

Two beds are better than one?

University Village Apartments plan to double occupancy in single-rooms by Fall 2006

BY KATIE ROWE
Pride Staff Writer

University Village Apartments are expected to double the occupancy in single-bedroom dormitories, accommodating eight students in some of the apartments, beginning in the fall semester of 2006.

University Village currently consists of three buildings that offer two kinds of apartment-style floor-plans available to students. Both floor-plan apartments were initially arranged to accommodate four students, giving students the choice between two double occupancy bedrooms with two baths, or four single-bedrooms with two baths. How-

ever, this fall, all students will be sharing a roommate in the four bedroom floor-plans, increasing occupancy at UVA to accommodate an additional 100 students.

According to Lt. Doug Miller, there are 497 students currently living on campus in the University Village Apartments. The additional student residency will increase to house nearly 600 tenants.

The plan for University Village in fall 2006 is to expand the occupation in two of its three buildings, according to Bridget Blansha, the director of Student Life and Leadership. The four bedroom apartments in the two buildings will be converted to support six students each. Each



Photo by Christine Vaughan / The Pride

apartment will have two single rooms and two double rooms.

The bedrooms that will be converted into shared rooms are just

a little more than half the size of the bedrooms shared in the two bedroom floor-plan apartments.

"It's crazy; they'll be stuffed in

the room like sardines," said Erin Young, a student who formally

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Photo by Antoinette Johnson / The Pride

University Police Report

Police crack down on alcohol sales to minors

BY ANTOINETTE JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

University Police, in collaboration with the San Diego Sheriff's Department, have implemented the Minor Decoy Program in the San Marcos community to expose venues that sell alcohol to minors. The Minor Decoy Program allows underage students to work with police officers in a joint effort to stop the illegal sale of alcohol to minors. This is the first time CSUSM's police department has participated in the program in the past two years.

Community Service Officers, who are underage, work as program decoys and enter local convenience stores and restaurants and proceed to purchase alcohol. If the minor successfully buys or is served alcohol, police officers can arrest the vendor.

Selling alcohol to a minor results in a misdemeanor charge, along with a \$1000 fine and requires 24 hours of community service. Last month, CSUSM's participation in the Minor Decoy Program resulted in arrests at nine bars and 21 retail locations near campus.

"The Minor Decoy Program is not intended to trick vendors into breaking the law," said Lieutenant Doug Miller of the University Police Department.

Throughout the minor decoy process, participants are forbidden to deceive vendors into selling them alcohol. All decoys must actually be underage and carry their own identification. They are required enter all locations by themselves, and must carry or handle all of their own

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Student saved by the siren

BY CHRISTINE VAUGHAN
Pride Staff Writer

The University Police and the San Marcos Fire Department attribute good-timing to their fast response to a student emergency, on Thursday, March 2.

The incident occurred at approximately 1:23 p.m. in classroom 1111 of the Kellogg Library. Professor Brian Norris' Human Physiology class was studying cardio rates and rhythms when a male student felt dizzy and fell out of his chair, hitting his head on the student desk adjacent to him, causing mild bleeding from the student's upper forehead.

Unsure about the severity of the fall or the minor abrasion on his head, several students took action quickly, calling 911 and attending to the student.

University Police Officer Troy Holmes was the first to respond to the scene, two minutes following the 911 call to the dispatcher.

"All our officers are trained in basic first aid and CPR," said Lt. Doug Miller.

Fire Department paramedics arrived on the scene within three minutes, one minute after Officer Holmes. The fast response was due to lucky convenience, as the department was preparing

for a training exercise, equipped and loaded in their trucks, when the call was received, said paramedics.

The student was taken by ambulance to Palomar Hospital as a precaution due to the substantial head injury.

While the incident was a unique sight for many of the students of Professor Norris' class, the University Police Department officers are well-trained and familiar with the procedures on responding to physical-injury emergencies.

"Since January 2006, we have had six reported cases of response to emergency services reports," added Lt. Miller. "An emergency services report includes anything where someone is physically injured on campus, such as falls and minor abrasions."

"If it's a medical emergency, call 911," said Lt. Miller. All campus phones are connected to the University Police Department's emergency dispatcher. If calling from a cellular phone, the 911 call will be connected with the California Highway Patrol, and then transferred to the University Police. "All 911 calls related to the campus come back to us."

Research Finalists Announced

BY PATRICK B. LONG
Pride Staff Writer

The finalists for the Cal State San Marcos annual Student research Competition were announced Monday March 6. The Finalists will go to the state finals on May 5 and 6.

The finalists included Melinda Capes; Brian Forster, Daniel Francis, Jeff Halonen, Cathy Schmitt (as a team project); Nigel Hartfield; Alena Cristina and Jaime-Ramirez; Julie Levinson; Mayami Sato; Ben Stampf; Titipatima Sakulterdkiat; Monique Smith; and Griselda Cervantes.

The competition was held on Friday, March 3. The competition included over 25 presentations on topics that ranged from abusing the drug PCP, to analyzing road signs.

Linda Collins, administrative support coordinator office of graduate studies & research, hosted the events which took up three rooms in University Hall on campus. The rooms were divided into categories of research, which included bio-

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Professionalism for the dinner table

BY KATRENA ROBINSON
Pride Staff Writer

Understanding the importance of good impressions and professionalism, Cal State San Marcos's Career Center dishes out the opportunity for students to practice business dinner table etiquette at the Lake San Marcos Country Club, on Thursday, March 16.

The event is open to all CSUSM students at a low price of ten dollars for a four course meal and priceless instruction on how to behave professionally at a business dinner.

"The cost of the meal is \$35.00. Students pay \$10.00 for the four course meal, with ASI sponsoring the additional \$25.00," said

Sandra Punch, event coordinator for the Etiquette Dinner.

The Etiquette Dinner first started because of requests made by students.

"It is very common for employers to invite prospective employees out for a meal during the recruiting process, just so they can see the applicant in a different environment, to see how they handle themselves," Punch said. "We found that in having this dinner, students can go through the entire dining experience from start to finish."

Besides finally learning the use of "that extra fork," the dinner focuses on mannerisms and posture. This event has been organized for five years with excellent reviews by students,

showing how instructional and beneficial the etiquette dinner is.

"Prior attendees have given the event excellent evaluations. They indicate they have learned appropriate posture, such as where to put their hands and elbows before, during and after a meal, how to select appropriate menu items, the proper use of their dining utensils, how to pass items on the table, how to eat specific foods correctly, including bread, pasta, peas, what not to order when eating out in a business situations, how to handle small talk with strangers, as well as many other dining-out tips."

This dinner will be the second Etiquette Dinner held this aca-

ademic semester with one having taken place on February 23 for business majors.

With as little as 80 available seats and the history of the event's popularity, Punch urges early registration. Monday, March 13 is the last day to register and pay for the event.

Attendees are urged to dress interview-appropriate, such as business or professional attire.

With its legendary approval rates, Ms. Punch should have little trouble selling the Etiquette Dinner as a great learning experience at a great price, and an opportunity that shouldn't be missed. For more information, contact Sandra Punch at spunch@csusm.edu or stop by the Career Center.

Campus hosts Japanese business students

BY LORA PAINTER
Pride Staff Writer

Nineteen international Japanese students from the American Language and Culture Institute are enjoying the campus life at California State University San Marcos through a month-long, all-expense-paid scholarship focused on refining English language skills and experiencing American culture.

To celebrate the conclusion of their visit and receive participation certificates, the students will be performing a traditional Japanese dance in Commons 206 on Friday, March 10, from 2:00 to 2:30 p.m.

The students attend Osaka Gaigo Yumiuri College of International Business in Japan, and their participation in this program, CSUSM's American Culture Experience, is an educational requirement for Japanese students while enrolled in their second year of college.

The program "prepares international students for study in a U.S. university or college," according to the ALCI website. Visiting CSUSM provides students with the resources to enhance their English skills. During their stay, students are able to take

advantage of the many resources offered on campus, including the opportunity to use facilities, such as the Kellogg Library, the Clarke Field House and the University Village Apartments. In addition to these facilities, ALCI students work with helpful and friendly instructors, most of which hold advanced degrees and have extensive experience in English language education, to enhance language skills.

While academic study and language proficiency is highly stressed, the students participating in the American Culture Experience also attend various activities outside the classroom. Recently, the students have been to Disneyland, Sea World and Dixon Lake Park. Their month-long visit and study in San Marcos will conclude this Friday with a certificate ceremony and performance.

Many students participating in the program agreed that the campus experience has been positive and educational. Several students commented that direct contact with native English speakers has improved their own language abilities and provided opportunities to gain new friendships. And naturally, many students spoke of the region's exceptional South-



Photo courtesy of ALCI

ern California weather and about meeting friendly people.

"This experience is my treasure!" said Aya Tomita. One of Tomita's favorite stops during her visit was the Carlsbad outlet. "There were many shops. I think I will never be tired of them, even if I walk around a whole day!"

While most of their experiences during their visit have been positive, some students expressed some feelings of culture shock. Many agreed that American cuisine has been difficult for them to adjust to. Lack of personal transportation, such as having a car, also posed some challenges.

"I noticed that it's difficult to make myself understood," said

Manabu Yamane. "I expected that I could speak more fluently."

Their month-long visit and study at Cal State San Marcos has definitely been filled with learning experiences. The students expressed feelings of reaffirmed values, personal growth and formulation of future goals. Because of their time here, many have learned the value of good communication, friendship, and family. Some students have also decided that they want to study abroad in other countries as well.

"The most important thing that I have learned so far is to be flexible, and try everything I'm interested in," said Aya Okada. "Time flies unbelievably fast."

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The Pride is published weekly on Tuesdays during the academic year. Distribution includes all of CSUSM campus, local eateries and other San Marcos community establishments.

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March celebrates Women's HER-story Month

BY RACHELL REYES
Pride Staff Writer

ASI will sponsor a Sex Toys Workshop in celebration of Women's History Month, among many other planned events and activities to take place in support for the campus series of Women's HER-story Month celebration.

This workshop has been one of the most popular events each year, and this year is expected to be no different. The Sex Toys Workshop is free for students and the general public. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, and will be held in Commons 206 at 7 p.m.

