Naylor, as he introduced his explanatory handout to the board.

The garden will be a semester long project of the 'Advanced Computer Art' class (VSAR 402) taught by Deborah Small next spring. The students will be thoroughly involved in the cultivation and physical implementation of the Indian Rock Garden, which has yet to be designed.

Students will also be engaged "with the local community, come to know the social, economic, environmental, historical, and cultural worlds in which the members of the community live," said Naylor. He added that students are going to be exposed to, "ethno-botanical methods, including documentation of plant uses, native plant classifications schemes, plant history, lore and stories, plant applications, administration and processing methods, harvest and cultivation requirements, and the geographic distributions of the plans under study."

The original idea of cre>>>Article cont. on pg. 2



# Housing Construction Impacts Student Parking

>>> **Article cont. from pg. 1** the maximum capacity of 302, for slightly longer than a year.

When complete the dormitory buildings will reach almost to the point in the parking area where the pavement has been removed. According to Dora Knoblock, director of Parking Services, once the dormitories are completed lot O will permanently lose 40 to 50 spaces.

As for the impact on parking problems for the next year, Knoblock said, they (parking services) are "anticipating an impact in the San Marcos Ambulatory Care Center (SMACC) overflow lot and are preparing to expand stack parking." Knoblock also said, parking services is "expanding carpool spaces by adding 25 more designated spaces in lot C," which is the most popular parking lot, located closest to campus

on the corner of Craven Road and Palm Canyon Drive.

Although the entire area fenced off in lot O is not necessary for the actual construction of the student housing, Brad Fenton, project manager for Planning, Design, and Construction, said, "It wouldn't be safe to allow people to park right next to the construction area." In addition to the safety regulations, Knoblock said extra spaces were needed to allow for a turnaround lane, which provides room for people to easily drive around the lot, rather than having to back out as the spaces next the fence fill up.

Included in the housing project is a new parking lot, which will be located directed East of lot O, but this lot will be reserved for "residents of the dorms and another university department," said Knoblock. The housing project



*Parking Lot O Construction  
Pride Photo/James Newell*

ect will contain 126 units with a maximum occupancy of 475 residents, and the lot will have 232 spaces.

With land at a premium price and the university growing at a rapid rate the only practical way

to deal with parking woes is to build up.

"There are already plans for a parking structure but how to fund the project and where to build first are still being discussed," said Fenton. "I have built parking

structures in the past, and it can be done."

Knoblock agreed and said, "The big piece is the funding source." She also said decisions are "always a balancing act" between needs and funds, and since parking services is based on a self-support system, they are "exploring ways in public and private partnerships for revenue." "We (parking services) are exploring ways to keep from making drastic changes," said Knoblock.

Knoblock said, parking services "encourages car-pooling and takes concerns, complaints and suggestions very seriously."

More information on Parking Services and Planning, Design and Construction can be found through the Cal State San Marcos Department Directory on the web-site at [www.csusm.edu](http://www.csusm.edu).

## Damon Bell's Case Settles

>>> **Article cont. from pg. 1** motions for a mistrial or a retrial. Also, Perfili told Judge Dana M. Sabraw, who replaced the original judge, that CSU attorneys engaged in misconduct when they told the court one of their witnesses would testify that Bell's gay lifestyle, not his treatment on the job, caused his stress. Although a psychotherapist testified this was not true, the defense claimed he would find Bell's lifestyle as the cause of his stress. The defense's claim

led Bell to declare his sexual orientation during jury selection, which according to Perfili might make a North County jury less sympathetic.

The trial took place in Vista Superior Court and lasted 10 days. Bell's case is not the only discrimination lawsuit against CSUSM; other cases have been resolved in the past and others are still awaiting trial.

\*The North County Times was used as a source for this article.

## The PAN Brought Environment Awareness to Students



*DJ Showtime at 4-1-1 event.  
Pride Photo/Claudia Ignacio*

>>> **Article cont. from pg. 1** and is designed to handle stop-and-go city and suburban traffic. According to the Corroland Review, a website dedicated to 1993 and onwards Toyota cars, "City mileage is also greatly helped by the fact that, unlike 'normal' cars, the Toyota Prius regains some of your energy when you stop, taking what would normally just be heat (and worn brake pads) and converting it back into electricity."

Students milled around during the event, enjoying music from three local music acts: The Rabbits (from CSUSM), Serial Carpens (from the Encinitas area), and DJ Showtime. When asked about the importance of

music in supporting events such as this one, one observer commented, "It's the music that makes people stop and pay attention, even if it's not really their thing, it draws them into the real message."

Also represented at the 4-1-1 were many environmentally and socially conscious organizations. The Sierra Club, The Environmental Club, The Surfrider Foundation, and the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy were a few organizations among a long list of participants. Also in attendance was Robert Nanninga, a columnist for The Coast News and CSUSM alumni. Nanninga spoke about relevant environmental issues.

