

# THE COUGAR CHRONICLE

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS, INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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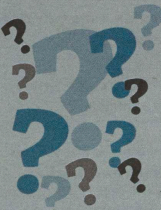
**Page 3** - Softball's Lady Cougars pitched double shut-outs last week. Read about how the Cougars crushed Hope International twice at home.

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## A & E

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## SPECIAL REPORT



**Matt Weaver**

### 700 students caught up in ASI election scandal

KRISTIN MELODY  
STAFF WRITER

Student Matt Weaver, who was arrested last month on suspicion of tampering with computer ballots in campus elections, is also under investigation for about 700 possible cases of identity theft from students, a Cal State San Marcos spokeswoman said last week.

"Yes that is true. We know that about 700 passwords and user names were compromised," said Margaret Lutz Chantung, a CSUSM public information officer. "I am not aware of any staff or faculty members compromised."

After discovering the account break-ins on March 15, the university's Instructional & Information Technology Services (IITS) locked the compromised accounts and the affected students were required to reset their passwords, she said.

Accusations tying Weaver to possible identity theft first arose after the university suspected someone had hacked into its computers and tampered with files in the elections for Associated Students Inc., the university reported last month.

The voting ---- all of which is done online ---- ran from March 12 to March 15. But instead of announcing election results on March 16, the university declared the elections invalid, and rescheduled them for May.

Weaver, a third year business major and one of two candidates running for ASI president, was arrested on the final day of online balloting, the university reported.

Weaver was jailed March 15 on suspicion of election fraud, unlawful access to a computer or database, and 10 counts of identity theft. He posted \$50,000 bail the following day, according to court records.

When arrested, Weaver had *Scandal continued on 2.*

### ASI Board of Directors discuss reelections

JULIANA STUMPP  
STAFF WRITER

The subject of re-election was a hot topic at the March 27 meeting of the Associated Student Body (ASI) Board of Directors.

Due to alleged illegal activity on a campus computer constituting election fraud, the elections that took place March 12 - 15 were deemed invalid. The issues of dishonest actions during the elections and the pending investigation were handed over to a different authority. This meeting was a discussion of reelection, not the investigation.

Kathy Rees, VP of Administration, said, "At this point we need to move forward with the information we do have."

"Students should have faith in the university and the upcoming election process...It was due to the diligence of IITS staff and ASI staff that this was discovered so that it was stopped before it could go any further," said Margaret Lutz Chantung, CSUSM Public Information Officer.

An action called to order was whether or not the ASI Elections Code 202 should be revised to include in the voting committee another administrator and two students not affiliated with ASI.

Currently on the Election Committee, there are a required minimum three members of Board of Directors *ASI continued on 2.*

## Administration rethinks student Internet policy in wake of ID thefts

MARCOS CHRON  
STAFF WRITER

In the wake of the theft of more than 700 student passwords this month, a university official said the campus is in the midst of a reconsideration of the student Internet usage policy.

Until now, Cal State San Marcos students were sent an email each semester suggesting that they change their passwords to avoid identity theft. Faculty members, by contrast, are required to change their passwords every 12 weeks.

Teresa Macklin, who works in the university's instructional and information technology services department, said that as the result of the identity crimes uncovered on campus this month, the university is reconsider-



ing its policy, and may require students to periodically change their passwords.

In the meantime, she advises students to be vigilant in protecting their privacy

online. "Students need to be careful where they're signing in. They shouldn't share their password, they should have a password that's sufficient-

ly complex and they need to get in [the system] and change it once in a while," Macklin said. "With what happened here, it just goes *Student continued on 2.*



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## Weapons sighted around campus

Three separate events spawn campus alerts

AMIRA EL-KHAULI  
STAFF WRITER

On Feb. 20 and March 20, campus alerts were issued regarding the sighting of armed individuals near campus. There were three reported incidents. Campus lockdown was not initiated on either date. The following accounts are according to campus alerts.

On Feb. 19, a male victim was approached by three Hispanic individuals with handguns. The victim was robbed

of his vehicle at the Campus Marketplace shopping center on Twin Oaks Valley Rd. at approximately 8:40 p.m. Another male victim was approached by three Hispanic individuals who stated that they were carrying a knife. The victim was robbed of his wallet at approximately 9:10 p.m. near the transit center on San Marcos Blvd.

On March 20, an individual was spotted disappearing into the woods near campus carrying a rifle.

Details were confirmed by Corporal Balos with the Cal State San Marcos Police Department. A recent inquiry to the San Diego County Sheriff's San Marcos Station determined that no arrests were made in the incidents occurring in February despite observations leading to a description of the perpetrators. There is also no police sketch available in either case.

**Student from 1.**  
to show that stuff can happen anywhere."

After the thefts were discovered, Macklin said the university "locked down" the affected students' accounts and the IT help desk helped these students get re-established with new online credentials. University faculty members were also advised by e-mail to work with any affected students whose homework assignments may have been delayed or lost by the lockdown.

Macklin could not comment on the involvement of CSUSM student Matt Weaver's involvement in the case or how the crime was detected,

Deputy Moses with the San Diego County Sheriff's San Marcos Station clarified that no confirmed rifle sighting occurred on March 20.

Students are encouraged to be aware of their surroundings. With a weapon sighting, Deputy Moses provides some guidelines: "First and foremost, call 911. Don't confront the individual, and don't make yourself known," said Moses.

**"First and foremost, call 911. Don't confront the individual and don't make yourself known."**  
-Deputy Moses

It should be noted that all 911 calls on campus will be routed to CSUSM police. Corporal Balos stated that if a lockdown were to occur, it would be initiated by campus dispatch.

In the instance of a robbery, Deputy Moses provided some advice. "Try to keep calm," said Moses. "Follow the instructions of the person. Speaking generally, they want to get something, and leave. Most criminals in that situation are just as scared as you are. Be a good witness."