"Sex Toys was packed during the last year's workshop," explained Cheyenne Barr, director of Women's Issues. "We couldn't get a bigger room this year, so come early."

The workshop is not just any ordinary presentation, but an enticing sexual education lesson, complete with props. The night will begin with a lecture on sexual anatomy with Dr. G and Passion Party expert, Crystal Folk.

"Students will learn more about themselves, and find alternative views for their bodies," said Barr.

The second part of the night will be a Tupperware party,

except there's no Tupperware, mentioned Barr. The audience will get to preview some sex toys and learn how to use them. Then, at the end of the night, there will be a free raffle to win a few of the toys and a chance to buy the items that were showcased.

Following the workshop, the next Women's HER-story event will be the movie, "North County," detailing the major Sexual Harassment case: Jenson vs. Eveleth Mines. The event will be at 8 p.m. at the "The Clarke."

Women's HER-Story Month has a variety of other events to offer students this year. Although there are many returning popular previous events, such as Sex Toys Workshop and a performance from Slam poet Bridget Gray, the month-long celebration will feature new events and have a different focus this year.

"This year is focused on race and cultural issues," said Barr. "Over half of the events are of women from a different culture, different country, or different faith."

However, this wasn't pre-planned for the theme. This year, there has been an increase of support for Women's HER-Story Month from different departments and student organizations who wanted to bring their per-

spectives to the table.

Arts and Lectures and ASI will also be presenting LUNAFEST 2006, an event showcasing a national film festival with short films by, for, and about women. LUNAFEST will be held on Thursday, March 9, in ARTS 240 at 2:30 p.m.

On Friday, March 10, the new fundraiser for ASI Women's Center is the LUNAFEST Anniversary Fundraiser. This event is the five-year anniversary edition of LUNAFEST and is sponsored by the USUAB, Arts and Lectures, ASI, the Women's Studies Program, and the Student Life and Leadership Multicultural Program.

"I hope that this will become an annual tradition as the fundraiser for the ASI Women's Center," said Barr.

Before the films start, there will be an auction and a wine and cheese reception. This fundraiser is the only event that's not free to the public. The entrance donation for Cal State San Marcos students is \$15. Other attendees are required to pay \$25. Attendees must purchase in advance, at Commons 207. This event will be held in "The Clarke" Grand Salon at 6 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 14, Giovanna Chesler will show her

documentary: "Period: The End of Menstruation?" He will be addressing the issues of birth control which allow women and young girls to stop their periods for great lengths at a time. This presentation will be held in ARTS 240 at 6 p.m.

On Wednesday, March 15, there will be a lecture by Ibtesam Al Atiyat on women, Islam, and politics in the Arab world. This event will be held in UNIV 370 at 11:30 a.m.

On Thursday, March 16, there will be a performance from Linda Pershing's class, presenting their projects through dance, spoken word and artwork on their experiences of oppression in sexism and racism. This event will be held in ACD 304 at 11:30 a.m.

On Monday, March 20, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Student Organization (LGBTSO) will be presenting "Inside Out-LGBTSO's Drag Show." This will be a celebration of breaking out of gender roles with professional and local drag stars. This event will be held in "The Clarke," Grand Salon at 12 p.m.

One of the most important events, according to Barr, will be "In Your Face," an awareness event that brings education about violence against women, hosted

on Tuesday, March 21. The day is divided into four features. At 10 a.m. in the Library Plaza, many organizations and programs will present global issues of violence against women. At 11:30 a.m. in ACD 102, a panel of representatives from different faiths will discuss women's contributions from different religions. At 4 p.m. in "The Clarke," Grand Salon, Katherine DeGrow will speak about women's place in Christianity. To close, "The Clarke," Grand Salon will feature the movie "Memoirs of a Geisha," at 8 p.m.

Women's HER-Story Month will conclude its festivities on Thursday, March 23, with Dr. Lorraine Bayard de Volo lecture on how war and peace are implicated for women. This event will be held in the "The Clarke," Grand Salon at 11 a.m.

"I really hope that we get more turnouts to give more awareness," said Barr.

Although Women's HER-Story Month is only celebrated in March, ASI Women's Center is hoping that the celebration will be year-round.

"It's been a year-round support for women's issues and gender related issues," said Barr. "I hope to make HER-Story Month into HER-Story Year."

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lived in University Village.

However, Blansha assures, "If you look at the size of the personal space, it is still much larger than the average size, compared with other universities."

While some students are concerned that doubling up will increase conflict and other problems in University Village, campus officials aren't worried.

"Statistically, 100 more people will have a minimal affect on safety in the dorms. Sixty-six percent of the students on campus are female, and females are statistically less violent," said Lt. Miller.

According to Blansha, the task group working to increase the number of students has analyzed the effect that this increase may have. After lengthy discussions and talking to other universities that have implemented similar changes, the task group concluded that the change will

have an overall positive affect and that steps will be taken to avoid conflicts.

As the number of students living on campus increases, the number of staff for the housing will also increase. There will be more Resident Assistants to help students avoid and resolve conflict and to help them adjust. The RAs will also be focused on getting students involved with campus life.

The reason for doubling-up room occupancy is due to University President Karen Haynes' mission of making increased enrollment and student life a key priority for her administration. This past fall and spring, Cal State San Marcos exceeded its target enrollment and is anticipating a growth of more than six percent in Fall 2006.

At this point, the only option to accommodate more students is to double-up occupancy until 2010, when more student-housing is scheduled to be available, according to Blansha.

Diane Malone, associate director of Planning Design and Construction, explained that the state does not pay for student housing, so it must to be self-sufficient.

The process to build more housing on campus is not an easy one, according to Blansha. The process begins by conducting market studies, which analyzes things such as the need for housing and what kind of housing would be best. The study also takes student opinion into account. This step of conducting a market study is currently taking place. After a plan is formed, it needs to go through a lengthy approval process through the Chairman's Office. Phase two of student housing won't necessarily be apartment complexes.

On campus housing is one major way to get students involved with the campus, and Blansha agrees that the increase in residency at UVA is one of the approaches to increasing the campus's major goals to enhancing student involvement.

POLICE, from page 1

beverages. It is only upon the sale of alcohol to the minor that police officers are able to make an arrest.

"The program gives CSO's the chance to participate in something new, making the job more exciting," said Miller. In addition to providing more opportunity for CSO students, the program is another outlet through which campus police can work to alleviate problems with alcohol on and around campus.

Last week, CSUSM police made two DUI arrests; both incidents involved the drivers exceeding the legal blood alcohol limit by nearly three times the amount.

With St. Patrick's Day approaching, campus police strive to ensure student safety by educating the campus on the effects of alcohol, and eliminating sales to minors by local vendors.

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Women's her-story month starts off 'Gray'

Slam poet brings performance to CSUSM

BY RACHELL REYES
Pride Staff Writer

ASI hosted its first of many events for Women's Her-Story Month last Thursday, March 2. With her fist in the air, Slam Poet Bridget Gray closed the night with a performance dedicated to her gender.

This was Gray's fourth year performing at Cal State San Marcos, now before a full audience, half familiar with her work, half just getting ready to meet her.

The night began with a small introduction, where Gray emphasized her last name, taken from her mother's second husband and kept not merely for her half black, half white heritage, but to inspire thought about mixed opposites. She recalled how she had originally moved to Los Angeles and aspired to become an actress, but became dissatisfied. Gray didn't exactly want to be a Slam Poet, at first. She related the first time as "an accident." When she first performed on a Slam night, Gray had no idea what Slam was all about. She just wanted to read her poem to the audience. She won that contest, and "caught the bug."

"In five, four, three, two, one, action," Gray suddenly transformed from presenter into performer.

Her Slam poetry style is reminiscent of many featured on HBO's "Russell Sim-



Photo by Rachell Reyes / The Pride

mons presents Def Jam Poetry," but most of her pieces required greater interactions with the audience.

When it comes to Slam Poetry; it's not just about the words, pieces are scored based on writing, performing, and definitely audience response.

"I define it as boot camp for performance poets because you have to effectively convey whatever your message is to whatever audience, regardless of age, religion, and gender," said Gray. "In three minutes."

Although she is comfortable with performing, her writing experience in college was quiet and private.

"I had mixed feelings because the standards were very rigid," explained Gray.

"They had an outline instead of letting me write in my own voice."

She then remembered one of her Communications teachers. While she was reciting a poem, the teacher had made a racial comment about how black people spoke. When Gray had said the word "earth," the teacher mentioned that black people said "urf."

"It was a stereotype," said Gray. "How could a teacher say something like that? This was supposed to be higher education. I've always had good articulation."

After that experience, school wasn't quite the same.

"School didn't necessarily feel like a safe place to put my guts on paper for a teacher to grade," commented Gray. "Which is

ironic, because I do Slam."

One of her most memorable pieces that night was her "Letter to Hip-Hop." This poem had actually landed her a stint on Simmons's show, but she was urged not to perform that piece. She went ahead and performed it anyway. Unfortunately, the episode did not air, but she will never forget the audiences' intense reaction. And even though the performance did not earn her any money, Gray surely grew spiritually from the experience.

Students at this latest performance heard several pieces from both her albums, "Shades of Gray" and her most recent, "Self-Love." After wrapping up her last performance, Gray received a standing ovation.

"I loved it. I was shocked how much I loved it," said Mary Rice, a graduating senior. "She has an amazing presence and it's definitely an example of how poetry is made to be read out loud."

Although many students admitted to attending the event for extra credit, Ngan Tran and Dulce Santana, both freshmen and majoring in Women's Studies, were glad that they came.

"It was very powerful and I think she could relate to Cal State San Marcos because sixty five percent are women," said Santana. "I'm upset that I never knew her before."

Gray is hopeful about her future, and a one-woman show is in the works.

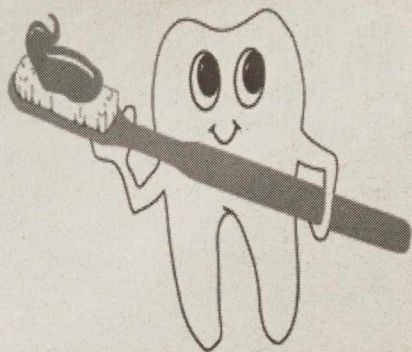
"The sky's the limit. I don't want to put a ceiling on my potential," said Gray.

