

## No Moore Michael

*President Haynes, along with executive council, deny filmmaker's appearance*

BY ELIZABETH BALDWIN  
Pride Staff Writer

President Karen S. Haynes announced Monday, via email, that the executive council has cancelled the appearance of filmmaker, Michael Moore. Michael Moore was tentatively scheduled to speak as part of the Intercultural Speaker Series in mid October at the California Center for

See MOORE, page 2



Photo courtesy of www.cgmn.org / Illustration by Jason Encabo / The Pride

## Casino Night was a hit

BY TIFFANY LIU  
Pride Staff Writer



Photo by Tiffany Liu / The Pride

Students enjoyed Casino Night 2004 as Frank Sinatra's, "Luck Be a Lady Tonight" serenaded the evening sky.

This event, put on by ASI, was hailed as a tremendous success with a turn out of well over 100 students. The students piled into

See CASINO, page 3

## Exposing the 2.9% convenience fee

BY PETER SCHWARTZ  
Pride Staff Writer

School officials and IDC CASHNet SmartPay™ have few answers as to the nature of the 2.9% "service charge" billed to students wishing to use credit cards to pay for their classes online.

Student Financial Services claims that the fee is charged by IDC CASHNet SmartPay™, that the university receives no profit from it, and that monies saved as a result of

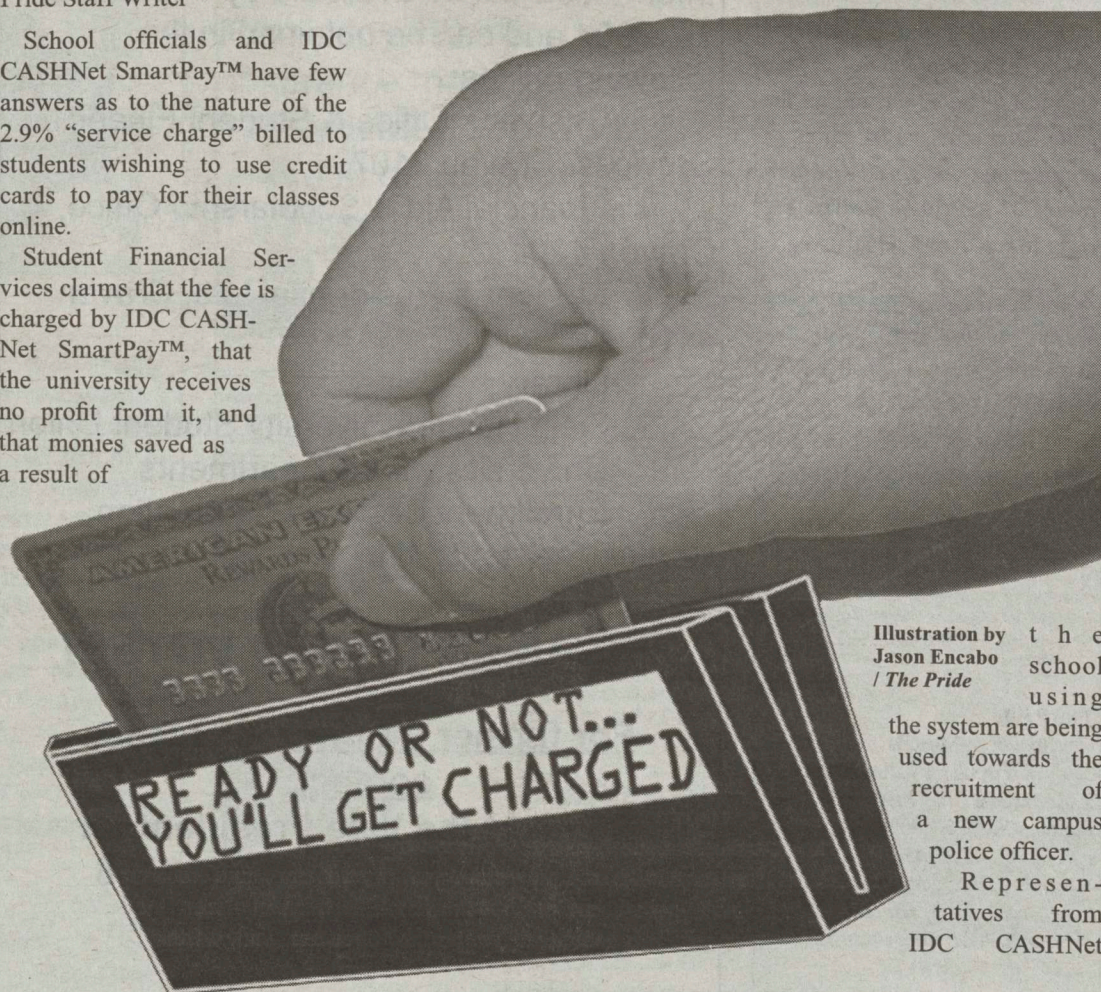


Illustration by the school using the system are being used towards the recruitment of a new campus police officer. Representatives from IDC CASHNet

See CREDIT CARD, page 2

# The Pride

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**MOORE**, from page 1

the Arts, Escondido.

The Pride contacted President Haynes for an interview regarding the decision to cancel Michael Moore. Rick Moore, Director of Communications, contacted The Pride on President Haynes' behalf.

Rick Moore explained that the University is not looking for any one person to balance out Michael Moore.

In response to the question of why Michael Moore was deemed an appropriate speaker last October and now he is not, Rick Moore said, "Last year there wasn't an election and he (Michael Moore) had not politicized himself. Now we have the election coming up and there is no time to balance out the point of view. The election is the key difference here and Michael Moore's decision to politicize himself."