Items to take note of are gender, height, complexion, hair, facial hair, sound of their voice, clothing, shoes, direction they left in, if they had a unique run or walk, if you heard a car peeling out shortly afterwards and anything else unique about what they looked like. An important detail to remember if available is a license plate number. Prevention measures include walking in pairs.

ed, other than to say "there are times when you might notice an unusual pattern of activity in the log files."

She also confirmed the university's report that the suspect student was arrested on suspicion of using a "device" to obtain fellow students' passwords. He was not using any sort of key-logging malware or software.

Macklin said affected students seem to be taking the identity theft issues in stride. "I've heard some anecdotal stories of some students being shocked, but there wasn't a lot of concern by students about the whole thing," she said.

### Scandal from 1.

in his possession a device that can be used to illegally obtain students' logins and passwords, according to a university report.

No charges were filed; Weaver's formal arraignment in March was postponed indefinitely as authorities continued their investigation.

The university declined to comment on whether Weaver has been expelled from the university.

Weaver was reached by email but declined to comment on the allegations.

Until Weaver is formally charged, it's hard to gauge what sort of legal consequences he may face, but one legal expert said that the commission of this type crime could lead to university punishment as well as a state trial.

"The alleged misuse of private computer information is extremely serious, it could conceivably justify expulsion," said David Steinberg, a law professor at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego. Criminal charges could be brought to a case like this, "you could conceivably charge the de-

### ASI from 1.

and three CSUSM students as well as ASI Executive Director, ASI Associate Executive Director and CSUSM Assistant Vice President of Administration.

When debating whether bringing in a third party is or is not crucial, Roger D'Andrea, Executive Director of ASI and advisor, said, "This is a time to be true to our codes. It sends a message that has more integrity."

fendant for 700 cases of internet fraud, or internet theft."

The courts take very seriously the importance of protecting the public's security on the Internet, Steinberg said.

"It is possible to look at this as a simple prank like something out of the 'Animal House' movie, but this is not a simple college prank," said Steinberg.

Weaver served as an editor of the Koala, an underground campus newspaper. Critics of the polarizing publication say its articles — one gave the "top five excuses for rape" — are offensive and cross the line into sexual harassment. Supporters raise free-speech arguments.

The Koala hasn't been distributed on campus since October, when a controversial issue depicted a female student with her head grafted on to a pornographic image, leading to complaints and protests from members of the Women's Studies department and a call from campus organizations for improved student civility.

Stephen Di Padova, a cartoonist who spent nearly a

year on the Koala staff with Weaver, said that in recent months Weaver had been trying to distance himself from the publication and move instead into student politics.

"He was far too uninterested in the perpetuation of the paper, and was in the process of trying to slide out of his implied position of the editor," said Di Padova, who also contributes to The Cougar Chronicle.

Other students interviewed on campus this week had mixed feelings on the case and Weaver.

"I'm sure he didn't think through that it was a serious crime," said Krista, a sophomore who asked that her last name not be used. "I'm sure he was under a lot of pressure being associated with the Koala."

Student Andrea Hook is no fan of the Koala and said that she felt Weaver practiced a double-standard in his writing for the publication.

"He would write for freedom of speech, but not for freedom of privacy," Hook said.

Jessie Gambrell contributed to this article.

week of May 7 – 10.

Sara Gallegos, the Associate Executive Director of ASI, commented on what changes they will make to protect the election: "We are looking into different options...It is still not determined."

"Unfortunately, elections will be around finals week, which is a disadvantage to those rerunning," said Travis Wilson, current President and CEO of ASI.

## ON THE ELECTION SCANDAL

JESSIE GAMBRELL  
STAFF WRITER

**"I know a lot of my friends had to change their passwords. I think they are handling it right."**

- Emily Alexander, freshman

**"It shows how desperate he was, no one would have voted for him anyway. I'm glad they arrested him."**

- Candace

**"Everybody has a right to win, but you have to win fairly, you don't need to change the vote for you."**

- Nina Gillette

**"He should have had more time in jail and maybe they should do the next election on paper with a booth and all that."**

- Diana Toma, freshman

**"That sucks for him. He shouldn't have done that, it was stupid of him."**

- Manny

**"That guy's a genius, aside from doing it on campus."**

- Justin

**"I think he did it to get attention and to purposefully get caught. He was totally asking for it."**

- Tiffany, freshman

**"That's not surprising that he was part of the Koala."**

- Rose Jauregui, freshman

**"I'm sure he didn't think through that it was a serious crime. I'm sure he was under a lot of pressure being associated with the Koala."**

- Krista, sophomore

\*Editor's Note: Some students asked that their last names and student standings be withheld for privacy purposes

STUDENT VOICES



## THE HEART BEAT

### Why you shouldn't skip breakfast

CURTIS BOVEE  
STAFF WRITER

In the United States, breakfast is often overlooked as a result of the hectic lifestyles that many of us have fallen into. Unfortunately, skipping breakfast has proven to be detrimental to one's health.

Getting a healthy start in the morning by eating a nutritious breakfast will allow your body to reap major benefits.

According to the National Institute of Health (NIH), people who eat breakfast are less likely to be overweight than those who skip breakfast regardless of if they eat more throughout the day. Furthermore, eating breakfast affects your satiety center, influencing how full you feel during the day, preventing impulsive snacking and

binge eating.

Whether you are hungry or not in the morning, you should still eat something. Breakfast provides the energy you need to begin your day and can boost your mood, according to the NIH.

Additionally, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), eating a nutritional breakfast has been linked to positive short-term effects on cognitive functioning and alertness in college students. Knowing that eating breakfast can potentially cause you to excel in academics should be more than enough reason to start doing it.

While it is extremely important to your health to eat breakfast, what you're eating is just as important. Eat foods that are more satiating during breakfast, includ-

ing fruits, vegetables, lean meats, whole grains, legumes, nuts and seeds. Eating these foods not only during breakfast but throughout the day will cause you to feel full longer, preventing unnecessary eating or snacking.

It is important to avoid eating foods with added sugars as these foods have no contribution to satiety and will ultimately cause you to eat more throughout the day. Instead of eating high sugar foods, try eating a breakfast with more fiber; you'll eat the same amount of food, while eating less calories and being full for longer.