For more information on Gray, visit her website at www.bridgetgray.com.

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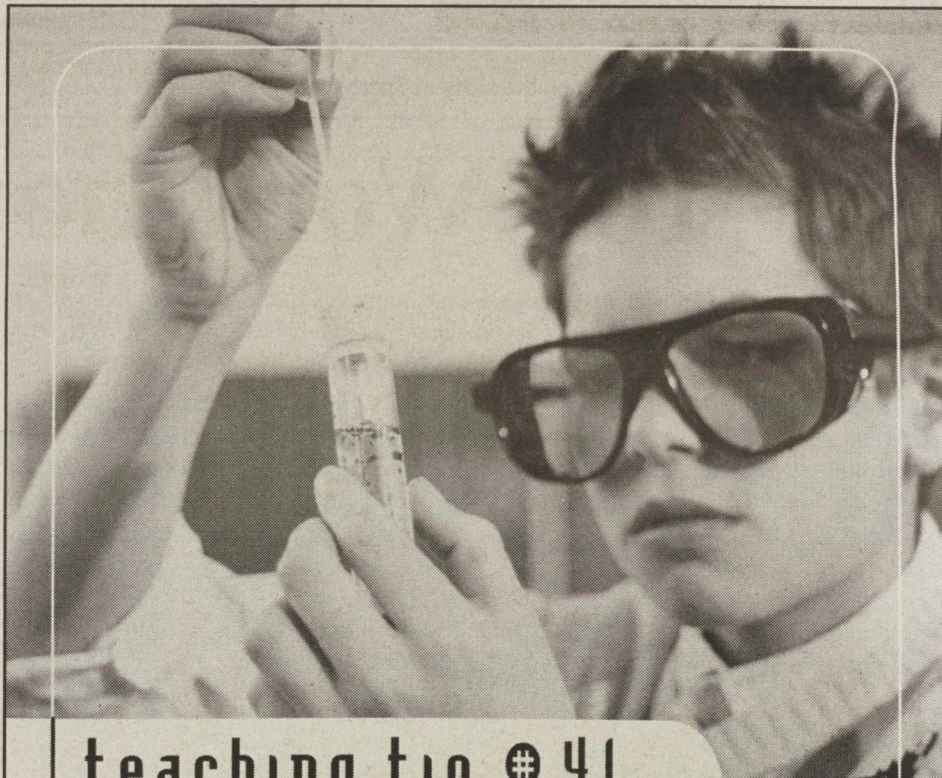
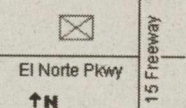
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Late night escort service for student protection

BY RACHELL WANN
Pride Staff Writer

For the many CSUSM students burdened with a night class, it might not be uncommon to have experienced one of those nights when class gets out, many of which run until 9:45pm, and find themselves looking around nervously. The campus seems as deserted as a ghost town, and even a calm sky looks stormy. Regardless of the individual situation, you just don't feel entirely safe or comfortable walking alone.

Already dealing with homework, papers, and midterms, it seems rather unfair that on top of that, a student would have to worry about their safety on campus. Luckily, for those stuck on campus after dark, others are concerned about

your safety as well.

Here's where the Campus Police escort Service comes in handy.

The Escort Service, one of the lesser known student-friendly services offered free of charge on campus, is available nightly, from dusk until dawn. According to the University Police Department website, "It is the policy of the Police Department that persons be assured of safe passage on and through campus. During the period between dusk and dawn, personal escorts will be provided as an additional measure of safety. Escorts will be provided to and from campus buildings, campus parking lots, immediate bus stops and areas immediately adjacent to campus property."

The process of obtaining an

escort could not be more user-friendly. Students can call (760) 750-4567 from their cell phones or simply dial x4567 from any campus phone to reach the University Police Department. The student can then request an escort to a specific destination and give their name, current location on campus and a call-back number in case of any delay.

Eager to see if the escorts were really as good as they seemed, I gave the service three test runs in the past two weeks. I called the University Police from the phone inside my latest class just prior to leaving, gave them my information and proceeded to wait in front of Craven Hall, where I said I would be located. With each call, the CSO (Community Service Officer) on duty arrived to

pick me up within five minutes of my request. On my most recent attempt, I was greeted by two Community Services Officers, one who even went to the extent of opening the car door for my roommate and myself.

Not only were we provided a safe ride to our nearby apartment in lieu of a 10pm walk home, we also got some additional chivalry thrown in.

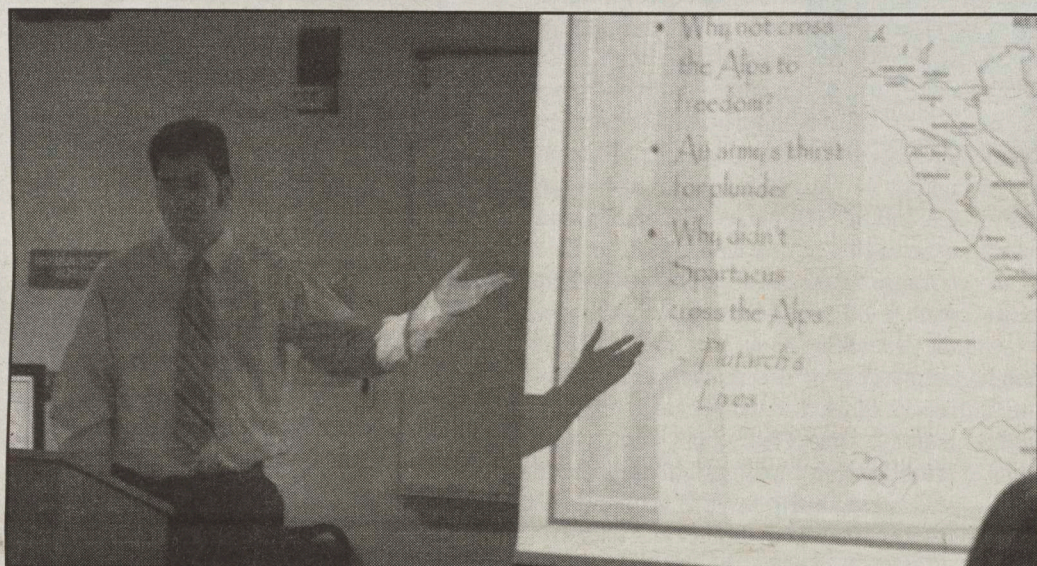
Given the obvious benefits of using the escorts, why is it that the Community Service Officers only average two escorts a night?

CSO Billy Nason, a sophomore here at CSUSM, believes the reasoning behind the minimal use of the escorts is directly linked to a lack of knowledge about the service.

"People just don't know about it," said Nason.

"We're there to be on campus all the time, to respond to calls, to do escorts ..." said CSO Matt Curran, who has been working with the department for almost two years, "but we weren't even allowed to leave campus before." Our Community Service Officers for the night even noted that it was their first time escorting someone to our apartment complex.

Now with the ability to expand the service to the residential communities adjacent to the campus, in addition to the parking lots and residence halls, hopefully more fretful students will take up the offer for a free (safe) ride, as the CSO's are sure to provide peace of mind, comfort, safety and convenience for all students.



Ben Stampfl explains his research on the story of Spartacus.

Photo by Patrick B. Long / The Pride

RESEARCH, from page 1

logical and other science, general subjects, and psychology.

Each room had faculty judges who based their decisions on such areas as clarity, value, ability to articulate, organization, and the ability of the presenter to handle questions. Questions came from the audience after the ten minute presentation. They range from relevance of the topic to how certain research was done.

The presentations included a research project by Tania Rendon, who looked into the backfiring of neighborhood signs. "Neighborhood Watch Signs: What is the Actual Message?" focused on the fact that signs

like "Neighborhood Watch", may have the opposite of the desired effect. The sign may actually promote the idea that crime does occur the neighborhood.

"Spartacus' Rebellion: One Man's Quest for Freedom, One Army's Quest for Plunder," by Ben Stampfl in the General Subjects category, looked at historical analysis of Spartacus and Rome.

"What was the goal of the rebellion?" said Stampfl during his presentation, "I think it was for freedom."

The finalists will go to Cal State Channel Islands for the state competition. For more information visit www.csusm.edu/research/Student_research.htm.

Sex Toy Workshop: what to expect

BY AMANDA KEELEY
Pride Staff Writer

The idea of pleasuring oneself sexually is still only comfortable to some. Even though sex-related topics are discussed more today than any other time, there is still a hush-hush nature about the distribution and use of sex toys. Nonetheless, Associated Students Inc. is breaking the silencing with this year's Sex Toy Workshop. On March 7, in Commons 206 at 7pm, alumnus and former ASI Executive Crystal Folk will be presenting her company's (Passion Parties) best toys, tricks and tantalizers while Dr. Jayant Ghiara (otherwise known as "Dr. G"), who teaches Human Reproduction, will give us insider information on sexual responses and how to push all the right buttons.

The fun begins when "Dr. G"

gives a half hour presentation on our sexual response areas. Crystal will then break out her gear and give us the interactive pass around of Passion Party toys, each on sale at the event. In the end, "everyone who wants something to bring home will be able to with some free gift bags and the opportunity to win larger prizes in the free raffle," said Cheyenne Barr, Director of Women's Issues.

There will also be insightful and educational pamphlets covering topics as the history of sex toys, and information on the different types of material used to make sex toys and what's best for each individual. One interesting fact is that the oldest sex toy discovered, made of stone, dates back to 25,000 B.C.E.

Yet, if sex toys have been around so long, why is the topic still taboo? According to "The Invention of Heterosexuality," by

Jonathan Katz, in the Victorian era, Women's sexuality was only permitted for procreation. They were to be "temples of purity against the monster masturbator." Then in 1860-1892, doctors began to tell men and women that eroticism was essential. Our society has come a long way since then, and having sex toy workshops on campuses, celebrating in public the freedom of sexuality for women and men, is a definite milestone.