## Campus Marketplace Officially Opened

By JAMIEKO LANE  
Pride Staff Writer

>>> **Article cont. from pg. 1** It was gorgeous day for the The Campus Marketplace's Grand Opening. Regency Centers hosted the Grand Opening for all the stores in the Marketplace. Many of the stores that are already open had tables on the sidewalks, giving out information and more importantly great deals. There was a bounce house for the kids and a portable mini skate park set up for entertainment.

As visitors walked up and down the sidewalks throughout the afternoon, they were able to purchase cheap food, while they enjoyed the great sunny weekend weather. Furthermore, if your car was dirty, Cal State San Marcos' Alpha Chi Omega held



*Local residents perform stunts on skateboard ramps.  
Pride Photo/Jamieko Lane*

a car wash. The proceeds of the fundraising event were going to Becky's House.

From hotdogs to cats and dogs, it seemed like everything

was for sale on the sidewalks. Saturday's event marked the official grand opening for the entire Campus Marketplace.

## A Scrapbook in Memory of "Uncle Henry"

>>> **Article cont. from pg. 1** Rodriguez, also known as "Uncle Henry." The ceremony took place on the athletic field and included a blessing, a presentation by Pauma Singers, and tributes by members of the uni-

versity, the Native American community and Uncle Henry's family. The program concluded with a traditional round dance featuring Dancing Cloud.

The American Indian Student Alliance is assembling a

scrapbook of stories, photos, and tributes to Uncle Henry, if you would like to assist in this project please contact Biggs at 760-750-4337.

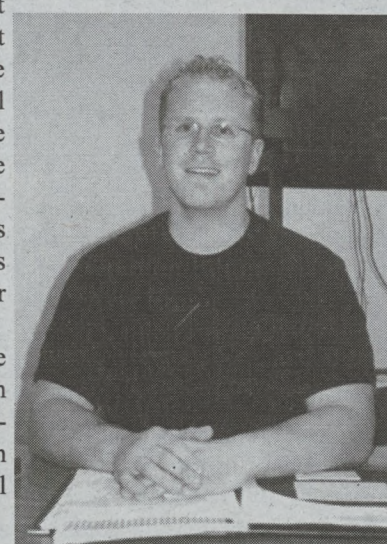
## Art Exhibit of the Indian Rock Native Garden

>>> **Article cont. from pg. 1** -ating the garden came from CSUSM anthropology teacher Linda Gaynor. "Gaynor put out a call for any faculty who might be interested in working with the San Luis Rey Band," said Small in a separate interview. "Bonnie and I are collaborating on the class. She taught it as anthropology last year, I teach it as an advanced computer art this semester, but Bonnie and I, in our creative work, work together."

According to Naylor, "The project will provide students an opportunity to document the ethnographic research that had been done by Bade's students in Fall 01."

Naylor will also be presenting the proposal to the Board of Directors with the request

that the board, in collaboration with the Co-Sponsorship Funding Committee (CSFC) and the



*Dustin Naylor presenting Rock Garden proposal.  
Pride Photo/Sybil Herwig*

Programming Committee, "work towards funding an art exhibit of the Indian Rock Native Garden Project." He said that the project's exhibition will include a variety of different artwork and will be part of the opening ceremony for the new Fine Arts and Science Buildings.

Naylor explained, "It (the garden) will serve as a traveling document/exhibition used to create awareness of student artwork and creativity at CSUSM and to further develop standing relationships between ASI, the College of Arts and Science and the San Luis Rey community."

Although the Garden will be set in Vista, the specific location will not be published soon because, according to Small, "We are afraid of graffiti vandalism."



# Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning

>>>Article cont. from pg. 1  
 "We still haven't solved all the problems by any means. There are farm workers, just a few miles from here, who are returning from the fields to crawl into caves to sleep," said President of the United Farm Workers Union and son-in-law of Cesar Chavez, Arturo Rodriguez.

"He expected a lot from us and wanted us to be an example. He would not allow us certain luxuries because he thought we should live like farm workers," said Leticia Maldonado Stamos, who spoke about what it was like to live and work with Chavez. Stamos knows first hand about the hardship farm workers faced because she was born into the farm workers life. By the request

of her parents, Stamos left everything, including school and work, to join the union. During this time she was able to work with Chavez and his family. Now back in school, attending CSUSM, Stamos is proudly working on her teaching credential and is still active in the Chavez Foundation.

Silverio Haro an Academic Advisor for the College of Arts and Sciences and MeChA's advisor, gave a speech entitled "Living an Inspired Life." In his speech he talked about his life as a child in the fields, his experience of working in the fields, and how he enjoyed the work as a child. Haro reflected on his life and how he believes that children should not have to endure the life that he did.

"The future of this country is for people like Cesar Chavez, who are not trying to bring down the nation but are trying to join it," said Victor Villaseñor, author of the national best-seller, Rain of Gold. Villaseñor's speech paid tribute to Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Ghandi because they chose peace instead of violence to advocate change.