Last Friday at the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting for Associated Students, Inc (ASI),

Jonathan Poullard, dean of student affairs, asked the BOD to allocate \$10,000 to bring film maker, Michael Moore, back to CSUSM.

Poullard explained at the meeting that Michael Moore was a scheduled speaker in the Arts and Lectures Series last October; however, the event was cancelled due to the Cedars Fire. Now Moore is available to reschedule the event for October 13 or 14.

After discussion from all ASI directors, the board voted to contribute \$6,500 to fund Moore's speaker fee.

Poullard said, "I am saddened and disappointed by the decision. I think our students are missing out on a phenomenal opportunity to engage in political discourse. The Intercultural Speaker Series is not about having us agree, it's about having the discourse and having controversy with civility."

Merryl Goldberg, Professor of Visual and Performing Arts and Director of Arts & Lecture

series said, "Personally I'm quite disappointed. I think it would have been a great opportunity for the students. On the other hand, I understand how it could be a challenge for the president and other top administrators. It is very tough. I wouldn't have wanted to be the president on this."

Lura Poggi, Executive Director of ASI said, "I think, although Michael Moore has partisan beliefs, that ultimately what would have happened is he would have motivated our students to get involved in the electoral process by getting out to vote. I trust students to vote their conscious regardless of what belief structure is presented to them. And while I appreciate having a balance of perspectives, I trust our university community to engage in meaningful dialogue; that will not only provide a balancing perspective, but also encourage our community members to, individually, decide for themselves their core values and political beliefs."

Francine Martinez, Vice President for Student Affairs explained that the decision was discussed Monday morning among the executive council, which includes all vice presidents, the Provost and Marti Gray, Executive Director of CSUSM Foundation.

Martinez explained that the council was unable to provide a counterpart to Michael Moore and that if they could secure the right people to provide a balance they will pull something together for the spring.

Marti Gray, Executive Director of CSUSM Foundation said, "I think everyone (in the executive council) was in total agreement that the campus had not been able to confirm any other speakers that could provide a balance."

"I don't think it is right for the president to limit the students' access to the speakers we have," said Christopher Langfelder, freshman, biology major.

**CREDIT CARD**, from page 1

SmartPay™ state that the "service charge" is assessed to cover IDC's costs, but declined to say specifically what all the costs are.

Many students on campus are unhappy with being charged this fee when paying for classes online. Senior Matt Taylor said, "I was frustrated with the additional fee when I found out that this cost saving feature for the university was at my expense." Taylor also said that he contacted

Student Financial Services about the charge via the internet, but never got any response.

According to Student Financial Services, the "service charge" did not begin until 2002 when the Campus Level Cabinet decided to contract Informed Decisions of Alameda California to install CASHNet SmartPay™ on the CSUSM website. Convenience and financial savings for the school were cited as primary reasons for contracting with IDC.

Paul Tiglio, from the Department of Financial Services said

that the money saved by the university because of IDC CASHNet SmartPay™ goes directly to campus life programs and campus security. Mr. Tiglio was apt to point out that the university allows students to pay in many ways, and that IDC CASHNet SmartPay™ is only one option. When asked about student complaints regarding IDC CASHNet SmartPay™, he admitted that there were complaints but declined to comment on specific cases.

In addition to imposing a "service charge" IDC CASHNet SmartPay™ does not accept payments using a VISA card.

Accepted methods of payment include Mastercard™, Discover™, American Express™ and E-check. Debit cards can only be used if they do not require a PIN. Many debit cards have a daily maximum of \$500 or less, so they may not have sufficient funds available to pay for tuition fees using IDC CASHNet SmartPay.

Senior Vice President of Sales for IDC, Randy Steyer, was also asked how many Student concerns were addressed by Informed Decisions to the issue of the CASHNet SmartPay™ "service charge". Steyer responded "that is something we don't reveal"

## October 18 - 21, 2005

### Childcare Services

All students at CSUSM will have the opportunity to vote on a proposed fee establishment on the dates indicated above. Information will be available by September 14, 2004 and can be obtained in the following offices:

•Cashier's Office & Student Financial Services, Craven 3107

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•Library

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CASINO, from page 1

the event from 6 to 10p.m. ready to gamble the night away at the Clarke Field House. This event ingly popular Texas Hold'em poker. Each \$100 the students won, and a grand prize trip to Laughlin, Nevada for two. Casino night set off an incred-

*“This is the most kick ass event I have been to all year,” Brett Gladys, graduate student.*

was free to all CSUSM students. Each student upon entry received \$500 in play money which was then exchanged for play chips. Students tried their luck at roulette, blackjack and the increas- would buy them one raffle ticket for which they could enter to win one of various prizes. The prizes included movie tickets, a gift certificate to Pat and Oscar’s, Playstation 2, two deluxe poker sets, ible vibe which had students in high spirits all night long. “This is the most kick ass event I have been to all year,” exclaimed graduate student, Brett Gladys. The friendly dealers of