In the book "Feminism is for Everybody," author bell hooks explains that "many heterosexual men embraced feminist thinking precisely because they were unfulfilled sexually in relationships with their partners, who were not interested in sex because they had been taught virtuous women were not sexually active."

The workshop helps women

realize that their bodies aren't just for the pleasure of men, but that it is ok to pleasure yourself by shedding a positive light on women's sexuality. "Talking about sex toys, their different functions and applications, is a great way to talk about different ways of sex that deviate from our traditional heteronormative intercourse," says Josh Harris, last year's women's history month coordinator. The goal of the workshop, according to Cheyenne Barr, is "for students to feel comfortable with their sexual experiences and get to know the part that our general sex education always leaves out." The great thing about workshops like the one being held on campus, according to Passionparties.com, is that the fun environment helps women feel comfortable discussing their sexual health, dispelling some

of the age-old myths surrounding sexuality, and learning ways to improve communication and build stronger relationships with their partners.

The growing popularity of this modern twist of a 'Tupperware Party' is evident, as it has filled nearly to capacity the last three years. To explain why these sex toy workshops are making such an impact, Josh Harris said, "Personally, I was amazed at how comfortable the audience was with the subject matter. We had about 250 people in Arts 240, and when it came time for the Q & A portion, people were asking the most personal and private questions in front of 200 or so fellow students. Yet, no one seemed awkward about it. I think people enjoy being able to discuss these ideas when they feel they are in an encouraging, sex-positive environment."

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On Campus: Renowned underground filmmaker

An evening lost with George Kuchar

BY JON THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer

Underground filmmaker, George Kuchar, held a brief seminar last Wed night in arts 242. Kuchar took the opportunity to screen some examples of his recent work as well as to confuse students with his abnormal wit. At least 50 films and hundreds of short videos bear Kuchar's name, earning him fame in America's "Underground" film movement, a genre some say Kuchar founded in the early 50's, along with artists like Andy Warhol and Jack Smith.

Further investigation reveals an extensive account of George and his brother Mike Kuchar's work online at the "Bright Lights Film Journal" in an article by Jack Stevenson, "The Day the Bronx Invaded Earth, The Life and Cinema of the Kuchar Brothers."

In this article, Stevenson describes the underground movement of the 50s to date as "not a genre but an anti-genre. Underground was an image-negative term that refuted, denied, and disowned definition rather than encouraged it. A thing underground was a thing unseen, something ominously other happening in the darkness. The underground film movement was never more than a collection of individuals who never quite collected."

Before the presentation began, Kuchar sat outside, fumbling through his bag of

miniDV tapes, reminiscent of a 94-year-old grandmother, absentmindedly shaking through a milk crate filled with old family pictures.

Despite organizer Jonathon Berman's concerns of "burning out his speaker before he hits the stage," the average person might have wondered if perhaps Berman should worry more how 'burnt out' his speaker was.

Kuchar began rambling out short explanations of the films he was considering screening and finally decided that he would "get a feel for the audience and then decide what films they would most enjoy."

When asked how he felt about the progression of cinematic production technology, and if perhaps elements of the audience, or the art form, were lost in the transition from his early works on 8mm film to his latest works done with modern editing and special effects, the answer had very little to do with the question, and was recited word for word about halfway through his seminar.

Kuchar responded with a lengthy timeline of the equipment he worked with over the years: "I started out with an 8mm camera and had to do all on-camera editing."

Soon, Kuchar says, he received a second 8mm camera and a tape deck. While this made editing a lot easier, and he no longer had to edit the films while he shot, he

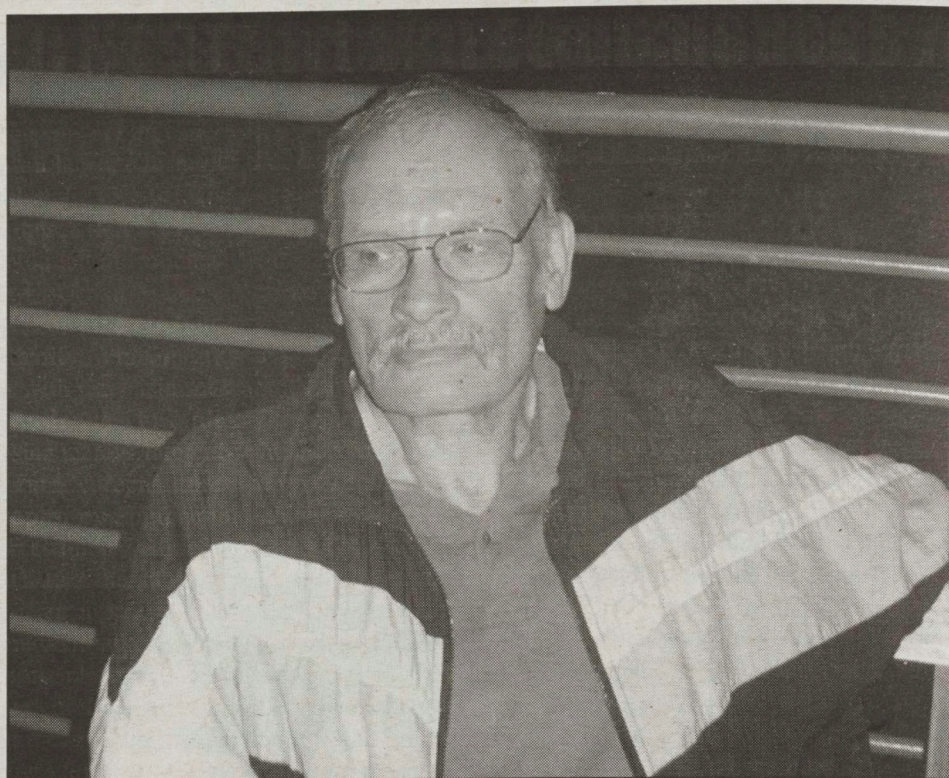


Photo by Jon Thompson / The Pride

mostly describes this step in technology as "a web of wires that went everywhere."

Kuchar now works in the "computer age," where all editing and special effects are done on the computer. Kuchar's perspectives on technology were soon evident as he described the advancement of film technology as "learning how to push a different button." His personal choice in minDV cameras is a Sony 1 chip, which he selected because "a Japanese student told me those were good, and I figured they know what they're talking about with that stuff."

Included in the showcase of his most recent films, Kuchar included his annual holiday film. This year's entry, entitled "Holiday Hang ups," starred Kuchar as himself, taking a trip back to his home in the Bronx to "visit his mother and friends."

One audience member described Kuchar as "the homeless old guy in the park, who has lost his mind and falls off the park bench as he yells at you walking by," later adding, "what really confused me is why Berman invited this guy here when half the things he is describing and showcasing are things Berman teaches never to

do with regard to film."

The audience also watched "Heavenly Feature," Kuchar's yearly tribute to the weather of the Oklahoma southern plains. Kuchar describes this film as bringing him both recognition and controversy. The most recent entry features breathtaking footage of the sky and clouds, visions quite foreign to residents of southern California. These heavenly images were accompanied by appropriately scene-setting music, allowing the viewer to get lost in the clouds, if only for a brief time. The film concluded, as it had started, with Kuchar talking with his toy clown puppet, likely leaving many to wonder, as with the rest of his films, just what was missed as Kuchar went from the brilliances of the sky to his toy clown and his displays of juvenile schizophrenia.

The overall message to be learned from Kuchar, as he puts it, is that "anyone with \$12 and a camera can make a video or film."

Perhaps the additional message is that, just because you have \$12 and a camera, doesn't necessarily mean you should make a movie.

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Succesful Student: Miss San Marcos balances responsibilities

BY DAVID BAUER
Special to The Pride

Sophomore Pilar Sanchez was crowned the winner of the 2006 Miss San Marcos Pageant on February 18th. She will be expected to appear at different functions in and around the city for the coming year as a representative of San Marcos. With midterms approaching, and the city expecting her to appear at eight to ten events each month, most students would find it hard to juggle the two roles, student and representative. Ms. Sanchez, however, seems to have her priorities clear.

"This [pageant] is what I'm doing now; school, that's for the rest of my life."

When asked if her new obligations as Miss San Marcos interfered with her student obligations, she replied definitively that, "it interferes with getting a job, but not with school ... if I have to study I just call and cancel with [the city of San Marcos]."

While she may now be dedicated to getting her education, that was not always the case for this student.

"I just went to college because it's the 'thing you do' after highschool," Ms. Sanchez said, while discussing her reasons for attending CSU San Marcos. She also admits that, before attend-

ing college, she was not an especially motivated learner in high school, "I visited the vice principal several times... that's where you go when you get in trouble."

But once at CSU San Marcos, her outlook towards school changed drastically. While many students start with the basic sciences, then migrate towards seemingly easier majors later in their educational career, Pilar took the opposite approach. During her Freshman year she found her niche in the biology department, after a brief stint as a Communication major, drawn to both pharmacology and molecular biology. When asked about the difficulty of her classes, her eyes lit up, "I like my classes... I enjoy my labs. 'I love being able to know things [other] people don't know', she explained excitedly. She attributed some of her success as a student to CSUSM Experience, a program designed to help incoming freshmen adjust to the rigors of college life. "It was like training wheels for college ... I needed a helping hand."

Now that she's also found a voice in the community, she wants to encourage others to follow her example.

"I'm more motivated than I ever was before in my life... and I want to motivate others," she explains, "I wish people would appreciate what we have here more. We have



Photo by David Bauer / The Pride

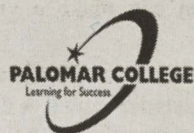
a good business school, good professors, and the biology department is getting better."

Besides feeling that the campus benefits students, she also believes that the school is great for the community. "It's great to see a younger group in San Marcos... younger and more

scholarly," which, in her opinion, is a great asset to the area.

Two weeks after winning the pageant, with midterms lurking, many students would be overwhelmed by the responsibility of being the representative of a city, as well as a student. Pilar explains that she doesn't

feel "under pressure from both" sides, but concedes that "maybe it hasn't hit me yet." If she does feel overburdened, she shows no signs of it, seeming both confident and excited about her roles as both newly crowned Miss San Marcos and as a promising student at CSUSM.