Armando Martinez Velazquez, from Oaxaca, Mexico, speaks in English, Spanish and is fluent Nahuatl, an indigenous language that is gradually becoming extinct. Going back and forth between the three languages, Martinez spoke about how proud he was of Chavez's accomplishments while fighting for farm worker rights. Martinez also read poems that he wrote about the Campesino (farm workers). "He was very humble and his speech was very powerful," said Isabel Solis, president of MeChA. "It sounded really nice, even though, I couldn't understand."

The event concluded with a candle light vigil honoring Cesar E. Chavez Day of Service and Learning.

Chavez founded the National Farm Workers Association, which later became known as the United Farm Workers (UFW). Through non-violence, Chavez was able to educate people of the struggles of farm workers, helping them to receive better pay and



"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress for our community." Cesar Chavez.  
 Pride Photo/James Newell



Erika Dominguez and Paulino Mendosa, members of Ballet Folklorico Mixlan.  
 Photo Courtesy of www.nctimes.com

safer working conditions. Cesar Chavez died on April 23, 1993; he worked hard every day of his life to exemplify his mission and advance economic and social conditions for farm workers and Latino communities. In 2000, Governor Gray Davis signed legislation that made March 31 the

official California state holiday Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning. "Cesar would be very saddened if the organization that he created to fight injustice did not continue." The values that Rodriguez said must continue to be upheld by new generations.

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## "Ashanti" Brings Soothing Voice to Hip Hop

By Marlino Bitanga  
Pride Staff Writer



Ashanti

Photo Courtesy of  
ashanti-www.defjam.com

She currently holds the number one slot for best album on the Billboard Charts, she is one of the only females to ever have three top 10 singles ranked on the Billboard's Top 100 Singles chart at one time, and Ja Rule proclaims her to be the "Princess of hip-hop and R&B." But does Ashanti have what it takes to contend with the best? "Ashanti," her self-entitled album, proves that she does.

Despite her reputation for singing chorus hooks for artists Ja Rule, Big Pun, and Fat Joe, Ashanti stretches her skills in a 17-track solo project that may revolutionize the sound of mainstream hip-hop and R&B.

The new artist's production includes the typical use of electronic piano riffs, hip-hop drum kits and samples, laced with smooth, yet heavy driven bass lines, whistles, bells, and so forth. However, what makes this album different from other hip-hop and R&B albums is her soft, seductive and soothing voice. After listening to her vocals laid over hip-hop beats,

you almost become paralyzed by the tone of her voice.

Not only is Ashanti vocally talented, but she writes most of her own material as well. With the messages in her songs, Ashanti strives to relate to her audience, touching on issues about relationships and explaining how to overcome problems or how to learn from them, grow and be strong. These messages are found in the songs *Happy*,

her next single, *Leaving* (Always On Time Pt. 2), *Unfoolish* and *Rescue*.

Despite her good looks, sex appeal, friendly personality, and talents, Ashanti has the potential and the credentials to contend with the best. Don't be surprised if she walks away with the "Artist of the Year Award" or the "Best New Artist Award" at next year's Grammys.

### REVIEW

## Spring Break Packs Action in Rosarito

By JAMES J. SIMMONDS  
Pride Staff Writer

After midterms, I needed to take off for some fun and excitement. So without having to spend too much money on airplane tickets, I booked a condo down south at the Paloma Beach condos, located in Rosarito, Mexico. I told some friends they could stop by anytime over the weekend to crash if they needed to. They could have the run of the house except for the master bedroom, which was mine. I drove down on Thursday night with friends Hayden, Mike, and Chivito. It was only an hour and an half drive from Vista with light traffic.

We got there late Thursday night, settled in and then drove farther south to Ensenada where we went to drink at Hussons. It was a mellow night, no real partying, but we met some very nice stewardesses and invited them to stop by the next afternoon. When it was time to leave, we flipped a coin to see who would have to drive back to the condo. Mike was the unfortunate loser, which was good because he didn't seem to be drunk.

The next morning, I woke first, searched for the car keys, finally found them under Mike's stinky socks, and then drove into town to buy some cases of Pacifico, a local beer. When I got back to the condo, it was packed with people, and they were all strangers. Hayden had invited the neighbors from down stairs, who were almost all Norweigen girls. A couple of them had their boyfriends. It was quite the crowd, and the cases of beer I bought earlier were gone by the noon. Then when the alcohol was gone, everyone felt we should go horseback-riding, many of them did. Others went into town to barter, and one of the girls and I rented quads instead of horses. I felt sorry for the skinny horses they rent to tourists.