Take the extra 20 minutes in the morning to create a healthy breakfast pattern. Not only will you feel better, but you might also increase academic performance and energy throughout your day.

## #1 softball cruises to victory 8-0, 5-0

Lady Cougars pitch double shutouts against Hope International

ALEX FRANCO  
STAFF WRITER

A cool, breezy Thursday evening in San Marcos saw the #1 nationally ranked CSUSM softball team exert their power over Hope International University, sweeping them in a double header. The first game was an easy victory for CSUSM as they won handily 8-0 in five innings.

Game two of the series was just as dominant as the lady Cougars scored right off the bat in the first inning with a RBI single from sophomore Alex Miller driving in Kaitlin McGinley. The Cougars scored in three straight innings from the third to the fifth, solidifying their victory and showing exactly why they are number 1 in the nation.

The player of the game was

by far senior infielder, Alyssa Dronenburg, who went 2-3 on the day with a second inning solo homerun and a double late in the game. Senior Theresa Houle also helped the girls to victory with a 3-3 day which included a RBI.

The top ranked Cougars were catalyzed by the strong pitching of freshman Katie Wilkinson who pitched a strong five innings for the team, allowing just two hits and striking out three HIU players.

"Our pitching staff has been doing really well. Almost half of our wins, have been by shut-out (16). Plus, we are hitting really well, which actually gives our defense confidence. Our pitch-



Senior member, Alyssa Dronenburg, waits for the perfect pitch before swinging the bat.  
Photo by Alex Franco

ers and defense can play a lot more relaxed when we have a 5 or 6 run lead," Head Coach, Dave Williams said.

This counts as the 25th win in the last 26 games for women's softball. Look for the Cougars to continue their dominance at the next home game this Thursday, April 5 against Vanguard.

## CSUSM baseball splits doubleheader against San Diego Christian

ALEX FRANCO  
STAFF WRITER

The Cougar baseball team looked to improve its new national ranking late Friday afternoon against San Diego Christian.

The Cougars began the day with a close loss to SDC, losing the first game 5-3. Stranded runners and lack of hits enough plagued the Cougars in their game one loss. The third inning was where they really had their chance to pull away when they scored two runs off Anthony Renteria and Austin Coleman RBI singles to take a 2-1 lead but the two were ultimately left stranded when the team failed to continue the rally.

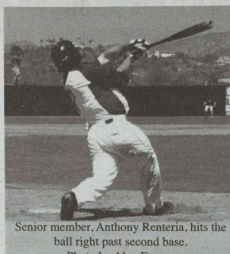
The pitching staff also gained 14 hits all together in the game, losing the 2-1 lead after SDC scored three

runs in the fourth inning, gaining a lead they wouldn't give up for the rest of the game. SDC added an extra run in the ninth inning to lock up the Cougars.

The Cougars bounced back in the second game rallying late in the bottom of the sixth inning scoring a total of five runs to beat SDC 7-6.

Centerfielder Trent Jemett led the Cougars going 2-4 with a double and two RBI's and hit a pivotal two run double in the sixth inning rally to tie the game at six and ultimately coming around to score and put the Cougars ahead for the win.

"Great comeback in the second game, but we needed to play with a little more intensity overall," head coach



Senior member, Anthony Renteria, hits the ball right past second base.  
Photo by Alex Franco

Dennis Pugh said about the team's performances on the day.

"This has been our toughest schedule in my six years here and I'm proud that we are competing at a high level," Pugh said.

The number 23 ranked Cougars are now 20-12 on the season and play again at home April 14 against Point Loma.

## Athlete spotlight: Ashley Aronson

JESSIE GAMBRELL  
STAFF WRITER

With the surfing national championships coming up in June, I got a chance to talk with CSUSM's Surf Team captain: Ashley Aronson.

**Jessie Gambrell:** What sports have/had you been involved in?

**Ashley Aronson:** Just surfing since 2010. We got to go to the semi-final championships at the Huntington Beach competitions.

**JG:** How long have you been team captain?

**AA:** Just one season, this semester and last.

**JG:** How long have you been at CSUSM?

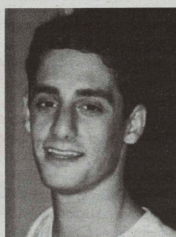
**AA:** I have been at Cal State since 2010. I transferred from Mira Costa.

**JG:** What is your major here?

**AA:** Visual Arts, and I graduate in December of this year.

**JG:** What are your plans for when you graduate?

**AA:** Working in the surfing industry in marketing or something or with my current employers, Red Bull.



**JG:** How has/is your experience been at CSUSM?

**AA:** So far Cal State has been good. We (the surf team) have a lot of help from our Faculty Advisor, Amber Puha. We are looking to get a National Championship this year. We won in 2009, so that is our ultimate goal. We have Nationals coming up at Salt Creek on June 14 - 17 through the National Inter-scholastic Scholarship.

**JG:** What do you like to do in your spare time?

**AA:** I surf a lot, snowboard, I'm a painter, and I love shooting and editing videos. I stay busy with two jobs. I don't have a whole lot of free time.

## MLB southern California preview

### Angels, Dodgers, Padres have eyes on prize

ALEX FRANCO  
STAFF WRITER

Finally, after a five month hiatus, baseball lovers of all ages will get a new Major League Baseball (MLB) season. It's the return of the aroma of freshly cut grass, foot-long hot dogs and buttered popcorn that only MLB opening days can bring.

The season kicks off Wednesday, April 4 when the defending World Series Champions, the St. Louis Cardinals take on the newly named Miami Marlins. The remainder of the teams will begin their seasons April 5 - 6 and hunt for October begins.

Southern California will look to once again return to promise land that is the playoffs, with local teams like the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, San Diego Padres and the Los Angeles Dodgers building on promising 2011 seasons and making some important off-season moves. Look for these teams to make it awfully difficult for other teams to make it out of SoCal a winner.