Photo by Tiffany Liu / The Pride



Brett Gladys flaunts his winnings. Photo by Tiffany Liu / The Pride

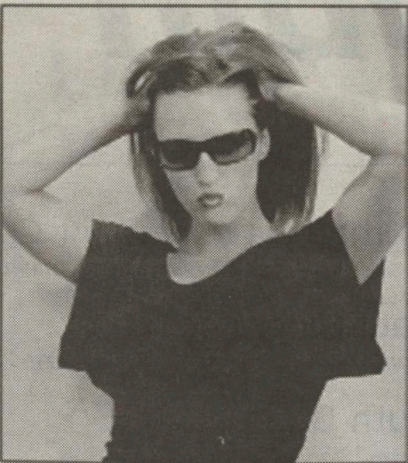
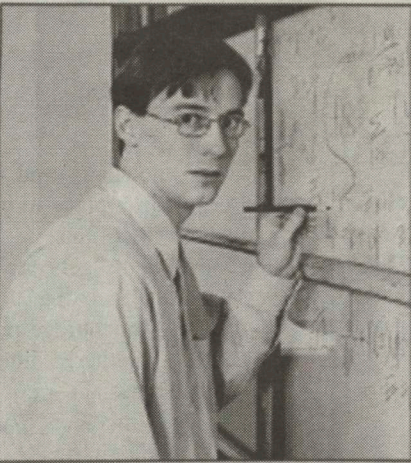
Casino Magic, a professional casino party company, helped all students learn the games of chance and ensured their enjoyable experience. The big game of the night was Texas Hold'em Poker with a waiting list of over 30 students at one point. Texas Hold 'Em is the version of Poker played in many casinos, and seen on the Travel Channel's World Poker Tour and ESPN's World Series of Poker. Erik Groset, ASI director of social programming and coordinator of the event, said “I’m glad to see everyone is having a great time! Hopefully we can do this event next semester as well.”

Groset went on to explain that a related Texas Hold'em Poker tournament will be held sometime next month. The success of this event was shared by all students who anxiously lined up to sign-in for their play money. Second year student, Emily Guckert said, “I’m having a great time learning about the games and new strategies, it’s a great way to start off the new school year.” The event wrapped up with a raffle drawing, which left fifteen lucky winners with fabulous prizes, and everyone else with a great experience.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

College Math Club President Dumps Supermodel

He crunched the numbers, then crushed her heart



College sophomore Brady Burns, left, abruptly ended a six-month torrid love affair with a heartbroken Elene, right.

By JAMIE MURRY

Admitting that there was a good (9-√3) percent chance that he made the wrong move, college math club president Brady Burns recently called it quits with long-time supermodel girlfriend Elene. Burns, who claimed he carefully calculated the free checking account had monthly fees that just didn't add up. The whiz kid was quick to admit that had he known about Washington Mutual's Free Checking Deluxe, the relationship's longevity may have had better odds. "I loved her like a

quadratic formula, but the off-campus lunches were killing me financially," said Burns. "I felt like a real abacus for breaking things off." The fact that he was unaware of Washington Mutual's Free Checking—an account with optional Deluxe services like free online bill pay available at wamu.com—left Elene at a total loss. "He could have just gone to a Washington Mutual Financial Center or wamu.com," she said. "We were totally soul mates, but I guess he didn't see that. As far as I'm concerned, he can go jump off a logarithm. Whatever that is."

*"I loved her like a quadratic formula..."*

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# Price of birth control pills on the rise

BY SARAH COLESON  
Pride Staff Writer

*Instead of reducing the cost of name brand drugs to compete with imitators, Health Services is charging nearly the same amount for generic drugs*

For all the young women who fill their birth control prescriptions at the Student Health Services pharmacy: be prepared to begin paying twice as much for your birth control pills.

Don't count your blessings quite yet gentlemen; this issue could also affect you. The rising cost of oral contraceptives could have devastating effects on the ability of the Student Health Services pharmacy to provide low cost prescriptions to all Cal State San Marcos students. While it directly affects female students who use the pharmacy to fill birth control prescriptions, it could also affect all students – male



Photo by Elizabeth Baldwin / The Pride

and female – who use the pharmacy. The reason for this is that most of the income the pharmacy receives derives from filling birth control prescriptions and without it, the pharmacy may not have the means to provide all of the services that it currently does.

As soon as the contraceptives that the pharmacy has in stock run out (which is expected to happen around January) the

cost to re-stock the supply will double. A likely reaction to the price increase is that students will shop around in search of cheaper alternatives, thus taking necessary funds from the pharmacy. The problem with this is that if there is not enough income to subsidize the pharmacy, other students who fill their prescriptions for anything from antibiotics, to asthma or diabetes medi-

cation will no longer be able to do so at such a low cost.

This problem is not just occurring at our campus. The cost of prescription drugs are increasing throughout the country, and without necessary action, they will continue to do so. Piling the rising costs of prescriptions on top of the skyrocketing costs of rent in San Diego and tuition in California could have extremely negative consequences on Cal State students.

According to Dr. Karen Nicholson, the medical director of Cal State San Marcos, and Joe Jacob, CSUSM pharmacist explained that the California State University system has a contract with pharmaceutical companies to ensure that students receive certain patented oral contraceptives at an extremely low cost. Nearly all of the contraceptives included in the contract are no longer patented, which basically means that anyone can create generic drugs which are almost exactly the same as the name brands. Instead of reducing the cost of name brand drugs to compete with imitators, they are charging nearly the same amount as the generic drugs cost – which is also rising.

All Cal State students are required to pay a student health services fee as well as a student health facility fee. In March 2004, Student Health Services

promoted and passed a referendum that allowed the health services fee to increase from \$35 a semester to \$50 and the health facility fee to go from \$3 to \$25. Many people have a tendency to make the incorrect assumption that these fees will help to prevent other cost increases, such as the rising cost of birth control.

To the contrary, Nicholson said, "the health facility fee is only applied towards the cost to rent the facility, which is not owned by Cal State San Marcos, and the utility bills. The health services fee is applied towards funding staff salaries and the maintaining the operation of the services provided. Neither have anything to do with maintaining the low cost of prescription drugs."