It was almost five when we all reconvened at the condo. A group of us were going to go on a short drive south to a small town, Puerto Nuevo, where a restaurant I know has the best lobster in the world. I have been going to this restaurant for about 17 years. It is called Puerto Nuevo 1. It is not the fanciest restaurant, but it is the absolute best. I have eaten lobster from other places in town, but none compare. There is usually a line of guests waiting to be seated, but I get special treatment. While we were in town, I treated all of us to a "coco loco." It is very powerful drink packed with about six different liquors and coconut milk served in a coconut with some decorative straw. They taste great, and by the end of your first one, you start to feel the buzz. I had about four. Man, I was feeling good.

"Knock, Knock," Chivito answered the door; it was the girls from Hus-

sons. They were all dressed to impress and ready for a night out at Papas and Beer, a restaurant and club in the main part of Rosarito. The guys and me where dressed much more casually. Mike was wearing jeans and black T-shirt, Chivito was wearing a Hawaiian shirt and board shorts. Hayden looked the best and was wearing black pants and a nice dress shirt. I was wearing faded jeans, a black tank top, and my black Chuck Taylors. We all went as a group; it was me and guys, the girls from down stairs and the flight attendants. Although, I'd like to think, I was escorting the girl who I spent the afternoon with. It was a fun night of dancing, drinking, and debauchery.

The next day every one did their own things. I spent the day with friends watching television, drinking and talking about how stupid we were for forgetting our surfboards. We ate some fish

tacos, tampered with fireworks and bought souvenirs for our moms.

Now it was dark again and time for another night at Papas and Beer. We invited the girls to come with us again. They agreed but were first going to check out a different place. So, we took off. There was a longer line this time at Papas and Beer, and we waited impatiently. Once inside it was booming. The Coronas and XXs, other Mexican beers, were flowing. The girls arrived about an hour later, which was very cool.

Then it happened. This idiot drunk bumped into me. I ignored him, but he felt that I bumped into him. He decided to make some stupid remark and push me. Big mistake, especially when I was only trying to have fun. Next thing I remember, he is on the ground, and I am in the arms of a security guard being carried outside where a police car is waiting. The police find my flask, take it and put me in the squad car.

Now, I'm in this cop car with no back seat and sitting next to a couple of local boys who are trying to scare me with horrible stories of what happens to gringos in jail. But it didn't bother or frighten me because I had been in the Rosarito jail the year before.

I would have had to spend only about an hour in jail, but since my friends did not show up and we were staying so far out of town, I had to spend the night. I sat on the concrete next to all the other spring breakers arrested for peeing in the streets, fighting, or possession of drugs. Finally, at dawn, my buddies arrived to pick me up, and they all had a bunch stories to tell me. When we got back to the condo, we slept for a few hours. I spent the rest of the day with the girl from Norway. It was our last day in Mexico, so we all said our good byes and headed for that long wait at the border crossing.

### TRAVEL

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# Changing Lanes Addresses Believable Moral Dilemma



Photo Courtesy of Press Kit Photography CD-ROM

By GEORGE BURGESS JR.  
Pride Staff Writer

Road rage escalates to catastrophic levels in Paramount Picture's suspense thriller, *Changing Lanes*. The film directed by Roger Michell, starring Ben Affleck and Samuel L. Jackson, opened in theaters Friday.

The story takes place in modern day New York City, where two strangers Gavin Banek (played by Affleck), and Doyle Gibson (played by Jackson) have a fender bender. Coincidentally, both men are in route to the court hearings of their lives. Banek, a powerful Wall Street lawyer, is to present the legal signatures needed, by his partners, to usurp the power of their billion-dollar law firm. Gibson, an insurance broker and recovering alcoholic,

is on his way to his final child custody hearing and intends to try and convince his ex-wife to remain in New York with their two sons.

Banek and Gibson begin to exchange insurance information. Banek is pressed for time and offers to buy his way out of the ordeal, but Gibson is trying to straighten

out his life and wants to do things "the right way." Frustrated and late, Banek abandons the scene. He leaves Gibson stranded, and says, "Better luck next time." What Banek doesn't realize is that he accidentally leaves his legal documents at the scene of the accident.

Gibson, who has an anger management issue, is late for his court hearing. Neither his ex-wife

nor the judge is willing to accept, yet another excuse from Gibson. Gibson blames Banek for ruining his plans, and, at the same time, Banek is faced with the enormous pressure of having to produce his lost documents. The feud over the files escalates viciously throughout the course of the day with grave costs to both men.

The primary theme of the movie is conflict. On the surface, *Changing Lanes* is an urban battle between two uncompromising men. Beyond the obvious, the movie is addressing the internal conflicts of human nature. Gibson's moral dilemma comes with accepting, even in sobriety, that his personality remains tainted with anger and instability, and Banek is forced to toil between the reality of self-interest and the idealism of the legal system.

*Changing Lanes* is solidified through the believable acting of the supporting cast. William Hurt-The Alcoholics Anonymous Sponsor, Sydney Pollack-Banek's father-in-law, and Toni Collette-Michelle, Banek's girlfriend, each delivered noteworthy performances. Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Dundas, Ileen Getz, and Kim Staunton also contribute with lesser roles.

