

Unveiling the ASI Budget

How ASI spends student money

BY LORA PAINTER
Pride Staff Writer

With a one million dollar operating budget each academic year, the Associated Students, Inc., the governing-board representing Cal State San Marcos's student voice, oversees student-oriented programs, promotes diversity, and aims to build campus life through the utilization of an extensive budget, courtesy of mandatory student fees.

"As President and CEO of Associated Students Incorporated, I oversee a budget of over \$1.4 million," stated Marc DeGuzman in his speech at President Haynes' second Annual Community Report.

Students are the benefactors of ASI, but not a lot of knowledge is offered about ASI's budget or use of its financial resources. After further investigation, ASI's budget is unveiled.

"ASI is a not-for-profit student-run auxiliary," according to the Associated Students, Inc. website. "ASI representatives continually advocate for student issues."

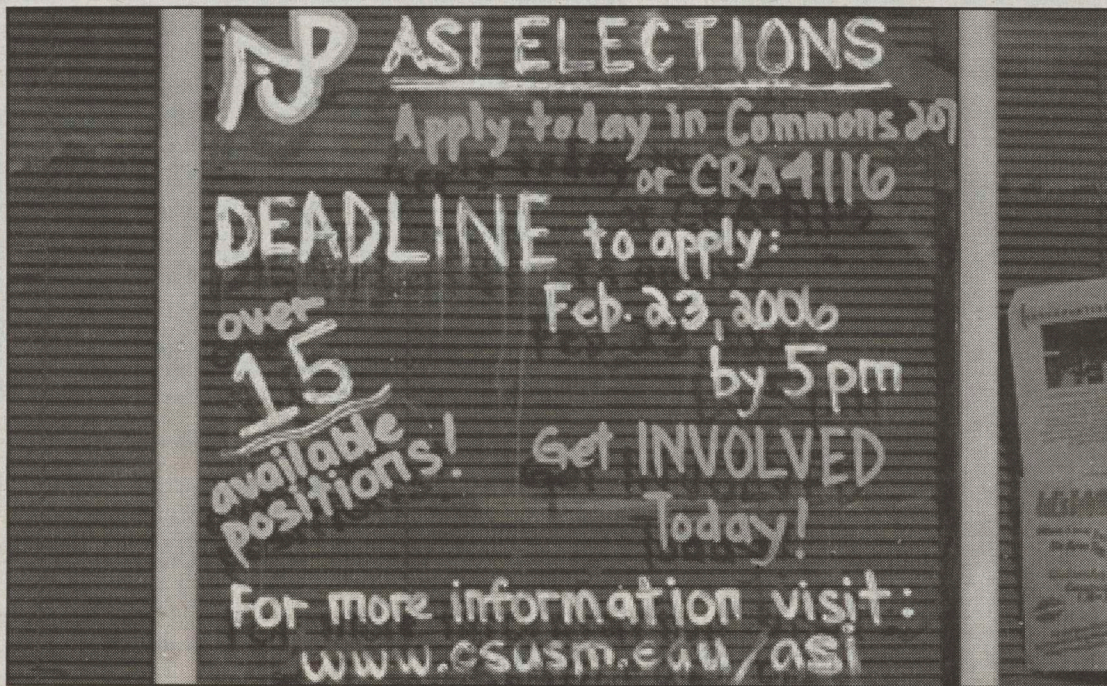


Photo by Christine Vaughan / The Pride

While planning for the next fiscal budget, ASI also prepares for the 2006-2007 ASI Elections.

Three factors compose ASI's operating budget: student fees, donations/profits, and interest from investments.

The vast majority of ASI funds are provided directly from mandatory student union fees, included in each semester's tuition cost, for both part-time and full-time students. Each student, unless exempt with a waiver, contributes \$50 to ASI's budget. If a student is enrolled for all three semesters,

spring, summer, and fall, within one academic year, the student has paid ASI \$150 to advocate for that student's voice. These fees allow ASI to host and co-sponsor events on and off campus, including the Masquerade Ball, cultural festivities, guest lecturers, and many other activities run by student-oriented operations.

However, some funds assist with less practical uses, such as purchasing the North County

Times and New York Times, or working on goals such as installing couches in restrooms, a goal detailed on the ASI website.