Jacob also explained that the State Procurement Officer has been attempting to negotiate with the pharmaceutical companies to fight the increasing costs. If he is successful, it may be possible for the pharmacy to offer other brands of oral contraceptives, either low cost generic brands or alternate brands of birth control that are still patented. While this issue will most likely be a long and complicated process, Jacob stated optimistically that, "At least the pharmaceutical companies are willing to listen to him."

## We be clubbin'

BY LINDSAY RIEDEL  
Pride Staff Writer

As we make the transition into a new school year, it's important to remember that school is not just about classes and homework; it is also about making an identity, having fun, and forming friendships. The best way to get the most from your college experience is to get involved, and with more than 45 clubs and student organizations on campus, there is bound to be at least one to fit your goals and personality style.

On September 7-9<sup>th</sup>, the Student Organization Expo featured several different clubs and student organizations in front of the Kellogg library, including the Human Development Club, Christ on Campus, and Priority Christian Challenge.

The Human Development Club was formed to bring together people with a common interest in human services. Because the Human Development major was becoming so research-based, the club was formed to offer a place for people to express their interest in community-benefiting programs and a place to explore the different careers that a Human Development degree would offer.

Members meet twice a month: once for a general meeting where they talk, discuss events, and vote on allocating funds, and a second time for the event of the month. The events consist of either a lecture series, guest speakers, or some form of volunteer work for the community. In the past, the Human Development Club has participated in events like the MS walk. "We're humanitarians," said a smiling Dayleen Coleman, president of the Human Development Club.

Although the Human Development Club does not exclude anyone from being a member, they allow only a human development major or minor to run for office.

Formerly known as Episcopal Campus Mission, Christ on Campus is a first-year revised club that is funded by the Episcopal Church of San Diego. The Christ on Campus Club aims to give students a place to meet new people, a place to belong, and, as their motto states, "a place to know Christ and make Him known."

Founder and youth pastor at Grace Episcopal Church in San

**Human Development Club**  
[www.csusm.edu/human\\_development/HDclub](http://www.csusm.edu/human_development/HDclub)

**CHRIST ON CAMPUS**

**PRIORITY**  
Christian Challenge

**Paul Gibbons**  
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**Ruth Bran**  
[rbran22@juno.com](mailto:rbran22@juno.com)

Marcos, Paul Gibbons, feels that this club is important because people need to have somewhere to belong and to have fun. "As Christians, we are told to go out and make disciples," explained Gibbons. "College students need to have a place to belong and to find God."

Plans are tentative because the club is new. There is no set meeting schedule, but they hope to meet one to two times a week. The meetings will be a time to talk, listen to music and practice Bible Study.

Priority Christian Challenge is a Bible-based club that emphasizes developing a strong individual Christian faith in a social environment.

dents with knowledge and faith, and gives them a place to get to know fellow Christians.

The members get together every Thursday evening at Arts 240. Meetings encourage people to come together, interact, form friendships, and pray. The agenda also includes participating in humanitarian events, such as Operation Christmas Child, where people donate toys and supplies to children in need all over the world. "We expose people to the needs in the world," explained Bran.

Ruth Bran, outside advisor and co-founder, felt the club was necessary because it empowers stu-

The clubs featured in this article are only a few of the many clubs that are available on campus. Check out the clubs and student organizations page online at [www.csusm.edu/srl/clubs/](http://www.csusm.edu/srl/clubs/).

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## Jock Talk With Josh

BY JOSHUA SANDOVAL  
Pride Staff Writer

in sports than Tiger Woods.

Tiger is the most recognizable person in sports. Even people who know absolutely nothing about sports know who Tiger is. Tiger is now among the few in our society who can be referred to just by one name like Madonna, Cher, and Prince.

Golf is the hardest sport to dominate in, because it is an individual sport. In team sports like baseball and football you can rely on your teammates if you are having a bad day at the park. In golf, if you are having a bad day on the course you have no one to blame but yourself.

Now I want you to think about all the bad days you have had in the past five years. If you are like most people, you don't always have a great day everyday of the week. So, when you look at the fact that Tiger has not had a bad day in five years it is just simply amazing.

It is not like Tiger is past his prime so Tiger losing his number one ranking has many people questioning what led to this. Well there are several things that could have led to this, one thing being that he has had some nagging injuries over the past couple years especially to his knee which is one of the most important body parts to a golfer. Another thing that many people believe is that since Tiger fell in love with his fiancé his golf game has gone down hill. Also, some think that

his new golf equipment has just been inferior to that of what the other golfers are using.

Who knows if it was any of those circumstances? However, the thing that makes Tiger that much better in my eyes is that he did not use one of those as an excuse. I mean, how many of you have tried to pass the blame when you could not explain what went wrong in a certain situation?

I for one fear for the golfing community because not having Tiger in that number one spot means he has something to work

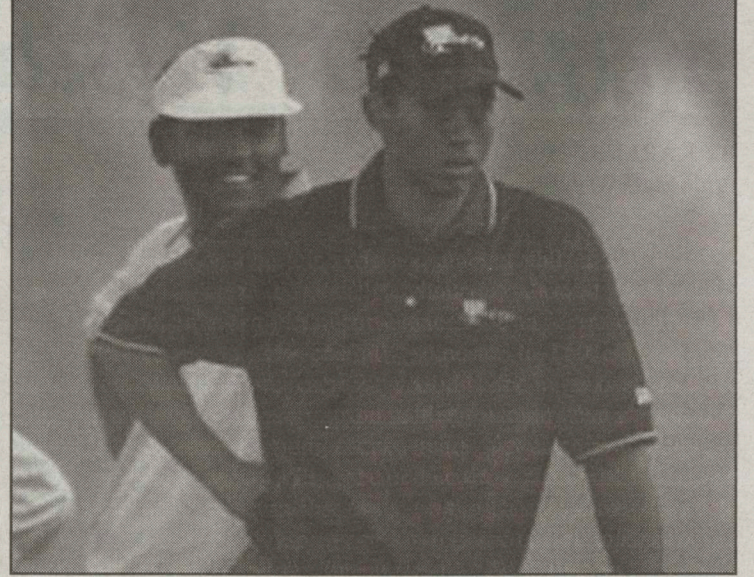


Photo courtesy of www.golfserv.com

towards again. The last time Tiger had something to prove he ended up becoming the most

dominant athlete anyone has ever seen. Now it is time to sit back and watch Tiger roar.