The San Diego Padres finished dead last in the National League (NL) west division last year with a 71-91.

The Padres will be looking to make their way out of the basement of the MLB and make great strides in progress as they look toward continuing the rebuilding process. Padres added power

to their lineup this off-season with the acquisition of outfielder Carlos Quentin. The Padres lost all-star closing pitcher Heath Bell but replaced him with veteran closer Huston Street.

The Angels made some huge noise this off-season with the signing of future hall of fame first basemen, Albert Pujols and All-Star pitcher C.J. Wilson. The Angels finished second in their division at 86-76. Expect the Angels to be the favorites to win the American League (AL) west division with their juggernaut offense.

The Angels aren't the only team in LA, the Dodgers also call LA home and were just purchased by an interest group which included NBA hall-of-famer and former Lakers great Magic Johnson to the tune of \$2 billion. The Dodgers are coming off a season where they finished strong down the stretch and ended the season with a record of 82-79. Dodgers re-signed All-Star center-fielder and MVP runner-up Matt Kemp and have the Cy Young award winner for best pitcher in the NL in Clayton Kershaw who looks to only get stronger after winning 21 games last season.

Dodgers and Padres open up the season April 5, in San Diego's Petco Park, while the Angels begin the season April 7 against the Kansas City Royals in Anaheim.

### SCORE REPORT

3/15 Men's Baseball  
v.s. Biola

L 5 8

W 3 2

3/16 Men's Baseball  
v.s. Biola

W 10 2

W 3 1

3/20 Women's Golf at  
Chico State Wildcat  
Invitational placed 7th out  
of 7 teams

3/20 Men's Baseball  
v.s. Sioux Falls

W 15 5

3/21 Women's Softball v.s.  
U. of British Columbia

W 10 2

v.s. Hastings

W 7 2

W 11 1

3/22 Women's Softball  
v.s. St. Gregory's University

L 2 4

W 8 0

3/23 Men's Baseball  
v.s. Arizona Ch.

W 16 7

W 6 3

3/23 Women's Golf at Spring  
Fling Invitational placed 5th  
out of 10 teams

3/24 Men's Baseball  
v.s. Arizona Ch.

W 8 6

W 7 4

3/27 Men's Golf at Prim  
Invitational placed 5th out of  
16 teams

3/27 Men's Golf at Prim  
Invitational placed 5th out of  
14 teams

3/29 Women's Softball  
v.s. Hope International

W 8 0

W 5 0

3/30 Men's Baseball  
v.s. SD Christian

L 3 5

W 7 6

3/31 Men's Baseball  
v.s. SD Christian

L 0 2

W 15 0



# Pride Center raises awareness with "Gaypril"

MELISSA MARTINEZ  
STAFF WRITER

The Pride Center is hosting various events for "Gaypril," dedicating the entire month of April to celebrating and supporting the LGBTQA community.

Various events will take place either in the Pride Center or elsewhere on campus to provide awareness of ways to support the LGBTQA community and information on becoming an ally.

The Pride Center hopes that in creating a month-long celebration, the message of its existence on campus will be presented.

"The Pride Center is an important place for both the LGBTQA community as well as allies. We offer a place of safety and acceptance for students, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation," Brandon Torres, Communications Specialist at the Pride Center and occasional writer

at "The Cougar Chronicle," said.

In light of the recent controversial debate regarding sexuality in politics, officials of the Pride Center believe it is important to spread awareness as well as offer a safe zone and inform students of their opportunity to become an ally.

"Attending our events and giving your support to our community is the biggest step one could take in showing their ally-ship. Being an

ally is more than just a vote; it's being willing to support LGBTQA individuals, even when it may be inconvenient," Torres said.

Each week will have a different theme to celebrate a sexual identity. The first week will be lesbian week, the second week will be gay week, the following week will be bisexual week and the concluding week will be transsexual week.

The Pride Center will be hosting an event every day of

the month, some smaller in scale than others, including movie and television marathons, as well as educational tabling that is interactive and fun in the Library Plaza. The larger events include a drag competition for all students to participate in, as well as five interactive art and a campus-wide Pride Walk for all students to walk alongside the LGBTQ community and show their support.

"In our culture, there's still an idea that it's okay to bully

and harass LGBTQ people. This month we're going to assert ourselves on campus and show that we're not a community that lies down and allows ourselves to be demonized. We want our community to know we're present and here to stay," Torres said.

For more information, please visit the Pride Center located in Commons 201.

## Rape Aggression Defense courses to be held in April

REBEKAH GREEN  
STAFF WRITER

This April, CSUSM will hold a Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) course for women.

The course will provide female students with different techniques for self-defense while continuing to spread and inform awareness for matters involving sexual assault and violence.

The course consists of four classes on April 9, 11, 16 and 18 from 4 - 7 p.m. and will take place at the University Police Department, located at the Parking and Commuter Services building near the campus Sprinter station. The Student Health and Counseling Services (SHCS) Hope and Wellness Center, University Police Department and the Women's Center are in collaboration with the event.

Students participating in the course will receive their own manuals regarding the "Physical Defense Program."

According to a statistic listed on the R.A.D. course website, 71 percent of sexual assault victims have avoided rape with the knowledge and use of self-defense.

The defense program acts as an important way to spread awareness of rape. The courses are a safe and informative way to empower and dispel the victim mentality.

The course is \$20 for new R.A.D. students and can be paid for at the University Police Department.

Those wanting to participate can RSVP at [www.csusm.edu/police/RAD.html](http://www.csusm.edu/police/RAD.html) or call (760) 750-4567.

For more information on dates, times, contact information and the specific directions of the R.A.D. course, including quick tips on student safety and awareness, visit [www.csusm.edu/police/RAD.html](http://www.csusm.edu/police/RAD.html).

## Son of notable medical figure speaks in Escondido

JESSIE GAMBRELL  
STAFF WRITER

David "Sonny" Lacks came to Escondido for a discussion hosted by CSUSM's Associate Vice President for Educational Equity and Diversity, Derrick Crawford, on Tuesday, March 13.