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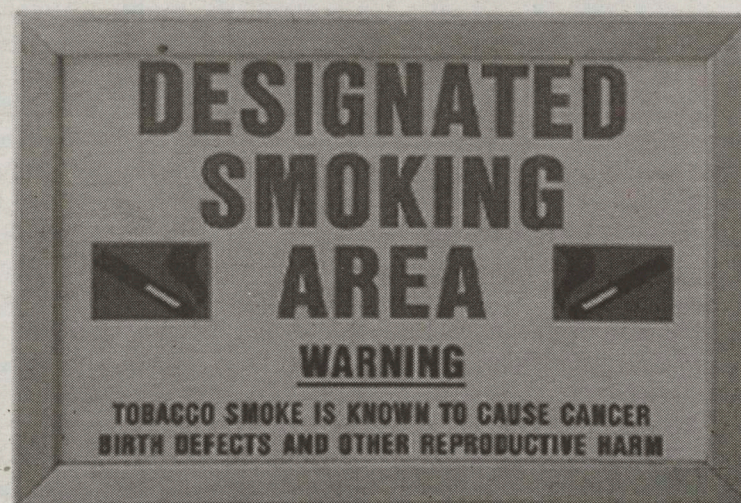
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http://www.csusm.edu/rms/smoking_policy.htm

Jock Talk With Josh

BY JOSH SANDOVAL
Special to The Pride



This is the 50th article (48th column) I have written for The Pride. My first column appeared on Feb. 17, 2004, and I have given my opinion on numerous topics. I have rarely used this outlet to

facilitate arguments or comment on previous columns; however, today I feel it is necessary.

In the past 10 days I have received an unusual amount of email accusing me of being sexist and homophobic. These accusations are because of the article published two weeks ago in which I wrote about the Winter Olympics. Much of the controversy has come about from this statement, "Anything that involves dressing up in a sequined one-piece outfit while dancing on ice to a song called, 'The Swan', is not a sport. The biggest figure skating star is Johnny Weir, who should just add a 'D' to his last name and call it a day."

Interestingly enough, these accusations have all been made by women. Here are a few of my favorite statements.

Jane Sanchez wrote this in a letter to the editor, "Figure skating is a sport. The outfits that the athletes wear and the songs they choose to skate to do not determine if it is a sport. Homophobia is implied with the comment about Johnny Wier. He is a male figure skater and he is an athlete in a sport that people may see feminine, yes, but it does not mean he is weird."

Elke Mcfarlane seconded the comment from Sanchez, when she said, "Your remark about figure skating, in particular about Johnny Weir, could imply that you are homophobic."

Frankly, people who take homophobia from my statement about Weir are the ones who are perpetuating the stereotype that all male ice skaters are homosexual.

I didn't write anywhere in my article that I see ice skating as feminine. Sanchez and Mcfarlane are putting words in my mouth. I didn't say he was weird because he is a figure skater. Go read some of his statements about ice skating and tell me those aren't weird things to say about ice skating. If you got homophobia from my statement, then I suggest examining your own viewpoint.

Sanchez continued to say, "Sport as defined in the book Sports in Society, by Jay Coakley, is 'an institutionalized competitive activity that involves rigorous physical exertion or the use of relatively complex physical skills by participants motivated by internal and external rewards.'"

Sanchez tried to prove her point, but she is helping me prove my point. What I wrote was my opinion on what a sport is and isn't. The key word from the previous sentence is, "my opinion." What Sanchez stated from that book is also an opinion. What is a sport is completely up to each individual interpretation.

This comment comes from Stefanie Zeltner who said, "Having never read any of your articles before, I certainly hope that your other articles are much better than this last one. You need to learn that you need to back up your articles with some thing called fact. Sexism and opinions on gender certainly don't count. Since when do journalists have a right to make fun of athletes?"

Well Stefanie, if you had read some of the previous 47 columns that I have written for "The Pride," then you might not be calling me a sexist. On April 13, 2004, I wrote an article advocating more recognition for female athletes and on Nov. 1, 2005, I stated this in an article, "It boggles my mind that people actually care whether or not a person is gay." Also, regarding your concerns about

sports journalists mocking athletes, go read T.J. Simers from the "LA Times" or go listen to Jim Rome on 1090 AM and your question will be answered. Also, regarding backing up my article with fact. I believe I did so when I said these Olympics were not a success in America since American Idol kicked the Olympics' butt in viewership. While you're at it, go look at the drop off in viewership from past Winter Olympics.

I also received some comments regarding my feelings about events that are based on the opinion of judges.

Zeltner said, "You also said that ice skating should be considered a competition because the results are determined by the opinion of a judge. Hmmm ... sounds familiar ... who that has ever gone to a football game realized that the opinion of a judge (aka Referee) impacts the result of the game?"

Melinda Hansen added this to Zeltner's argument, "These judges know the sport down to every detail. They have to fulfill a certain criteria prior to becoming a judge. They follow strict guidelines and are knowledgeable about technical maneuvers that often go unnoticed to viewers."

Diane Nematbakhsh added this about judges, "The judging of sports in the Olympics is highly technical. Judges must go through training and certification before they can step on the Olympic Judging board."

Zeltner's statement makes me think she has never seen a football game. Referees in football facilitate the game. They don't hand out 10 points for one type of touchdown and five points for a different type of touchdown, whereas ice skating judges do exactly that, solely based on their opinion. That is why different judges watching the same ice skater give different scores, because it's based on opinion.

As for Hansen and Nematbakhsh statement's about judges, I know judges have an extensive knowledge of ice skating, but they still dish points out based on opinion and the event is solely in their hands to determine who wins. Don't you remember the ice skating judging controversy in the previous Olympics where some of the judges were found to be fixing the event?

Let's take a short break with a bit of a brain teaser. You can find the answer at the bottom of this column once you're done reading. Do you know what you get if you take away the skates from ice skaters?

I have just a few more points before you find that answer. To all the readers who took offense to my Winter Olympics column, learn to laugh and take enjoyment in life because life is way too short to take things seriously 24/7/365. I mean, I started that column off with, "Dear NBC." Did you honestly think that was a real letter I sent to NBC? It's called being satirical.

Finally, I will not continue this conversation through this newspaper. I have always told emailers that they can meet me in person to discuss issues they have with me. To this day, no one has taken me up on that offer. I won't continue the argument in future columns because there is no way you can beat me in the paper because I have a column and you don't ... neener, neener, neener. That was a joke. Apparently I have to say that after every joke I make because some people take everything literally.

Once again, myemailissando026@csusm.edu and you probably realize now that I will print what you say so you might want to think twice.

Here is the answer to the brain teaser: You get, "Dancing with the Stars" when you take the skates away from the ice skaters. Don't dare tell me that you consider that a sport. That was a joke so please don't send an email saying I have a phobia of celebrities who like to dance.

Women's Bowling

BY NATASHA HECKENDORN
Pride Staff Writer

Intramural bowling has once again been rescheduled to better accommodate student schedules. The event that was originally planned for Tuesday, Feb. 28, will now be held Friday, March 10, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Eagle Lanes bowling alley in San Marcos.

Event coordinators are encouraging women in particular to get involved. Only two women signed up for intramural basketball, forcing the intramural coordinators to cancel the woman's league.

"We've had very few women turn out for any intramurals," said Event Coordinator, Dominique Thomas. Bowling, however, won't suffer the same fate as the teams will be coed. Even so, women still need to claim their place in intramurals.

"The dynamic's just aren't the same without female students," said Diana Nematbakhsh, intramural coordinator. "Boys have a tendency to get competitive and girls are generally more interested in having fun."

There are 22 available slots and Thomas expects every spot to fill up, so early registration is advised. The deadline to sign up is March 7. There is a \$3 fee that covers two hours of bowling,

shoe rental, pizza and prizes for first and second place bowlers. Transportation will not be provided; however, students can choose to carpool. Sign-ups are available in The Clarke Field House. Student guests will be allowed to participate, but only if there is adequate space.

"We want to make sure every student gets a chance before we allow guests to participate," said Daniel Crescitelli, director of intramurals.

According to Crescitelli, the tournament is going to cost \$500 in lane rental alone. The student fee basically covers the shoe rental and ASI will cover the balance. Every intramural event is offered to students at a deeply discounted rate. The idea is to create fun opportunities for students to socialize in a safe and healthy environment, including the intramural program. There is also a recreation fee that all students pay in tuition that helps subsidize the cost of intramurals.

Eagle Lanes offers more than just standard bowling; the facility is also equipped with an arcade and a full bar. "It's just like bowling with friends, but at a low cost," added Crescitelli.

Be sure to keep an eye out for other intramural events like volleyball, and kayaking, coming up March 11.

"It's a good deal and a unique experience," added Nematbakhsh.

Ron Pulvers expects superior performance

New CSUSM soccer coach brings impressive resume

BY ALEX GARIN
Pride Staff Writer

Ron Pulvers, the coach of Cal State San Marcos premiere soccer team, is accustomed to winning.

Pulvers galvanized his reputation as a winning coach at Baker University and led the Wildcats to five conference championships, three conference tournament championships, and also claimed two regional championships. In addition, he has coached fourteen players who went on to become "All-Americans," and was named conference coach of the year four times and regional coach of the year in 2002.

Pulvers has won over 100 games in his career in the National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and has never experienced a sub .500 season. This impressive record enabled him to scramble above a very competitive applicant pool, to become Cal State San Marcos first ever soccer coach. "Ron rose to the top of a highly competitive applicant pool. He brings with him an impressive coaching resume," said athletic director Dr. Terry Nichols, in a written statement.

His career began humbly at Midwestern University in Wichita Falls Texas. However, his enthusiastic approach to the game of soccer enabled him to quickly ascend to a position as Head Coach of Baker University's soccer program in Baldwin, Kan. in 1996.

Pulvers looks at his days at Baker University fondly. "I can not say enough great things about Eastern Kansas," says Pulvers. "The people of Kansas are top class, the cities are resourceful, and the overall quality of life is very high." However, he looks forward to coaching in his native Southern Californian atmosphere.