Think for just a moment about all the things that have changed in your life over the past five years. I mean most of you probably went to a different school, had a different job, or fashioned a different hair do five years ago. Basically, not much stays consistent over five years.

However, one person who has been consistent over the past five years has been Tiger Woods. "El Tigre" was the number one golfer in the world for the past five years which is 264 consecutive weeks which is also 1848 days.

However, everything in life eventually comes to an end and Tiger's streak is no exception. His rule as number one player in the world came to an end last week when Vijay Singh claimed the spot that Tiger had kept warm for so long.

Growing up you work towards being the best at what you do no matter what field you are working in. Once you reach the pedestal of number one what else is there for you to accomplish? The only thing left for you to prove is that you have staying power and no one has had more staying power

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# You got Visa? You got no classes

BY KARLENE WIEGAND  
Pride Staff Writer

Students frustrated by our school's registration system is not a new phenomenon. As the new semester starts many students will cry "the registration woes," especially new students who are unfamiliar with our registration process.

The unique part about our registration system here at Cal State San Marcos is the fact that we don't accept Visa, a commonly used credit card used by CSUSM students. The reasons we don't accept Visa has something to do with a nation wide lawsuit, due to high merchant fees of up to \$600,000 charged to Colorado State University for example.

Merchant fees are what credit

card companies charge the user, like Ralphs grocery store, or, in the case of Cal State San Marcos, to use their credit cards like Visa. The entire state university system in California and other nation wide state schools including Indiana, Colorado and Texas are facing these same fees. Many state schools are now opting to charge students a convenience fee for using credit cards to pay for tuition rather than paying the high merchant fees.

The CashNet SmartPay system is a popular convenience charge system, currently used at our school and various schools throughout California, Indiana, Colorado and Texas.

I guess there is no way to change the system because either way we, the students of CSUSM will be paying these merchant fees.

However, it is of concern to me why the cashiers' office won't tell us why our Visa credit cards are being turned away or why we have to pay a convenience fee.

Last Spring was my first semester at Cal State San Marcos. I had been using my Visa credit card at Mira Costa College for the previous three years. I would pay for my books and my classes and then send my grandmother the bill in Las Vegas where she lives.

The first time I registered here

was a nightmare. I had no clue why my Visa was being shunned away and no one could tell me why. The cashiers' office was rude and my fellow students couldn't answer my questions. I was pissed and upset; here I was a transfer student with no way to pay for my classes in time and no clue to why they weren't taking Visa.

I tried to rationalize it, but I understood that credit cards aren't the best way to pay for our classes due to the high percentage rates most companies give us. I thought, maybe the whole CashNet SmartPay system is a way to deter us students from using credit cards and start taking out

student loans instead, which have a much lower interest rate and would ensure a happier financial existence for us in the future.

I finally had to borrow my boyfriend's Master card to pay for my classes and attempt to crash every other class due to my late registration fees.

Even though, I felt and still feel the students of Cal State San Marcos deserve to know why they have to pay extra to use their credit cards and why they are excluded from using a Visa card at all. It is an injustice to my fellow students and me not to know... "Why?"

By Sarah Carlin

## EMMA



## How to get YOUR class started

BY PATRICIA GUEVARRA  
Pride Staff Writer

So, the first two weeks of school are finally over, yes! Congratulations to all of you who have survived. I know it has been a fun ride just trying to crash classes and having to switch back to school mode. Just imagine, 14 more weeks until it is time for Winter Break. Exciting, isn't it?

This is also the time when we realize that there are a lot of classes that are not being offered due to budget cuts or are not even offered because no one has ever expressed a need for it. I am pretty sure that there are a lot of great classes that some of you would like to have offered here or classes that you do need. Here are a couple of tips that can help you get started.

First thing, you need to do is research about this class, what does it entail and who will benefit from this course? Then, scout for other students and even faculty members who view the course as beneficial and are willing to support your efforts in starting this class. This way you will have the power of numbers.

Make sure you do have a faculty member who is supporting you in order to have stronger ties to administration.

Once you have a core group of people involved, you can create a petition stating the need for this class and be sure to provide why this class is important. You can circulate this around campus to gain support from the rest of our school population. Be sure to have a possible teacher in mind for the class, you will of course need a teacher. Also, you can hold meetings with faculty and administration in order to express the dire need of this class for the benefit of Cal State San Marcos.

Mind you that this will be a long process. You may not see the class being offered during your academic career but at least you have gotten a movement started so that other students can benefit from this.

Regardless of the time factor, you will be doing something great for the campus.

I am writing this article based on the experience of the Asian

Pacific American Association, formerly known as the Asian Pacific American Society. The Association has been struggling with the lack of Asian American Studies classes on campus.

According to Fall 2003's enrollment, there were a total of 732 Asian American/Pacific Islander students on campus, 9.4%. The third largest student population and yet few classes are offered pertaining to Asian Studies and no classes in Asian American Studies.