Sonny Lacks' mother, Henrietta Lacks, grew up in Clover, Virginia during the 1920s. On Sept. 19, 1950, she was diagnosed with cervical cancer when doctors found a tumor in her cervix. After a hard battle with the cancer and multiple surgeries, she died on October 4, 1951.

But something happened before she died that changed the face of the medical field. During a surgery to remove her tumor, Dr. Johns Hopkins saved a few of her cells without her permission for research on Polio, an epidemic at the time. Once sent to Dr. George Gey, the research head of this project,

Gey discovered that Lacks' cells did not die unlike the hundreds of cells tested before her cells.

Almost 20 years later, they had taken her cells to space and back, as well as discovered cures for many diseases. And yet her family still was not informed of it. In spite of now knowing of it, Lacks' family is still not being compensated for it, and many of them do not have health insurance.

"[An apology from Johns Hopkins University] would have been important to the family, I think. They have not apologized. I don't think we should be compensated, but as they start commercializing her cells, I do think that we should be compensated for that. I still don't have medical insurance—most of my family still [doesn't] have medical insurance," Sonny Lacks said.

Crawford also asked Lacks what he knew about his

mother.

"They always tell me that my mother was a giving person. I like all the stories they said about my mother. Everything they told me about her was good. Even when she was sick, she'd come home and take care of the kids," Lacks said.

Crawford then asked Lacks and his daughter Jeri what they think their mother's legacy is.

"[Her legacy] is a gift. Just reading this book touches everybody's lives. She is just a gift that keeps giving," Jeri said.

The event was followed by a Q&A discussion from the audience.

The legacy of Henrietta Lacks and her immortal cells can be read about in Rebecca Skloot's book "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks."

Rebecca Skloot's book, "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks," celebrates Lacks' life and legacy.

## The Clarke to host stress management event during Wellness Month

JESSIE GAMBRELL  
STAFF WRITER

of April with a Wellness Fair in the middle.

Are you stressed out? Come to the Clarke's Stress Management event Thursday, April 5 from 5 - 7 p.m. hosted by CSUSM professor Ileen Miller.

The event will teach students different techniques on breathing, yoga and how to de-stress.

"I am really excited. [Ileen Miller] is a nutritionist and my professor and is really good at helping you find a way to distress. She helps find what works for you," Health and Wellness intern Julia Barnes said.

The Stress Management event is during the Clarke's Wellness Month that helps encourage students to either get into shape or to maintain and/or gain a healthier body and way of life. Wellness Month lasts the whole month

The Wellness Fair will be held on April 17 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. This year's fair will include Clarke Wellness Connection vendors and organizations to provide information on intellectual, emotional and physical wellness as well as free food.

If you attend the Wellness Fair, you receive 20 Wellness Bucks, which act as tokens for the chance to win a mountain bike among many other prizes, such as gift cards and The Clarke water bottles. Also, every hour of working out at the gym from April 25 - 30, can earn you a Wellness buck.

To find out more about the Stress Management event, Wellness Fair or anything related to Wellness Month, visit [www.csusm.edu/theclarke/wellness/index.html](http://www.csusm.edu/theclarke/wellness/index.html).

Read more articles on the TOMS shoes organization's awareness day, Saul Landau's upcoming documentary presentation, the complete history of April Fools Day and a review of Casino Night at [csusmpride.com](http://csusmpride.com)

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## César Chávez: Latino icon for change

Migrant workers' rights activist honored for legacy

DANE A. VANDERVELDEN  
STAFF WRITER

Holding permanent vigil at the top of the staircases to the left of the school library stands Cal State San Marcos's tribute to one of the most highly regarded Latino civil rights activists in modern history: a life-sized metallic sculpture of César Estrada Chávez.

Perched above the saying, "Sí, se puede" (Chávez's personal slogan, meaning "Yes, it is possible" or "Yes, it can be done"), the statue pays homage to the numerous advancements Chávez made in the steep uphill battle for immigrant workers' rights.

Whereas CSUSM honors Chávez with this sculpture, March 31 has been designated as César Chávez Day by the states, Colorado, Texas and California. Across these three states, many public schools, community colleges, libraries and other state government offices close for the day to honor the memory

of Chávez's work, as well.

According to the César Chávez Foundation website, Chávez was born March 31, 1927 in Yuma, Arizona to a Mexican-American family. Chávez's family owned a ranch and grocery store, but eventually lost them both to the turmoil of the Great Depression.

Forced to seek work, Chávez's family headed west to California to become migrant workers. It was there that Chávez began to encounter the struggles that his fellow Mexican-Americans were experiencing on a daily basis.

After graduating the eighth grade, Chávez worked the fields for two years to help support his family before suiting up and serving in the U.S. Navy for two years.

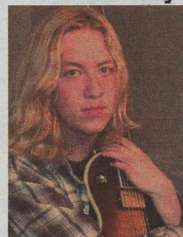
Upon returning to civilian life, Chávez went back to the fields but quickly established himself as an organizer for the Community Service Organization (CSO), a Latino civil rights group. He traveled the country urg-

ing Mexican Americans to register to vote, and also delivered speeches on the rights of migrant workers. He would eventually become the organization's president in 1958.

In 1962, Chávez left the CSO and co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), another organization geared solely toward the advancement of immigrant workers. Throughout the 60s, 70s and 80s, Chávez would lead numerous strikes across the nation in pursuit of wage hikes for the various immigrant fruit and vegetable pickers. He rarely initiated a strike that did not succeed in its goal.

Chávez passed away in 1993, but since then, his legacy has made him as a revered historical icon in the Latino community. His active support for immigrant workers and his unwavering faith in the ability of grassroots movements to bring about national change have become legendary.

## In Memory of Madison Dexter Howe



KYLE M. JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

A memorial service for CSUSM student Madison Howe was held at the McMahon house on April 1, just one week after his passing.

Prior to the service, Madison's parents greeted guests, consisting of friends, family, students and faculty, among other relations. His parents expressed genuine interest in hearing about how those unfamiliar to them had known their son.