For promotion of the movie's debut, Jackson participated in an open chat forum on MSN. Over the course of an hour, Jackson fielded questions from fans and

critics, worldwide. When asked to describe *Changing Lanes* using only one word Jackson responded, "Intense." Given a few more words, I would add thought provoking and frighteningly believable.

When asked what he hoped people would get out of *Changing Lanes*, Jackson said, "There's a moral dilemma that both these people have to deal with and take responsibility. I think it's great we've done a film that will send people out of the theater and into a coffee shop to talk about it. It ought to touch on some interesting issues and hopefully it will

done without the religious iconography. Throughout the movie, Banek and Gibson show signs of remorse and question their own morality. These moments come, too obviously, under the guiding light of the Roman Catholic Church. Gibson's repentance comes in a scene where he makes peace with his ex-wife. In the empty house, where the conversation takes place, hangs a sole picture of the Virgin Mary. Similarly, Banek, distraught from the events of the day, stumbles into a church confessional. The morality problems presented in the film are earthly, but the solutions



Photo Courtesy of Press Kit Photography CD-ROM

## REVIEW

inspire conversations between people."

Where there is conflict, there is generally resolution or, in this case, redemption. I loved the movie, yet, I could have

offered are supernatural or religious. In other words, real problems, yes, one religion presented as the solution, no thanks.

The movie is rated R by the MPAA, for language.

## Big Action in Small Town Jacumba

By JAMES J. SIMMONDS  
Pride Staff Writer

A few weekends ago, I went to Jacumba, a small town located 75 miles east of San Diego. The town is so small that you would most likely not notice it as you drive by on the freeway. Nonetheless, at night, you can see the dim lights glimmering off in the distance.

Only about 400 people reside in the town of Jacumba, but back in the "roaring twenties" and 1930s, Jacumba was a hopping town. Jacumba's natural hot springs attracted many visitors and were a major magnet for Hollywood celebrities. The city thrived with affluent people, but today it's just a little town. The town is comprised of nothing but a small strip of road with old buildings on both sides. On a sunny day, you might see a tumbleweed somersault across the road. Jacumba makes you feel like you are in some old "Spaghetti Western."

My buddy, Mike, temporally lives out there and works as a floor-supervisor at the Golden Acorn Casino in Campo. I visited the casino while I was in town. This modern casino is not as popular as Pala or Viejas but offers plenty of activities. There's great food, impressive prizes, beer & liquor and whole lot more. There are over 750 slots and plenty of Black Jack, poker and other game tables. There is also a 24-hour restaurant and gas station where you can buy some goodies for the long road trip home. And for truckers, they provide a truck center and Trucker's lounge.

My mission this time at the casino was to win big. As I strolled around the casino, I teased the black \$100 chips in my hand, taunting the gamers and flaunt-

ing my chips so that everyone could see I was a high-roller. I never play the minimum \$5 or \$10 bet because if I want to win big, I must be willing to lose big.

Finally, like a hawk, I honed my eye on a table. The dealer looked at me as I approached his podium. He looked intimidated, not knowing what to expect. The table was empty. It was a \$10 minimum bet table, but I was not about to bet so little.

I threw down an \$100 chip. First hand, bang, I lost. I dropped 2 more chips (\$200) immediately on the table, bang; I lost again. I lost over \$1,000 in the first fifteen minutes. No big thing, bang; that's Black Jack. On one hand, I won back \$500. I won the next three hands, doubling and then tripling my cash flow.

After a few more hands, the pit boss switched dealers. A crowd formed around me; I was winning big and occasionally losing some too. I battled different dealer after dealer, winning. Now I was up a couple thousand

dollars and was dealt two face cards. I split the two hoping to hit double Black Jack. I didn't; I busted on both hands. I ended up losing almost two grand on that one hand. It was OK though; it's all worth the adrenaline. I walked over to bar and had me a scotch on the rocks. "Hmmm-ah," it tasted good, and I paid for it with the little winnings I had left.

To win at any casino, you have to be willing to lose, but don't worry about any money lost because no matter what the result, win or lose, you will have a good time.

Directions to Jacumba - Take the I-8 east, exit on Crestwood, then turn right on Old U.S. Highway 80 south. Jacumba is located in the high desert only feet from the Mexican border.

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# Choking in the Stairwell

By JAMIEKO LANE  
Pride Staff Writer

Every Tuesday and Thursday, as I walk to my final class in University Hall, I find myself taking the stairs and choking on the clouds of cigarette smoke that fill the stairwell. Not only do people choose to smoke on the stairs, but they choose to block them by sitting down on the bottom stair, allowing for barely enough space for one person to slide by.

Is there a need to force non-smokers and smokers alike to share in your filthy habit? Why is it people smoke in the most absurd places - like right in front

of the entrance to a restaurant or in a busy stairwell? Is it that hard to walk the extra feet and smoke in the open areas of the campus to, at least, pretend you have courtesy for those around you?