Pulvers' new move will mark a transitional point in his career as a soccer coach and his life in general. He is relo-

cating from a well-established soccer program to one in its infancy. Nevertheless, Pulvers is optimistic about the climate of the Cal State San Marcos athletic department and sees great potential. "The talent level is greater and the student-athlete pool is deeper in Southern California," Pulvers says.

Despite his optimism, Pulvers recognizes that he will run into some initiatory problems. "The biggest task is to get the facilities established for the whole athletic department." Pulvers further stated, "The winning culture and the environment at CSU San Marcos are going to have to be established."

The Cal State San Marcos inaugural soccer season will not start until the fall, however, Pulvers keeps himself occupied by recruiting and training candidates for the new soccer teams. He has never had a losing season before and plans to keep his reputation as a winning soccer coach intact here at Cal State. Pulvers is spending his first pre-season scouting and recruiting players on an invitational basis, but will hold an open tryout for inspiring athletes at a yet to be determined date.

In a written statement regarding his move, Pulvers says, "I share the excitement of the university in the growth and development of a new era in athletics. It is my goal to develop an exciting brand of soccer that will produce student-athletes who represent the university with class, character and spirit." He hopes to add some new additions to his trophy shelf in upcoming years and displays an uncanny enthusiasm for the sport.

Pulvers will coach against Paul Caligiuri's Cal Poly Pomona teams during his first time on the Cal State sideline. Caligiuri has played in for the United States in two World Cups and was inducted into the soccer Hall of Fame.

The highly anticipated season opener will be held on Friday, August 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Golf team misses previous coach

BY BRITTANY GOEHRING
Special to The Pride

The CSUSM Cougar's golf teams lost Coach Hanover two days before the 2005 fall semester began. He was placed on administrative leave, according to President Haynes, at the request of Athletics. When the teams met for the first time last semester at a mandatory meeting, we were instructed by the Athletic Director NOT to have any contact with Coach Hanover. We were told that he was not under suspension for sexual harassment or misappropriation of funds, but rather had been placed on leave due to a personnel conflict in the Physical Education Department.

This conflict placed the Women's Golf team in jeopardy, and we were directly and negatively affected by his removal. Several players have considered leaving the team due to conflicting coaching strategies that have more or less found the team scrambling for leadership.

The ladies have been kept in the dark pertaining to the allegations against Coach Hanover. Letters have been sent to the President's Office in his behalf. We as a team have collectively attempted to meet with President Haynes' office since last semester, to no avail. We were told that the president is very busy and not always available to speak with students regarding their concerns. Even parents have tried contacting the President's Office, only to have their questions referred to the Athletic Director's (A.D.) office.

It just seems like nothing is being done to keep the program together the way it was prior to Coach Hanover's removal.

Finally, after repeated requests, we have now been granted an appointment with the president to express our concerns. But all along the A.D.'s office, which is in charge of this investigation, has attempted to pacify us with statements of support for Coach Segura, and to diffuse our support for Coach Hanover. These actions by the A.D. have caused the team to be split, and any type of comradery which we had in the past has been undermined by this conflict. We will continue our efforts to get Coach Hanover back until justice is done.

Last month the first days of Coach Hanover's arbitration hearing were held and the A.D. gave his side of the story. The A.D. who is in charge of filing this discipline against our coach is also the Cougar's liaison to the President's Office. We, as students and athletes, are concerned over this procedure. How can that be possible? Isn't that a conflict of interest? What code of ethics is the Athletic Department operating under? Are we the only ones to see that the A.D. representing the president at the hearing is not right? The plight of our team is serious, and our season is at great risk. Coach Hanover needs our support and we need his expertise in running a successful golf program. This is why we are requesting an end to the deliberation, a decision be made, and the program facilitators bring back Fred Hanover. We will fight to the end to make our voices heard and to let everyone know what is really going on here. We do appreciate CSUSM as an outstanding institution of higher education, but what's happening in the golf program these days teaches all of us the wrong lesson.

Bumper Cars: College Edition

BY PIYAMAS SABLAN
Pride Staff Writer

The student population at CSUSM is split into two main categories, the day students and the evening students. Between the hours of 4 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., the two crowds collide into a chaotic dance I've entitled, "The Parking Lot War."

There are three basic characters in this dance. The "Hunter" stalks prey with their vehicle, hoping to swoop in on the prey's parking spot. If the prey wanders too far from the Hunter's desired parking range, the Hunter speeds off in search of new prey to creep up on and leaves the old prey inhaling exhaust fumes.

The "Chicken King" parks his or her car at the beginning of the desired parking aisle. The Chicken King claims the aisle by refusing to move until a car pulls out of a parking spot he or she deems desirable. If other cars in search of parking spots pull up behind the Chicken King, or if a car parks at the end of the parking aisle, the Chicken King will hold his or her ground and refuse to budge. If the car at the end of the aisle refuses to budge as well, the game of "chicken" commences. Once a car pulls out of a spot that the Chicken King and the challenger would like to park in, engines rev and it's a mad dash to get to the parking spot first, pull in, and park.

Lastly, there's the "Snake" parker. This person scavenges the parking lot in search of another parker waiting patiently for a car to pull out of a spot.

As soon as the person pulls out, the Snake pulls into the stall from the other direction, nonchalantly parks his or her car and walks to class, ignoring the words of fury the patient parker hurls at him or her.

The various prey have learned methods to try and distract or avoid the Hunter, Chicken King, and Snake. They can weave in and out of parked vehicles to confuse parkers or pretend to be near a vehicle that is their own then, as a parker approaches, walk away towards either another pretend vehicle or to their actual vehicle. Prey can also sit in their vehicle for fifteen minutes or however long it takes the waiting parker to give up, and then pull out of the parking spot as the parker impatiently speeds off.

Each parking aisle is probably 10 feet in distance from the next aisle. There are about six aisles in any given campus parking lot. Is it really more strenuous having to walk 20 more feet to get a parking spot rather than driving around for 30 minutes trying to find one "closer"? Of course there are exceptions, and I understand not everyone is in the best condition to walk more than necessary. If everyone parks at the first stall they see instead of "cherry picking" for stalls 10 feet closer to the campus, there would be more spots available for the exceptions that really do need to park closer, and there'd be less parking lot anxiety build up.

So if you're a Hunter, Chicken King, or Snake, maybe you need to re-evaluate why parking 10 feet closer is more important than getting to class on time.

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Great Italian food is waiting at Johnny Carino's

BY KATRENA ROBINSON
Pride Staff Writer

Just as Italian is the language of love, Italian cuisine is the food of romance. Well, maybe not officially, but it's definitely scrumptious. Luckily, there's a little bit of Italy right down the street on San Marcos Blvd. and Grand, called Johnny Carino's.

Upon entering, I noticed the seating was plentiful and diverse with options such as comfy bar seats, four cornered tables, open booth tables, and curtains that can be pulled for privacy.

As I enjoyed my cuisine, bubbly waiters and waitresses stopped by to ensure that everything was well. Soft music drifted out of the overhead speakers to set the mood, yet if you listened closely you'd notice it wasn't Italian music.

Still, it was pacifying just the same.

The lighting is dim to keep a serene feeling and the chance to relax while enticing aromas permeate every corner of the restaurant.

While the food cooks the server creates an oil-based dressing for the fresh bread right at the table. Entrées come steaming fresh while the servers wait nearby to offer fresh pepper and grated parmesan.

The Manager, Denise Arthur, encourages customers to try new dishes with the foreknowledge that one can order a new dish if the former wasn't to their liking. That afternoon I was there with a friend, and Ms. Arthur urged her to be adventurous and try a new dish. My friend, being a picky eater, obliged, only to find that after one bite she'd rather stick with plain alfredo. Arthur

laughed, happy that she tried it, and brought her a new dish. The manager's lighthearted and animated presence created an enjoyable experience as she hustled from table to table, joking and making sure everyone was taken care of.

As busy as the restaurant gets, it manages to remain spotless in the dining room and bathroom. The heavy wooden doors and wicker baskets gave the restaurant a cozy atmosphere. Johnny Carino's effortlessly promotes an experience of being not in a restaurant, but over at a friend's house. The customer can feel comfortable and relaxed, with prices ranging from only about \$10 for main courses and about \$7 for appetizers.

The food is amazing, customer service is excellent, and the atmosphere brings it all together.



Photo by Erin Young / The Pride

CD or see it: Student concert guide

BY SUMMER CONNERY
Pride Staff Writer

For less than the price of an average CD, kids can bring their live-band-loving friends to San Diego for a smorgasbord of punk shows; besides, who buys their music these days?

On Sunday, March 12, New Jersey band "Saves the

Day" will be playing the House of Blues, along with Circa Survive, Moneen, and Pistolita. For \$15 you can see this amazing set of musicians play, previewing their new album, due out in April. Their soft sound and distinct acoustic melodies have been around since 1998, and their music varies and improves with time. If you are a secret emo fanatic, you will gladly be a part of this crowd.

Closer to Saint

Paddy's Day, you will find something a little darker at Soma. "Black Dahlia Murder," named after the 1947 murder of Elizabeth Short, the "Black Dahlia" has a sound to match their name. Those in desperate need of a good scream need to show up at the main stage at 7 p.m. to witness this "melodic death metal" in person. Their show also includes Throwdown, The Red Chord, and The Agony Scene. The event is on Friday and will cost you \$13, a small price to pay to bring the morbid and deliciously dark side of you out to play.