Nearby, a table was set up with photos of Madison, some of his favorite books including works by George Orwell and Thomas Paine, and a sign in sheet and album in which guests could write about their fondest memories of Madison.

Following a performance of traditional bagpipe music, the service began with

a prayer, a brief word from the pastor and a reading of Psalm 23.

Madison's father, Haydn, then delivered a eulogy, which spoke highly of Madison's gracious attitude, even in times of pain when he was being treated for his peripheral pulmonary arterial stenosis, a condition which affected the arteries in his lungs. At one point in the eulogy, Haydn said how he would love to tell everyone about his son, but that Madison would not want him to, so as to preserve every person's individual perception of him.

Shortly after, a communal eulogy took place in which anyone in attendance could share a brief anecdote about his or her relationship with Madison. A consensus was reached amidst the stories shared, and that was that Madison was a genuinely good person who selflessly gave of himself to everyone around him, greatly enriching lives.

As a gift to those in attendance, and representative of Madison's enthusiasm and talent for playing guitar, each guest was given a guitar pick.

An essay, written by Madison when he was 17 years

old, entitled "Why is Life so Hard" was included in the memorial program and read aloud by the pastor.

In the essay, Madison set out to answer such questions as "Why is life so hard?" and "Why do I exist?" Throughout the essay, he addresses his personal insecurities, namely defining himself and finding his purpose, and overcoming those insecurities. He then addresses his illness, and instead of allowing it to inhibit him, he states, "You just do what you have to do to stay alive."

With his inspiring philosophy, and the referencing of the philosophies of Viktor E. Frankl and Fyodor Dostoevsky, Madison made a powerful conclusion.

"I have come to realize that without negatives there will never be any positives," Madison wrote.

His ability to accept his illness as a negative, and also as a way to see things positively, allowed Madison to find his purpose in his suffering.

"Simply existing seems now to be a great purpose, and still, as young as I am, I have many years to go," Madison wrote.

Photo scanned from the memorial program.



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# CSUSM is not 'Animal House'

KIT-BACON GRESSITT  
GUEST COLUMNIST

A newspaper headline caught my eye recently: "Animal avoidance leads to costly collision." It brought to mind CSUSM student government candidate and Koala editor Matt Weaver, who was arrested the final day of March's ASI elections for suspicion of election fraud, identity theft, and unlawful access to a computer or database.

Weaver helped launch the CSUSM edition of The Koala, one of three owned by the privately owned, for-profit

company, in January 2011. There have been many times since then that the university administration could have acted to moderate Weaver and his Koalan cohorts (if not The Koala's owner) by condemning their discriminatory content and directly ameliorating their effects on the campus community. Instead, the administration avoided confrontation.

The administration did take its head out of the sand after The Koala published a doctored pornographic image of a student, initiating possible disciplinary action against several Koalans for alleged

student conduct code violations. But in a Nov. 2, 2011 letter, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education sent CSUSM President Karen Haynes a threat of legal action if the process was not stopped immediately. The letter read in part that Haynes would be "at risk of losing qualified immunity, thereby opening you and other administrators to personal liability should one of the students seek monetary damages for the deprivation of his or her First Amendment rights." No surprise: The administration withdrew into passive mode.

Apparently emboldened by the persistent lack of censure, Weaver now finds himself charged with multiple felonies. But is he the only person potentially guilty of unacceptable behavior in the campus' seemingly permissive environment?

How about the other candidates accused of running as a slate, a violation of the university election code?

How about the ASI "higher ups" who supposedly leaked early election returns to a favored student candi-

date?

How about the staff member accused of berating students at a campus candidate forum for exercising their free speech right?

How about the administration whose reluctance to act condones harassment and discrimination, cheating and verbal abuse?

CSUSM is not "Animal House." We live in a real

world, where words wound, where harassment inhibits learning, where wayward college students go to prison—a world where the administration's avoidance of confrontation leads to costly collisions between campus community standards and people who feel entitled to defy them. Nope, compared to CSUSM, "Animal House" looks like kindergarten.

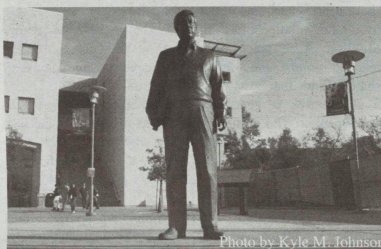


Photo by Kyle M. Johnson

## Should CSUSM take César Chávez Day off?

JESSIE GAMBRELL  
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, CSUSM took a holiday in honor of César Chávez.

César Chávez Day is a holiday that celebrates a man who fought for Mexican-Americans, who worked farms in the U.S., to have equal rights and to be treated respectfully. He helped them to get decent labor treatment, such as fresh water and bathrooms to use on the job. He was also a big activist for the unionization of farm laborers.

Our school has a statue of him at the top of the César Chávez stairs, in honor of him because CSUSM is located in a very agricultural region.

This is one reason our school decided to take César Chávez Day off in place of Presidents' Day. All Cal State Universities have to take the same amount of days off. In February, some students wrote chalk on some stairways questioning why Presidents' Day was not favored over César Chávez Day. Other students don't mind the observance of this holiday.

"I know we have the César Chávez statue, so it is like we are celebrating him like our mascot. It kind of makes us different. I don't have any hard feelings about it," freshman Bonnie Miami said.

Presidents' Day is a national holiday celebrating first U.S. president, George Washington's, birthday. Since 1879, most schools, colleges, businesses, the

entire military and government have taken this federal holiday off. Why doesn't CSUSM?

Many students felt very strongly in opposition toward the fact that our school takes this day off instead of Presidents' Day:

"This is America. Honor the holiday that honors our presidents," freshman Bret Unity said.

"I think we honor [Chávez] enough. We should give our American presidents a day," senior Weston Ryan said.