The most amusing thing I find about the smokers on the third floor is that there are big white signs that say in red writing, "Please Do Not Toss Cigarette Butts on Roof." From experience, I've learned that money is not spent on signs unless there is a recurring behavior that needs to be stopped. Is it possible that some smokers can be so ignorant they just toss a cigarette butt on a roof instead of

putting it in the garbage can they are standing next to? I think that it is rude and should be stopped. I know that in northern California many establishments enforce a rule that stipulates people must be a certain number of feet away from the entrance of a building before lighting up.

Does there need to be a rule for people to wake up and realize that not everyone wants to inhale their second-hand smoke as they try to walk to and from classes? I surely hope that college-educated citizens know the rules of etiquette that we as a society adhere to. But maybe I'm wrong, and we should insert an etiquette class in the schedule.

## Does the Sun Damage Driving Brain Cells?

By JAMIEKO LANE  
Pride Staff Writer

I have witnessed many different styles of terrible driving, but I would have to give southern California the award for "The Most Ignorant Drivers." I've driven on the East Coast, which is, stereotypically, the home of the worst drivers in the world, but they don't hold a token to those who drive on roads from "The 78" down through San Diego.

My first instance of ignorance was in late February when the rain hit. I have come to the conclusion that all the driving brain cells leave when rain hits southern California. On this particular day, I sat on "The 15" for two and a half hours, only moving from Valley Parkway to Carmel Mountain Road, which is normally at the most a fifteen-minute drive. But that wasn't the most shocking portion of the wait. While sitting in what looked like a parking lot, I had my first experience with intense southern California road rage.

I looked into my rear view mirror and witnessed a "trucker" get out of his semi-truck, walk

over to a man in a small Nissan pickup, who obviously was trying to merge into the lane against the will of the "trucker," open the door of the Nissan, drag the driver out onto the freeway, and proceed to slug him with all of his road-rage-filled-fists. Then, as though it were a normal part of his daily activities, he walked back to his truck and merged into a different lane. Those types of things don't happen where I'm from, and I don't think they happen anywhere else in the United States. If that were to happen where I'm from, you'd probably get shot.

My second experience with local road rage was on Thursday. I was leaving school, entering Highway 78-East from Twin Oaks Boulevard. Since it was 4:25 p.m., there was barely any movement. When I merged onto the freeway, I attempted to merge over one more lane. There were at least two car lengths of room, so I went for it. Immediately after I put my blinker on, a person driving a red truck that I was trying to get in front of stepped on the gas and tried to block me from merging. Since I was

already over and still had enough room (even with the jerk-action of the driver), I continued to merge. This woman proceeded to give me the finger, yelling at the top of her lungs, cursing at me and literally making her car swerve back and forth. Then after she vented, obviously disappointed with the lack of response from me, she sped into the lane to the left of me, speeding up to come beside me. She then continued to yell at me, using her very articulate four-letter words, and swerved in front of me to prove a point, almost losing control of her truck and almost hitting the cars beside her and in front of her while continuing to give me the finger.

I never thought that I would say this, but I think that Los Angeles drivers are better than their southern partners in the San Diego area. At least they have some sort of consistency in their idiocy. Be it rain, sun, traffic, parking, on the freeway or right here on campus, I have to say, "Congratulations San Diego, you are the United States Most Ignorant Drivers."

# Did Muslim-Americans Pay Lip Service to 9-11?

By DAVID YANAGI  
Pride Staff Writer

Shortly after the September 11 terrorist attacks, when a clearer picture of the perpetrators and their motives began to emerge, Muslim-Americans were thrust into the national spotlight to defend themselves and their beliefs. Across the country, Muslim leaders and activists were quick to condemn the events with a shared media mantra that characterized Osama bin Laden and his cohorts as extremists, unrepresentative of their peaceful Islamic beliefs. With the exception of some unfortunate hate crimes since the attack, we have for the most part, taken them for their word and moved on.

Now the focal point of terrorism has moved from New York City to Israel. And again, many Muslims in this country have voiced their opinion on the situation, although with a bit more fervor than 9-11. And from what I can tell, there seems to be an almost unanimous solidarity with their Palestinian brethren in how they view the Middle East crisis. Suicide bombers or 'freedom fighters,' as they're being called by many, are continuously defended with rationalizations and justifications for their actions, subtly in American publications and programs, but blatantly in many and most Arab and Muslim-American newspapers and websites. I don't want to imply that anyone who empathizes with the Palestinian cause favors terrorist tactics, but Newsweek recently reported 80 percent of Palestinians approve of suicide attacks. It would be hard to imagine such a view limited only to the region. Both in the media and in my own personal experience, Muslim-Americans tend to implicate the Israelis as the real terrorists and see

the defenseless Palestinians as merely fighting back the only way they can. Upon examination of such a belief, the first thing that comes to mind is how it completely contradicts the Muslim-American denouncement of the terrorist attacks on America. An inconsistency that should lead some to wonder if we were had and were merely told what we wanted to hear by much of the Muslim community.