There are, however, several history classes with subject matters of China, Japan, women in the Middle East, and Eastern thought, but what about the experience of the Asian American.

I offer these steps in case any other student feels the need to start some classes on campus as well. There are other students who will support you. The campus is still new, take advantage of your ability to make a difference.

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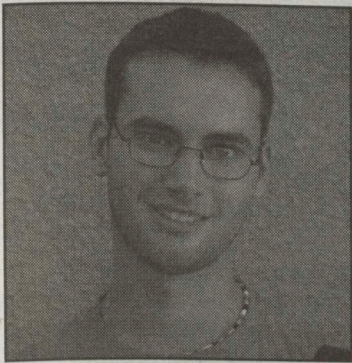
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FROM THE LEFT:  
Dustin Lacasse

FROM THE RIGHT:  
Phoenix Lindgren

A VIEW FROM BOTH SIDES



‘A Stronger America’ is what democratic presidential candidate John Kerry’s platform is all about, and that is exactly why I am voting for him.

A stronger America is needed during these times when Americans seem to be divided by the platform President Bush has been pushing.

I am a Democrat because I believe in equality for all Americans and the preservation of our natural environment. I also believe in fiscal responsibility, smaller government, and a stronger military.

I am a firm believer in respect, understanding and tolerance, and Kerry is the only contender that strongly believes in equality for all Americans.

Kerry has adamantly stated that he does not believe that a constitutional amendment is necessary in order to ‘preserve’ the ‘institution of marriage.’ Kerry believes the idea of marriage for gays and lesbians should be left up to the states. The Constitution has never once been amended to strip a minority group in America of their right to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

Kerry also strongly believes that there is more work to be done to help the advancement of minorities in our communities so that they can attain a higher education, and advance further in the work place.

Another point that Kerry believes in is a stronger military by not only equipping our soldiers with more modern weapons, but also equipping the branches of the military with more troops. Many countries, as well as the United States, are fighting a global war on terrorism. We need to take into consideration that many of our troops are fighting abroad to defend democracy and protect the U.S. from acts of terrorism on our home soil. To help ensure that our troops are given the time off they deserve to be with their loved ones, there needs to be enough troops to maintain an adequate military force for our homeland security needs as well as continuing to meet our strategic and regional missions.

Kerry is the only candidate that can really make ‘America Stronger’ by uniting instead of dividing Americans. I proudly support John Kerry and fully believe that Martin Luther King Jr. said it right when he proclaimed, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

Identifying myself as a Republican, especially here at CSUSM, means that people will make judgments about me without bothering to get to know me; I’ll just be stereotyped as another SUV-driving, *Apprentice*-watching, intolerant, martini-drinking, Louis Vuitton-carrying rich bitch who’d rather wipe out the least tern than be forced to carpool.

The reality is that I care deeply about the environment, ending poverty, racism and terrorism, and access to health care, just like any good Democrat. I just think that the Republican Party offers the better means of reaching these goals.

I come from a family of optimists and dreamers. My mother owned a successful small business (where I worked as a kid). My step-dad is a retired investment advisor and treasure-hunter, and my father was an engineer and inventor.

They taught me that success comes from lots of hard work and a little bit of luck and that the harder you work, the luckier you are. They are Republican, and like most people, I



whereas Democrats believe the wealth of this country is finite, and that the only way to raise the standard of living for the non-rich is to penalize the most productive citizens to subsidize the rest. Republicans are the party of glass-half-full optimists, Democrats the party of glass-half-empty pessimists.

As to specific issues, I will admit there isn’t an issue on the table that I care passionately enough about to alter how I’ll vote in November. Abortion rights, gay marriage, school funding and gun control are issues better dealt with by the people directly affected.

I think freeing the Iraqi’s from Saddam was a good idea, and that his use of WMDs on the Kurds, his refusal to allow UN weapons inspectors to do their job and the prevalence of Al-Qaeda within the country now is enough evidence to satisfy me that Bush made an honorable choice.

Our air and soil and water are cleaner than they were when I was a kid (thanks in large part to legislation signed into law by Nixon in the early seventies.) And the ACLU is well-equipped to deal with issues of personal freedom on my behalf. I can vote my core beliefs for my representatives and trust that the details will be worked out by the interested parties.