Personally I feel that we should observe (only) César Chávez Day as respect for a man who fought for civil equal rights for farm workers and who achieved the "American Dream", but not in place of our American presidents. One of the great things about our country is the courage and bravery of our Founding Fathers and past presidents, so why ever would we not honor them? They made the backbone for our nation; that in itself should be reason enough to have Presidents' Day off, let alone the fact that a majority of students do not even have classes on Fridays, so Presidents' Day would be more of a holiday for the entire campus. So what can we do? Have our voice be heard and speak out, this is the best way that we as students can get things done, our voices and opinions are our main tools for standing up for what is right and I believe that it is our duty as American citizens to stand up for what is right.



## Tales from the nerd side:

Could Bioware's recent response to fans start a new trend in gaming?

CHRIS GIANCAMILI  
STAFF WRITER

Last month, Bioware's "Mass Effect 3" was released to critical acclaim from many review websites such as IGN.com, Gamespot.com and IUP.com. While professional reviewers are pleased with the game, die-hard fans of the series have their objections to the game's ending.

The Mass Effect series has always stressed the importance of the player's decisions within the game's storyline leading to numerous outcomes and endings. In the previous games, endings

would be specifically tailored to the choices players made. These choices would determine whether certain characters would live or die and the fate of several key locations. In "Mass Effect 3" however, the endings don't quite reach the same level of uniqueness.

Fans started several social media campaigns including "Retake Mass Effect - Child's Play." The group, set up through the website Chipin.com, was established to raise funds for the Child's Play charity while raising awareness for their dissatisfaction with "Mass Effect

3's" ending. Though the group is no longer accepting donations, "Retake Mass Effect" has accumulated more than \$80,000 for the Child's Play charity.

Thankfully, their pleas have not gone unnoticed. On March 21, Bioware co-founder Dr. Ray Muzyka responded in the blog section of Bioware.com.

"...Exec. Producer Casey Hudson and the team are hard at work on a number of game content initiatives that will help answer the questions, providing more clarity for those seeking further closure to their journey. You'll

hear more on this in April," said Muzyka.

Muzyka's post signals an important victory for the petitioners and fans alike—it lets fans know that developers are listening. The creators care about the fans' reactions to the game and are trying to resolve the issues.

Whether Bioware's update to the game is well received by the fans remains to be seen. Hopefully, other developers will take notice of the effort fans have gone through to change a franchise they care for.

## Alleged election dishonesty from satire publication's editor

Should CSUSM have expected this?

FREDRICK MISLEH  
STAFF WRITER

When the news broke over Spring Break that alleged election fraud occurred in the ASI elections, I was pretty shocked. I thought to myself, "How could those running be that corrupt?" Then I heard it was Matt Weaver, an editor of The Koala, a satire publication that has recently gone quiet on the CSUSM campus. To me, that explained everything.

No one should be shocked by Weaver's actions. His publication, The Koala, is barely tolerated by the administration as an expression of our constitutional

rights to free speech and free press, even if the publication lists ten steps to commit

rape and not get caught. Weaver's involvement with the publication is an indicator of his character: foolish, arrogant, and corrupt.

Weaver wanted to be ASI president, but he felt the rules didn't apply to him; maybe no one had ever held him accountable to social rules we all essentially follow. No one told him issues like rape and drug abuse are not acceptable to joke about, nor did anyone tell him unlawful access to a computer/database, identity theft and election fraud (the three charges Weaver was indicted

for) were not only illegal and would land him in jail but also were socially irresponsible and publicly embarrassing.

In one sense, however, the student body is lucky Weaver was never told he couldn't rig elections; now we don't run the risk of Weaver's disruptive behavior representing CSUSM beyond the pages of The Koala.



Matt Weaver

Photo provided by Kit-Bacon Gressitt



## Student A: "Almost There" by Faith Orcino



## Posthumous novel gives insight into early beat writing

KYLE M. JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

Published in 2008, over 60 years after it was written, "And the Hippos were Boiled in their Tanks" reveals the early writing styles of its authors, Jack Kerouac and William S. Burroughs.

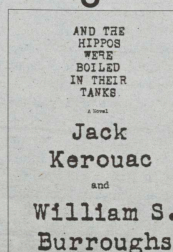
Written a significant amount of time before their most notable novels, Kerouac's "On the Road" and Burroughs' "Naked Lunch," "And the Hippos were Boiled in their Tanks" provides readers with fascinating insights into the Beat Generation's origins. The novel shares a certain prematurity in contrast to the writers' respective moments when they reached their prime.

With each writer alternating narrators, Kerouac as Mike Ryko and Burroughs

as Will Dennison, the novel tells the story of a group of friends in New York, a few of whom are making efforts at shipping out. As they wait for an opportunity to leave, they spend their free time interacting at bars, each others' homes, movie theaters and through some of the group's shared interest in poetry, while experimenting with substances and their sexualities.

The murder subplot, which occurs towards the end of the novel, acts as the main inspiration for the story's existence. The book is based on a murder which took place among the real-life Beats in the 1940s.

While the writing is not as impressive as the authors' later works, the plot is enjoyable and the storytelling is easy to become involved



with.

The characters, mostly all living intoxicatingly carefree lives, provide a warm, comfortable atmosphere in which readers can feel welcome.

As with most early works by notable writers, "And the Hippos were Boiled in their Tanks" allows readers to, in a sense, time-travel to experience the Beat Generation in its early years.

## Campus Improv Team draws crowds

MARCOS CHRON  
STAFF WRITER

The Improv Show left their crowd with a great start to Spring Break by showing hilarious acts in their performances Friday, March 15. To start off the night, The Combos introduced themselves as a band from San Diego who recently performed their shows.

Team captains Aaron Chase Molina-Milbourne and Nicole Hernandez were given roses and chocolate from the Improv Team members to show how much they appreciate their hard work and dedication to the Improv Team.

The Improv Team welcomes their newest members, Ryan (Kenny) Sufbridge, Caitlan Mueller, Nicole (Iggy-Pop) Ignell, Justin Martin, and Tyson Lo Presti to their team. Newest member Nicole Ignell said, "It feels awesome to be a part of the CSUSM Improv Team my freshman year of college. I love the friends I've made



Members of the CSUSM Improv Team take a quick photograph after their March 15 performance. Their next show will be April 20. Photo by Arely Ramos

from going to practices and shows. I am excited to perform in my next show."