Let's assume for a moment that the suicide attacks against Israeli citizens are somehow justified. Israel is systematically killing innocent Palestinians with their military and its advanced weaponry, while the Palestinians use their only weapon - themselves - to deliver eye for eye retaliation. The United States has sent and continues to send billions of dollars in aid to help Israel pay for the tanks rolling into the West Bank. This is the type of financial support that has 'mainstream' Muslim and Arab news outlets, both here and abroad, citing the United States as an accomplice to Israel in the death and destruction. And if the United States and Israel are in this together, then this country is a viable target; a point of view shared by the terrorists on 9-11. If the enemy's motive and the results of a suicide attack are all the same, then, is it not valid to question whether many Muslim-Americans are being disingenuous by frowning on one and then excusing another?

If the true feelings of many people in this country about 9-11 are hidden behind a politically or patriotically correct façade, then President Bush's "with us or against us" statement should have been domestically directed. And the future of terrorism in the US may be seen through the eyes of an Israeli because if they are fair game, then so are we.

# It's Just a Matter of Perspective...

Compiled by JAMES NEWELL  
Pride Editor

When our weary world was young, the struggle of the Ancients first began. The Gods of Love and Reason sought alone to ule the fate of Man. They battled through the ages, but still neither force would yield. Their people were divided; every soul a battlefield...

They say there are strangers, who threaten us in our immigrants and infidels. They say there is strangeness, too dangerous in our theatres and bookstore shelves. Those who know what's best for us - must rise and save us, from ourselves. Quick to judge. Quick to anger. Slow to understand. Ignorance and prejudice and fear walk hand in hand.

A tired mind become a shape-shifter. Everybody need a soft filter. Everybody need reverse polarity. Everybody got mixed feelings about the function and the form. Everybody got to elevate from the norm.

These walls that still surround me, still contain the same old me, just one more who's searching for the world that ought to be. The more that things change, the more they stay the same.

I have memory and awareness, but I have no shape or form. As a disembodied spirit, I am dead yet unborn.

We can walk our road together if our goals are all the same. We can run alone and free if we pursue a different aim. Let the truth of Love be lighted. Let the love of Truth shine clear. Sensibility. Armed with sense and liberty, with the Heart and Mind united in a single perfect sphere.

Written by **Neil Peart** for Rush



# New Security Measures Cause Disappointment with Spring Break Travels

By ALYSSA FINKELSTEIN  
Opinion Editor

Have you been through an airport recently? Chances are, since many of us just got back from spring break, many of you have. Hopefully your experiences were better than mine. Not to say that my travels over break were all bad, but I definitely have a question as to whether or not the over 6 billion dollars allocated for airport security measures, which will continue to be funneled into airports, is doing anything to protect us.

Traveling through Los Angeles International Airport was a breeze. Airport personnel were very well organized, and their new security systems looked like something out of a Star Trek movie. Laptop computers have to be taken out and screened separately, but there were many (even friendly) people standing in front of the security machines, informing passengers of the new procedures. You wouldn't believe how many people travel with laptops. I expected to be one of a select few, but almost everyone I saw pulled a laptop out of their carry-on bags, at least at LAX.

Even at that, it only took me about 45 minutes to get through security and to arrive at my gate, despite having my two-year-old in tow. I felt safe; the National Guard was everywhere, armed to the hilt with fully automatic rifles as well as their personal side arms.

I had a layover in Kansas City, which compared to LAX is a very small airport, but they had their

share of National Guard members, and their baggage screening, though not as sophisticated, was thorough. Between the stroller, the diaper bag, my briefcase, and my little girl, I had a lot to drag around, and the food court was at the far end of the terminal. Even with my military ID, they wouldn't let me leave anything (even the diaper bag) at the gate so we could go get something to eat more easily. I actually appreciated their adherence to guidelines, however inconvenient for me, because once again, I felt safe. I reached my destination fairly happy with the new security measures.

## My trip home was a different story.

Chicago's Midway airport was comparable to LAX - they had sophisticated systems, and despite the hoards of passengers, the now infamous Argenbright security personnel were helpful and friendly. Problems were nonexistent until the plane for my flight arrived late due to bad weather at its originating airport.

We boarded late, and there were seven or eight standby passengers on their way to Mexico. None of the flight attendants spoke Spanish and the passengers' English wasn't great. No one could get them to sit down so we could leave. (Why, oh why, didn't I learn Spanish instead of French?)

We eventually took off just twenty minutes late, but I still missed my connection in

Denver.