Photo by Jason Encabo / The Pride

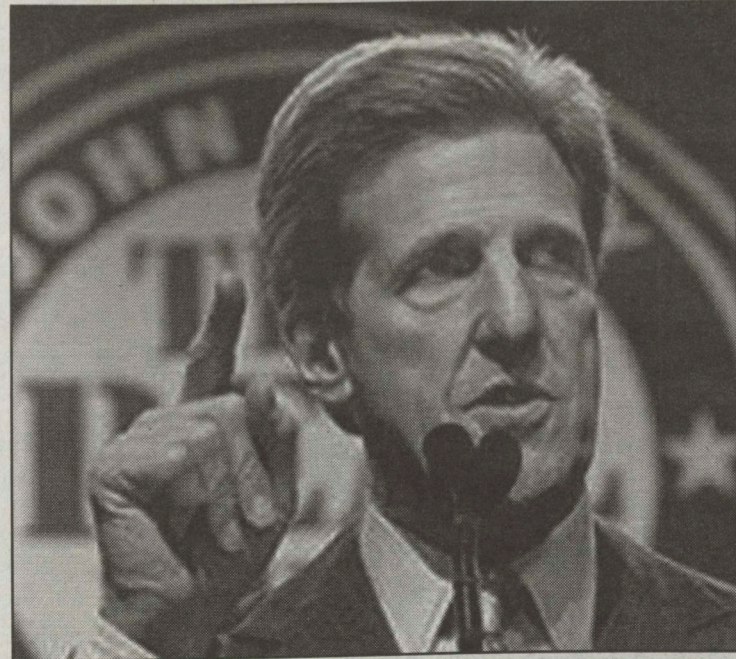


Photo courtesy of www.enterstageright.com

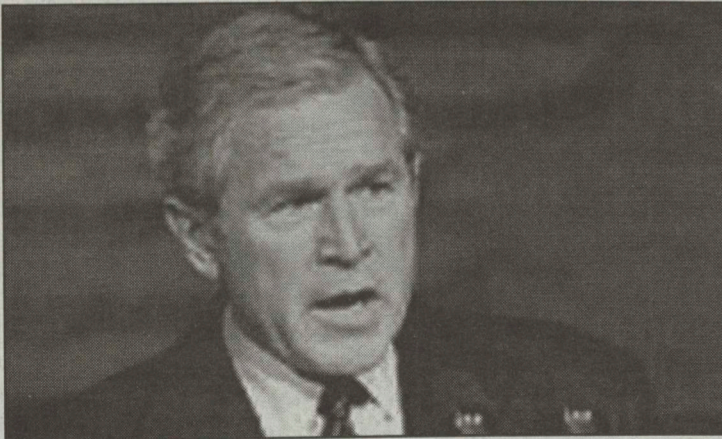


Photo courtesy of www.usembassy.org

inherited my political party from my parents.

But my parents were never staunch, party-liners, and I’m even less so. In truth, neither the Republican nor the Democrat parties represent me on all the important issues of the day, but I still choose to identify myself as Republican because of what I perceive to be the core difference between the two parties: Republicans believe that the wealth the people of this country are capable of generating is infinite, and that every person is capable of attaining a high standard of living,

Political parties are like religion or prescription drugs: they’re created with the best intentions, but often produce unintended consequences. You choose a political party hoping it will cure some of the country’s ills without producing too many negative side effects.

When I go to the polls in November, I’ll vote for Bush again and hope for the best. And if things don’t go my way, I’ll grab my Louis Vuitton, jump into my SUV and drown my sorrows down at the Martini Ranch. Maybe we can carpool?

CALENDAR OF  
EVENTS

9/13-17  
RUSH WEEK!

9/14  
College of Business  
Meet and Greet:  
Clarke Field House/  
USU Grand Salon  
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

PAN Election Debate:  
Mezz 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PAN Weekly Meeting:  
UNIV 444 1 p.m. to  
5 p.m.

Accounting Society:  
COM 206 11 a.m. to  
1:30 p.m.

9/15  
SENIORS! Apply for  
Graduation  
If you are graduating in  
December 2004 or May  
2005, you MUST apply  
by September 15.  
Enrollment Services  
Information Center,  
Craven Hall 5110 or  
call 760-750-4848.

9/16  
Katherine Stuart of  
Restaurant Events/Spa  
Tiki is "In the Execu-  
tive's Chair":  
ACD 102 11 a.m. to  
12:50 p.m.

Human Development  
Club General Meeting:  
UNIV 444 1 p.m. to  
2:30 p.m.

Priority Christian Chal-  
lenge General Meeting:  
ARTS 240 6:30 p.m. to  
9 p.m.

9/17  
Meningitis Vaccine  
Clinic for UVA Resi-  
dents:  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sep-  
tember 17, Student  
Health & Counseling  
Services  
Appointments must be  
made no later than  
9/15. Cost is \$65.00

Feature Films Showing  
at Clarke Field House  
9/17-19 Troy  
University Student  
Union Grand Salon at  
5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. on  
Fridays, 7:00 p.m. on  
Saturdays, and 6 p.m.  
on Sundays

**Corrections for VOL. XII NO. 2**  
Escondido business owner Steve Waldron’s name was misspelled in two references in the article “At the carshow.”  
The page jump for the article “And now introducing” incorrectly states “KIMBERLY” instead of “KARLA.”  
Staff writers Daniel Lowe, Chezare Milo, Kimberly Schlatter, Ryan James and Phoenix Lindgren were not listed on the masthead.  
We apologize.

# Enter the "Garden State" of mind

BY JASON ENCABO  
Pride Staff Writer

Once again, an actor steps into the realm of writing and directing. Many may know him as Dr. John 'J.D.' Dorian from the NBC series "Scrubs," but nowadays Zach Braff has a lot more on his plate than acting.

Braff's film "Garden State," which he credited as writer, director and starring in, has gained support since its initial release in June. Picked up by Miramax and Fox Searchlight Pictures, the film is now on a wide-scale release.

The film begins in Los Angeles where Andrew Largeman (Braff) is living as a struggling actor. The scene shifts to New Jersey (i.e. The Garden State) when Largeman receives word from his father (Ian Holm) that his mother

has died. Largeman returns to his hometown 8 years after leaving his parents, now in hope to make amends with his father. He reacquaints himself with friends, and while in a hospital waiting room, meets Sam (Natalie Portman), the woman who helps him make sense of his life.

Though you may have trouble finding significance in my slim description of the plot, a great deal of the film's uniqueness lies in the context. Braff creates a story filled with true to life cruelties as well as kindness. Throughout the film there will be reason to laugh, cry and jump for joy and to entirely dive into the life of Andrew Largeman.