There are still three more chances to witness their incredible impromptu humor on April 20, April 27 and May 11. The shows are split into two parts, beginning at 7 p.m. for family and 8:30 p.m. for a more mature audience. Also, for any underground bands that would like to perform, the Improv Team is looking for bands to play at their show\$.

Come out and support the Improv Team at their next show in Arts 111 on April 20 from 7 p.m. (family friendly) through 8:30 p.m. (adults only) show. To receive updates and more information, you can "like" their Facebook page at facebook.com/CSUSM.Comedy.Improv.Team.

If you are considering being a new member of their team, keep your eyes and ears open for auditions the beginning of each semester.

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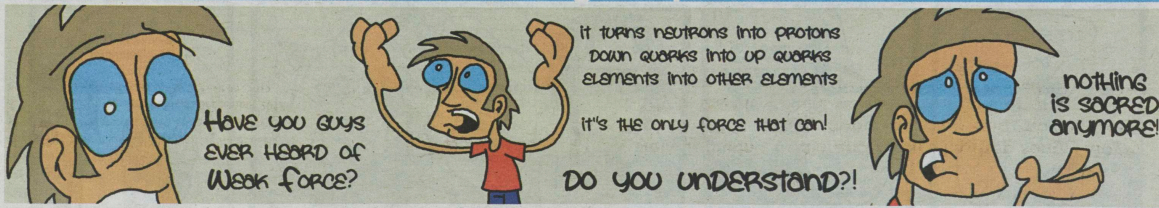
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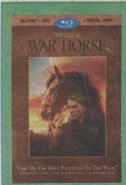
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## Fun with Science by Stephen Di Padova



## Dropping

REBEKAH GREEN  
STAFF WRITER

**"War Horse"**  
Steven Spielberg's "War Horse" (based on Michael Morpurgo's children's novel) follows the trials of a young man named Albert and his horse Joey from their time in the beautiful British countryside to the ravaged trenches of World War I.

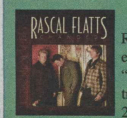


**"We Bought A Zoo"**  
After the death of his wife, Benjamin Mee (Matt Damon) buys a new home which just happens to include an old zoo. Mee decides to try to renovate the zoo, and despite possible financial hardships, the effort creates a new-found hope for the family. The film is based on Benjamin Mee's memoir.



**Nicki Minaj**  
Nicki Minaj's second album is "Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded." "Starships" and "Right by My Side" are the first two singles released.

The album features many guest artists like Lil Wayne, Nas, and Drake. The deluxe edition of "Roman Reloaded" will include a few bonus tracks and a t-shirt with the album's colorful artwork.



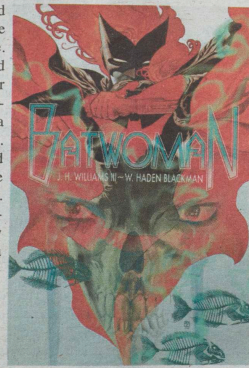
**Rascal Flatts**  
Rascal Flatts' newest studio album is "Changed." The country band formed in 2000 and has a wide demographic of fans. Each of their albums reached platinum certification.

The comic book corner:  
"Batwoman" Series Receives 2012 GLAAD Media AwardFAITH ORCINO  
STAFF WRITER

On March 24, The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) honored the creative team of the 2011 comic book series "Batwoman" with an award for Outstanding Comic Book. This is the second time the lesbian character, Kate Kane (a.k.a. Batwoman), received this recognition. She won in the same category in 2010 after briefly taking over "Detective Comics" in issues #854-860. The rest of the nominees for this year were "Avengers: The Children's Crusade," "Secret Six," "Veronica Presents: Kevin Keller" and "X-Factor" (2011 winner).

Though Batwoman existed for over half a century through many different personas, her modern revival as

Kate Kane created a dynamic change to the DC Universe. She lived a troubled past and found her calling after a confrontation with a thief and Batman. Kane encountered many trials before finding her identity. The collection "Batwoman: Elegy" by writer Greg Rucka and artist J. H. Williams III contains the 2010 GLAAD recognized story arc which former First Lieutenant Daniel Choi of the National Guard helped on her military back story. DC Comics later released her solo series with the "New 52" reboot with J.H. Williams and W. Hayden Blackman as writers. In June, "Batwoman



Volume One: Hydrology" will hit shelves, containing issues #0-5 of her series. Find other comics featuring Kate Kane in local shops and online. For more information about GLAAD, visit [glaad.org](http://glaad.org)

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## THE COUGAR SHUFFLE

ASHLEY DAY  
STAFF WRITER

It's springtime: a time where we are juggling essays and tests, trying to balance a social life and slim down for summer. Exercise is something all students should try to fit into their daily regimen. There are exercise playlists everywhere, but there's always an unheard song that can inspire you to finish those last few reps. Here are some songs that keep me fighting through my routine.

"Blackout" by Breathe Carolina is the first song on my playlist. The electronic beats propel me through my warm up. The chorus says, "I'm only getting started, I won't blackout." This is inspirational because it keeps you pushing through from the start.

Chris Brown's latest single, "Turn Up The Music" is catchy and up tempo, so it makes for a perfect workout song. It's a good idea to use it in the beginning of the workout because it keeps you motivated.

Though J. Cole's song, "Work Out" isn't necessarily talking about exercise, the title goes along with the theme and the song is fast paced, which gives you energy.

Nelly featuring T-Pain and Akon's hip-hop song, "Move That Body" is talking about dancing and moving your body in the club, but it's also inspirational as an exercise song. You can move your body through those last couple of reps.

By the end of your workout you should feel accomplished and a natural high from pushing your body to the limits. "Buzzin' (Remix)" by Mann & 50 Cent is the perfect way to end your workout and cool down stretch to.