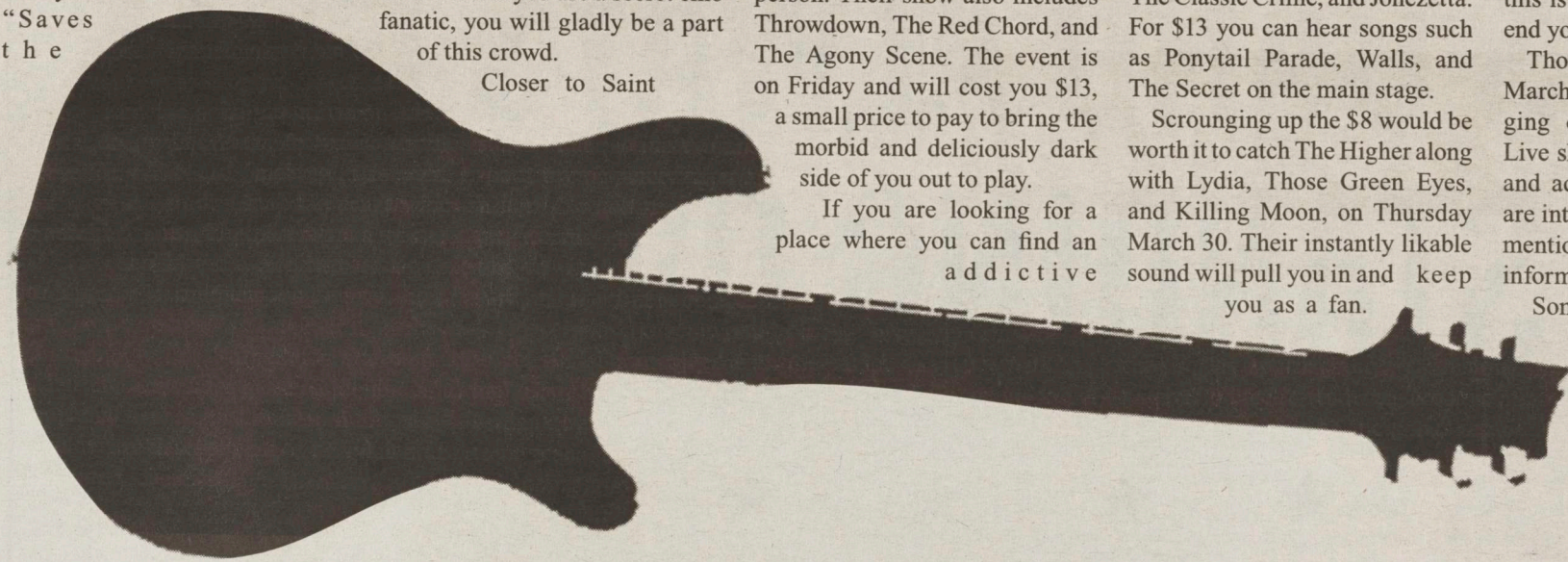
If you are looking for a place where you can find an addictive

chorus, genuinely sentimental lyrics, amazingly fresh riffs, with just the hint of a good scream, then Soma will also be the place for you on Wednesday, March 22. Emery, a band full of "Southern Carolina boys," wanting nothing more than to pour their hearts out on stage, will be playing this venue with Anberlin, Far Less, The Classic Crime, and Jonezetta. For \$13 you can hear songs such as Ponytail Parade, Walls, and The Secret on the main stage.

Scrounging up the \$8 would be worth it to catch The Higher along with Lydia, Those Green Eyes, and Killing Moon, on Thursday March 30. Their instantly likable sound will pull you in and keep you as a fan.

Their sound takes on an emo feel, yet something is different. Their bassist Jason Centero has a background in hip-hop and R&B, so they bring a whole new backbeat to the typical emo sound. They also touch slightly on a techno sound, which fits surprisingly well into their set. If you want to hear some music you can relax to, this is the perfect way for you to end your week.

Those nights of boredom this March don't have to mean logging on to Myspace anymore. Live shows are the perfect cheap and accessible night out. If you are interested in any of the shows mentioned, you can find more information at both hob.com and Somasd.com.



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A novel of personal identity

BY MICHELLE HEROLD
Pride Staff Writer

If there is one thing we as Americans should understand, it is that the melding of cultures has created us and our culture into what it is today. In this novel of the modern immigrant dilemma, we learn just that. Trapped between one culture and another and feeling isolated from both, necessity and survival make us adapt to the world in which we find ourselves and the people that inhabit it, no matter how different they may be from the culture that gave us birth.

The Namesake is a novel with which most Americans can relate at some level. While many of our ancestors were immigrants at one time, our wildly diverse cultural background allows even Native Americans to recognize the feelings of alienation of the immigrant at some level. Written by Pulitzer Prize winning author Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake* has been hailed by *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, and many others as the best book of 2003. Lahiri's style is simple and clear and very moving. This is a story of a Bengali family and their adaptation to this country. It bears the insights of someone who has experience with this kind of acculturation.

The Ganguli family arrives in the United States from Calcutta, India in the late 1960's, a period of time already rife with social change and upheaval. Even though their status is educated and middle-class from the start, the clash of culture is no less jarring. The time period also contributes to the feelings of alienation they and their children feel from the American culture around them.

Born in Boston soon after their arrival, Gogol, their oldest child, feels every bit of the common teenage angst, mixed up with a little foreign culture shock and topped off with a generous helping of family conflict as he tries to pass himself off as no different from everyone else. The fact that his parents are Hindu, his mother wears a Sari, he must travel back to India for prolonged stays every few years and his father's inexplicable decision to name him after an old Russian writer complicate his determination to fit in. No one is quite like him, and he knows it from a very early age.

Gogol eventually changes his name in an attempt to change his identity and control his future, but he cannot change his background. Difficulties between his family and himself include the compromises his family makes with American culture and the

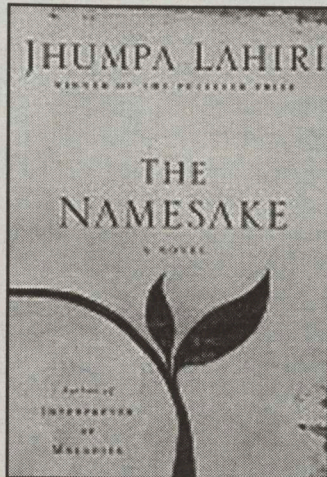


Image courtesy of
First Mariner Books

things they refuse to change in order to fit in. While he tries to be as American as possible, his parents are and will always be immigrants, foreigners in a strange land. His nearly schizophrenic mixture of acceptance and rejection of both American and Indian ways provides most of the conflict in this novel, but his character is sympathetic and sincere. His attempt to distance himself from his roots is interesting, eventually changing into an attempt to discover and reconcile the two halves of himself into a true American, a man who can accept and seek a harmonious balance between both parts of his background and still maintain his own personal identity.

Beer of the week *Old Goat's Oats*

BY MATTHEW SCHRAMM
Pride Staff Writer

If you have ever felt like having a beer after a stressful day of classes, and are in the mood for trying something new, than the San Marcos Brewery & Grill has exactly what you need. A small micro-brewery off of San Marcos Boulevard and just a short ride from CSUSM, the San Marcos Brewery & Grill has several unique beers available, including a delicious Oatmeal Stout.

Featuring a black-coffee color, the San Marcos Oatmeal Stout is strong in appearance and complexity, yet mild in texture. The flavor of the stout is suggestive of roasted grains, with perhaps some coffee or roasted caramel.

A strong, yet subtle finish and aftertaste complete this delicious stout. The oats used in the brewing process add smoothness to the stout that is hard to beat, combining with a very hearty flavor that produces a truly well-balanced micro-brew beer.

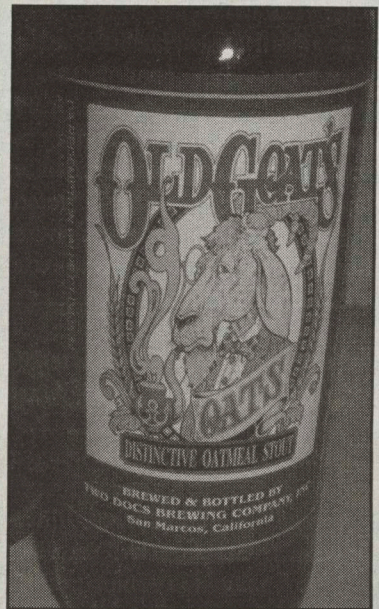


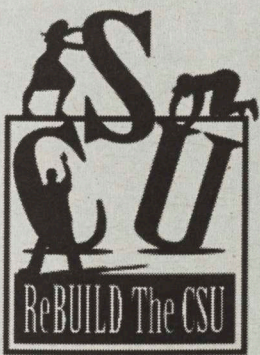
Photo by Matthew Schramm /
The Pride

Available only at the San Marcos Brewery, the Oatmeal Stout is served off tap at room temperature, or is available for purchase in large 1 pint, 6 oz. bottles. Interestingly the design of the bottle features a goat on it and the title *Old Goat's Stout*. Although served warm-ish onsite, the Oatmeal Stout is also excellent chilled.

Oatmeal Stout is a true micro-brew, exclusive to San Marcos, strong in flavor and smooth in taste, this is one beer that is not to be missed.

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In 2003 and 2004, California cut half a billion dollars in state funding for the CSU. To help get through tough times, faculty and staff took a pay freeze. Students saw fees skyrocket along with class sizes. Sections were cancelled. Advising appointments took months to get.

The economy finally started to recover this year, but instead of putting new resources in the classrooms, the Trustees spent \$1.2 million on huge raises for top administrators. They could have used that money to offer 262 more sections that would enroll 10,000 students. After all, the housing allowance for presidents is more than the yearly pay of many professors!

To top it all off, after raising student fees every year since 2002, the Trustees want to raise them again—10% per year for the next four years. The CSU is getting so expensive that enrollments are starting to decline!

Meanwhile, faculty and staff unions are negotiating new contracts, and the CSU administration is pushing hard for cutbacks in compensation and job security. They want to get rid of reliable cost-of-living raises for faculty who are already underpaid. They want to dump three-year contracts for lecturers, making them scramble for work every semester. And they want to gut the FERP program that lets retired faculty keep teaching the courses students need.

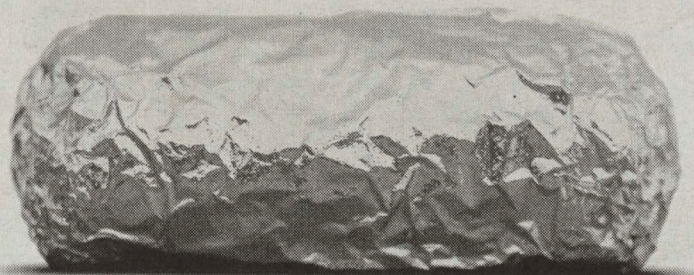
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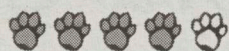
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Tapping into the suspense of 'Firewall'

BY KATRENA ROBINSON
Pride Staff Writer



In an intense thriller about money, greed, and family, director Richard Loncraine and writer Joe Forte go for the gold with "Firewall." I'll try not to give too much away, but the plot revolves around Jack Stanfield (Harrison Ford) and another powerful posse that uses him to tap into the money at the bank he works at. His family (two kids and a wife) are brought into the scam as blackmail, for the perpetrators know Jack will do anything to keep them alive.