Natalie Portman will definitely get a hold of your attention in this

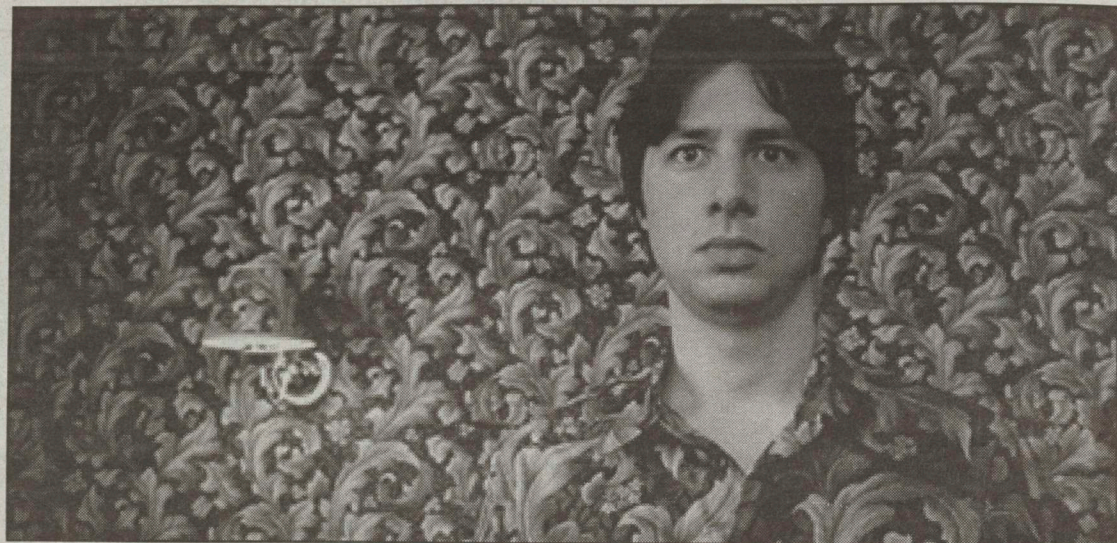


Photo courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures

film, as she does a brilliant job grasping the character of Sam (a performance not seen since

"The Professional"), and is reminiscent of Kate Winslet's role as Clementine in "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind."

Now, for you movie buffs, the innovative cinematography and subtle, yet clever, visual effects of the film will leave you espe-

cially impressed. Braff shows no limits in what he can do as a director.

Should you go see "Garden State?" My answer is yes, this film is truly an original masterpiece for our generation.



Photo courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures

## Don't fight traffic... destroy it!

BY CHRISTINE BALDWIN  
Pride Staff writer

Running a red light: \$250 fine. Causing a 14-car-pile up: \$60,000 in damages. Wreaking havoc and mayhem without leaving the couch: priceless. Burnout 3: Takedown for Playstation 2 (P2) and X-Box is a fast-paced, aggressive, and exhilarating racing game that rewards the player for slamming their car into a wall or on-coming traffic and causing massive amounts of demolition. I cannot think of a better way to end a stressful day of fighting real-life San Diego traffic than ramming my little red sports car into an 18-wheel semi without worrying about insurance. The third edition to



Photo courtesy of www.ign.com

the Burnout enterprise includes multiple race and crash modes, and multiple player modes that allow 2-16 players to experience a

"Party Crash". Burnout 3 boasts 100 different racing events on 40 race tracks with over 70 different cars. In addition, this game has added 7 online playing modes to enhance competition in the racing and crash modes. A major plus for this game is that the cars are easy to control and the more crashes that the player causes in the game, more race tracks will be unlocked. The tracks get progressively more difficult, but not frustratingly difficult. I find it rather exciting to play the same race track multiple times until I have caused the maximum amount of damage. The soundtrack to the game provides high-energy and stimulating background music that encourages the up-beat and fun atmosphere the game encourages.



Photo courtesy of www.ign.com

## Getting Involved

BY MARIBEL MAYO  
Pride Staff Writer

Ever wondered how you could get involved with the campus community? The Associate Students, Inc. (ASI) are offering new and exciting activities for students, staff and faculty this semester at the Field House.

There are a lot of opportunities for students, staff and faculty to get involved this semester with the increasing number of campus recreation activities, leisure and group fitness classes, intramural sports, and competitive sports that are being offered. "Many people aren't aware of what's going on down here [at the Field House] but ASI has a lot to offer," said Laurence Bolotin, Coordinator of Campus Recreation for

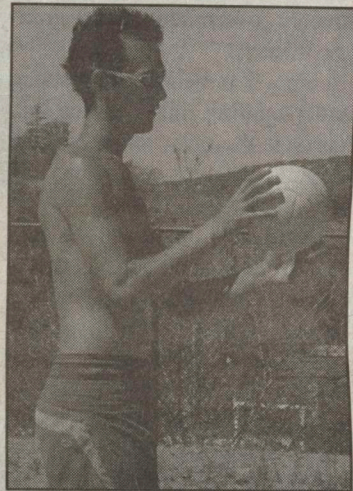


Photo by Christine Baldwin

which are free for students and \$50 for faculty and staff. ASI is also offering eight competitive club sports which are: men's baseball, women's softball, men and women's volleyball, co-ed surfing, women's dance, and men and women's soccer (all competitive sports require try-outs).

Not only is ASI offering these



Photo by Christine Baldwin

ASI.

This semester, ASI is offering three intramural sports, which include: basketball, dodge ball and volleyball with a small fee of \$15 per team. There are six leisure and group fitness classes which include: Abada- Capoeira (Brazilian Martial Arts), asthanga yoga, massage techniques, improv comedy training, circuit training, and step body works,

semester filled activities but they are also hosting a 5K Cougar Chase on October 17, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. Last semester about 500 students were involved in campus activities. Let's double it this semester Cougars! Feel free to stop by the Field House to pick up information on any of the activities being offered this semester.