Six of us from the Chicago flight were running across the terminal, and we watched them close the door to our connecting flight to Los Angeles. No one bothered to tell the pilot that more passengers were on the way. Bad communication. We were stuck. There was a woman who had a connection to Singapore from LAX. She was really stuck. The next flight wasn't until the next morning.

Everything went downhill from this point. The airport staff was rude, unhelpful, inconsiderate, and completely unaccommodating from the moment we were at their mercy.

"No, you don't have to stay in a hotel, you are welcome to stay here in the terminal [for the next twelve hours with a two year old] until your next flight leaves," was the standard line I was given by five or six different people.

Apparently, several dozen people missed flights that night because of bad weather at other airports across the country. In Denver, it's usually local weather that keeps passengers behind, but not this time. With all the delays, hotels around the airport booked up very quickly, but, at least, they gave us a "distressed passenger" rate. I couldn't believe this happens so often that they have a name for it.

After a four hour nap at a hotel 25 minutes from the airport (nothing is close to the terminals in Denver) we found ourselves back at the airport the next morning. The airline wouldn't store our luggage for us the night

before, so we had to take it all the way to the hotel, bring it all back again the next morning, and stand in line to check it once again.

We got to the airport two and a half-hours before our flight was scheduled to leave; we still almost missed it. The security procedures were a mess. The line to check baggage took over half an hour, the secondary security check took another twenty minutes, and the main security check to get into the terminal took an hour.

I would have been completely understanding if the staff had at least been nice. I actually had a nasty airline employee tell me that I missed my flight the night before because of my attitude - right after I apologized for being impatient with her. I was stressed, exhausted, and dragging along an extremely cranky two-year-old.

The most distressing part of my trip was realizing that the secondary security checks are STILL not conducted randomly. One out of every ten tickets is flagged, and that passenger is checked thoroughly at every single checkpoint - baggage check, main security, and boarding - at every single airport.

## It was such a joke.

My ticket was flagged, so I had to completely empty all of my bags, take off my shoes and be frisked by security eleven times on my trip. My military ID meant nothing. I knew from the first moment I checked in at LAX

that this was going to happen to me. Everyone else went through the same old relaxed procedures that airlines have been conducting for years. Likewise, anyone who wasn't told at check-in that they were subject to secondary security could count on not being searched for the remainder of their trip.

## Does this make sense?

If I know that I'm subject to secondary search at every stop, even if I had something illegal, I would sure as heck get rid of it before I got to the checkpoint. And if I were a bad person who wanted to hurt people, I could wait until after I had checked my bags to find out if I was going to be searched. Untagged passengers never opened their bags, never got frisked and never took off their shoes.

I know that the FAA is trying to avoid charges of racial profiling, but this was ridiculous. Maybe every tenth passenger in line for boarding should be searched? That could be overcome too.

Should everyone go through the same security measures that I did? That would be better than the way it is now. I would be willing to wait in line for that. The way it is now, several people, of multiple ethnic backgrounds and looking far more suspicious than a young woman with a baby and a military ID, walked onto the plane without a second look. Those National Guard troops can't do a heck of a lot once the plane is in the air.

## HAVE AN OPINION OR A COMIC STRIP??? SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITORS TO PRIDE@CSUSM.EDU

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## Daily Thoughts on... Senioritis

By MARLINO BITANGA  
Pride Staff Writer

I think I have a case of senioritis. It's already the eleventh week of school, and I feel as if all my motivation has either been sucked out of my system or it never caught up with me after spring break. As class deadlines draw closer, I am so swamped with group projects and papers. It's as if all my professors forgot to go to that meeting to let each other know that they were scheduling an assignment for a partic-

ular day.

My internship isn't cooperating with me either. Have you ever felt that you wanted to do something for yourself? I thought by obtaining an internship it would help me gain more knowledgeable about the field I am trying to enter or provide me more work experience. But at the facility, my title of "intern" has grown to mean faxing, getting the mail, and sitting at an isolated desk at the front of the building answering phones for three hours. Right, like I didn't already know how to

do that.

And to top it all off, although the thought of graduating, finishing, and leaving the ideology of receiving an education is only a month-and-a-half away, I now have to deal with figuring out what I'm going to do after I graduate, which seems to be more stressful than figuring out what I wanted to study when I first entered the university as a freshman and had to pick a major.

I wonder if Tylenol makes pills for senioritis.

## The Pride

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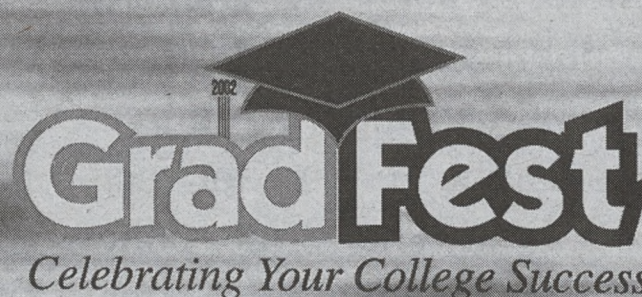
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