The year is current, I'm assuming either 2005 or 2004, but what I want to know is what month this was taking place in. As the days passed by and the wife and kids were held hostage in the house, all I could think was

'they are missing a lot of school.' I'm also assuming his wife was a freelance architect, because her work remained unaccounted for as well. Upon considering this, I came up with what all these hostage movies need. The ingredients to a movie like this must include: violence (a fair amount, of course), guns, a beautiful girlfriend/wife, cute kids, state of the art technology, and the main character having had a great position of power.

The setup of the movie is spectacular, having Jack wired and tapped with the invaders using his home as their base to monitor his every move (they can hear what he says and what others say and what he sees) while watching his family. There are repeated conflicts in which Stan-

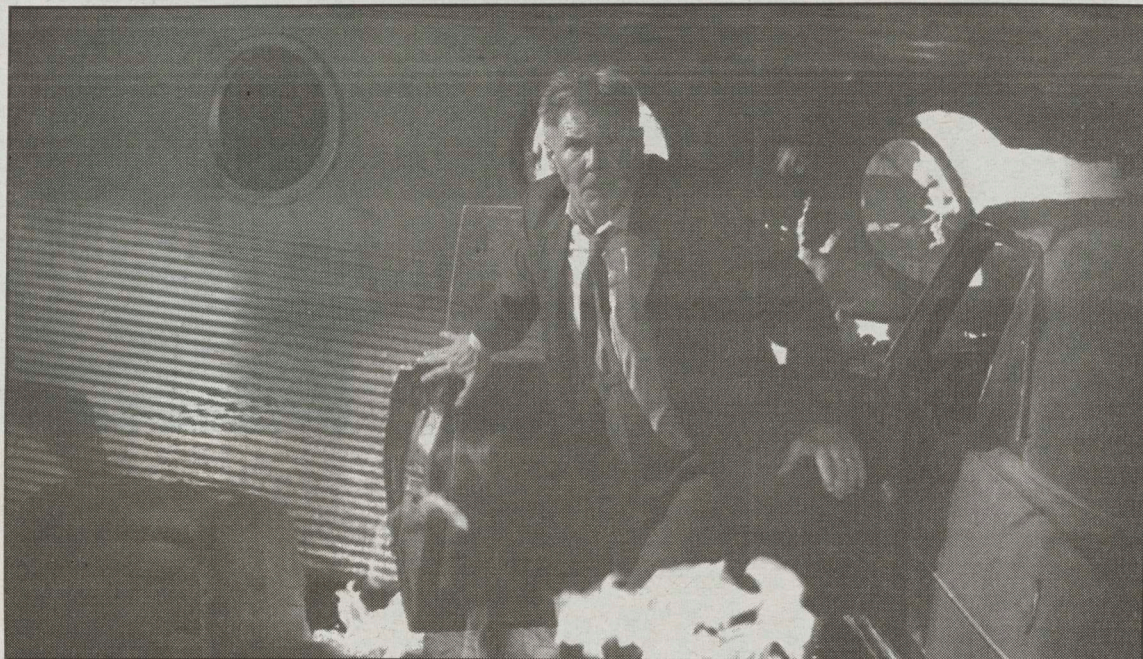


Image courtesy of Warner Bros.

field attempts to alter the villains' plan and violence ensues as the family learns what is and isn't acceptable behavior for hostages. "Firewall" is packed with tons of suspense as the audience is rooting for the good guy to not get caught while he's helping to destroy the company he works for. The scenes were mostly well executed; sometimes I thought I knew the outcome and was completely wrong, while other times I was right.

Ford's character even gets to deliver this line: "I killed the man who was supposed to kill me" upon his realization of how this scam was supposed to unfold.

Just a forewarning, if you plan on seeing this movie STOP HERE, I'm about to spoil the ending.

My complaint about the movie doesn't come up until the very end. I'm all for a happy ending, but come on! After all that went on, the beatings with heavy objects, the falling on his back from one floor down to the next, falling through wood planks, being in a car when it blows up, all this, and Jack literally walks away, mostly unharmed. He even looked almost clean as he and his family assumed a picturesque horizontal line as they walked away in slow motion from the dead people who had been ter-

rorizing their lives. The rest of the family was fine too; they all looked as if they were getting back from Disneyland, not near death. There are a lot of loose ends left at the end and speaking of loose, how the heck did the wife and kids get their arms untied? There was no one around to help them, and if it was that easy they should've done it earlier. I enjoyed the unfolding of the movie, the strategies used to keep the audience captivated were excellent, but the untidy, typical wrap up at the end almost made Firewall burn.

Rated PG-13, Running time 105 minutes.

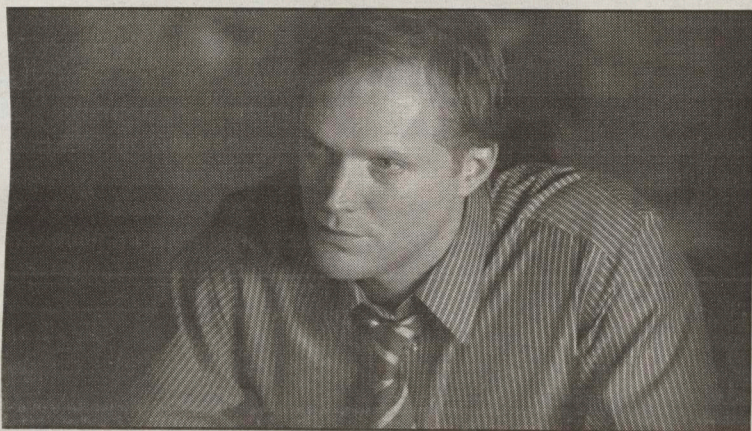


Image courtesy of Warner Bros.

How To ... Satisfy late night cravings

BY SUMMER CONNERY
Pride Staff Writer

After a long night out dancing, socializing, drinking or heaven forbid, studying, there is nothing better then seeking out your neon sign of choice. That's right, the infamous 2 a.m. food run. There's nothing more satisfying then finding your own personal brand of solitude in a paper wrapper.

We are all guilty of giving in to our growling stomachs, regardless of what time it is, and heading out to our favorite eatery for

greasy foods we all adore. Sorry, but peanut butter and jelly on white, you just don't cut it when it comes to a late night cravings.

So where do you go when the clock strikes 2 and the bar is closing?

Well, the students here at Cal State San Marcos had their own ideas about their late night oasis. However, their tastes didn't stray far from one student to the next. The places we absolutely cannot live without in the middle of the night are taco shops (what would we do without them?) and Denny's.

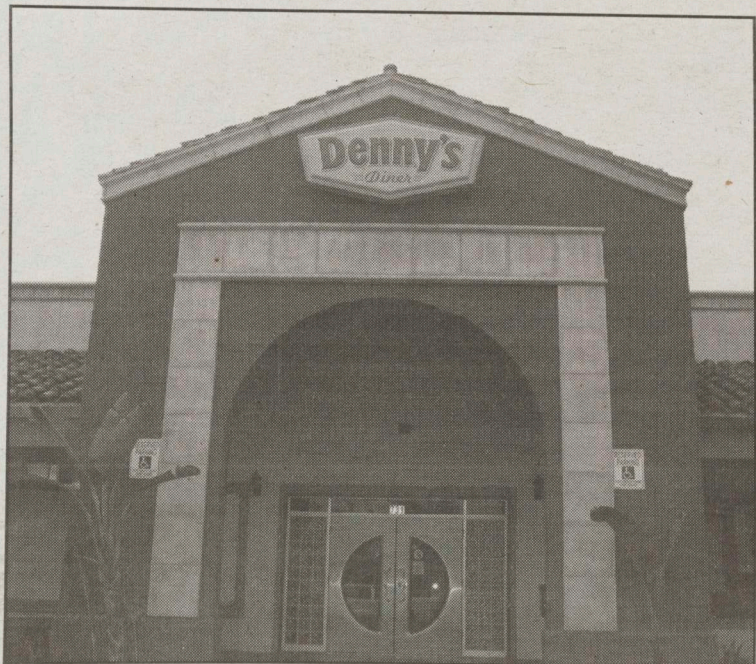
Now, everyone has his or her favorite taco shop. Alberto's, Albertacos, Antonio's. What is not to like? Burritos that weigh as much as your head, long lines of college students eagerly awaiting their fix of choice, menus that are bright enough to burn your retinas for a good ten minutes, and the voice behind the box that never, ok almost never, gets your order right. It is pure heaven. So why do we endure the conditions of the ever-busy taco shop? Where else can you show up with a dollar and a smile and leave completely happy?

After speaking with a few of our midnight munching males and females here on campus, I found that I was not the only one involved in a romantic liaison with the California burrito from Santana's Mexican Grill on San Marcos and Pacific. "Santana's fulfills every void in your stomach at the wee hours of the morning," said Adam Bishop. "The California burrito rocks my socks."

There is also the famous known green and yellow sign which we have all searched desperately for in the middle of the night. The nearest Denny's to campus, on San Marcos Blvd., can provide any gung-ho breakfast fanatic with a greasy slice of heaven they



Photos by Erin Young / The Pride



desire. "Denny's \$3.99 Grand Slam, you get everything on one plate," said Jeremy Decker. The Grand Slam includes two buttermilk pancakes, two eggs any style, toast, and two pieces of bacon and sausage. Denny's has something to offer for everyone, including meat lovers, traditional country biscuits and gravy, and don't forget the Fabulous French

Toast Platter.

From the 24hr drive thru at the McDonald's at Knoll and San Marcos, to the Winchell's Donuts on Valley Parkway in Escondido, we all have our own recipe for the gut-bomb we so desire. So, the next time you need to kill that craving, keep these fine late night dining establishments in mind.