In addition to the extensive financial contribution by students, commercial operations are typically paid for by donations and profit from ticket sales. ASI makes about one dollar on each ticket sold

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A 'cool' fundraiser

Alternative Spring Break promotes Hockey for Habitat for Humanity

BY KATIE ROWE
Pride Staff Writer

Students participating in the Alternative Spring Break program offer their first "cool" fundraiser: selling tickets to watch the San Diego Gulls hockey team take on the Utah Grizzlies on Saturday, Feb. 25 at the I-Pay One Center.

The Alternative Spring Break crew representing Cal State San Marcos is sponsored by ASI and consists of a group of 20 students and four faculty members. The group will work with Habitat for Humanity in Oakland, California, collaborating with Oregon

State University and Stanford University, to build homes for low-income families. This year, Cal State San Marcos is proud to have more student representatives participating in the program than either of the two other campuses.

To help subsidize costs, the crew will be offering several fundraising events, starting with hockey tickets. The group is taking advantage of the fundraising opportunity the San Diego Gulls offer to non-profit organizations. ASI is selling tickets to the game for \$12, the same price offered at the box

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Campus takes part in History

41st Annual History Conference hosted at Cal State San Marcos

BY JON THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer

Cal State San Marcos welcomes the privilege of hosting the 41st Annual History Conference, celebrating the 125th anniversary of San Diego County's great Railway and Real Estate Boom that happened in the late 19th century.

The conference will be held March 3 and 4 in the Clarke Field House, with a self guided driving history tour offered on Sunday the fifth. Hosted by Cal State San Marcos, the confer-

ence is co-sponsored and presented by the Congress of History of San Diego and Imperial Counties, the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association, and the CSUSM History Department.

The event, themed "From Baldwins to Boomers" (Baldwins refer to the historic locomotive used extensively at the time), will feature two days of illustrated talks, displays and presentations by local historical societies.

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University Police Report

Lack of staffing prevents fast response to crime reports

BY ANTOINETTE JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

In following up on the student vehicle burglary of Feb. 1, the University Police Department speaks out regarding their efforts to ensure campus safety. Lieutenant Douglas Miller was able to provide some additional comments on the incident, as well as details about the responsibilities of CSUSM Police, Community Service Officers, and Parking Officers.


"We (University Police) have at most three officers on duty at all times," said Miller, in describing the patrol power of the department. Miller explained that for the three officers on duty there is a total of 304 acres plus the insides of each building to monitor. Patrol power is increased with the presence of CSOs and Parking Officers; however, the abilities to make arrests and apprehend suspects aren't strengthened as much through this unity.

"Parking Officers and CSOs are like our eyes and ears," said Miller, commenting on the nature of these officers' jobs. Officers from both divisions can observe and report incidents, but they are not authorized to take action in situations like vehicle burglaries. In fact, if these officers were to take steps toward apprehending suspects or taking individuals into custody, they would face consequences. "CSOs and Parking Officers are students, they are not trained in law enforcement," said Miller.

Because Community Service Officers and officers from Parking Services must report all incidents to University Police before any action can take place, response time can take up to 15 minutes. According to Lt. Miller, this time is much faster compared to San Diego State's response time of some-

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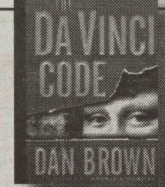
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the Cougar

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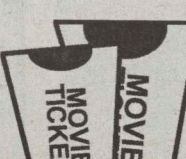
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The Pride

'Crash' into Cougar Pride

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BY SUMMER CONNERY
Pride Staff Writer

Cal State San Marcos is in the market for enthusiastic students interested in promoting campus unity and pride as the campus's spirited cougar mascot CRASH.

In prior years, CRASH hasn't had many appearances on campus, but ASI's Kellie Klopf is eager to change that. ASI is looking for a few lively students, guys or girls, who can pump up enthusiasm and entertained crowds at sporting events, student orientations, campus tours, and events on campus.

Recognizing hectic student schedules, the time commitment is based solely on student availability and with expectations of having multiple CRASH cast-members, attendance at certain events will be divided among all interested and available students.

Being the campus mascot is like having a secret identity, added Klopf. Interested students can be reassured that all crew-member identities are confidential, allowing campus pride in a cougar-suit to not bruise egos.

Everyone is welcome to apply to be a cast-member for the mascot CRASH. All cougars are allowed, regardless of age, size, gender, or talent level. In order to be qualified, applicants must demonstrate intentions on wishing to increase campus pride.

CRASH will debut on March 7, giving

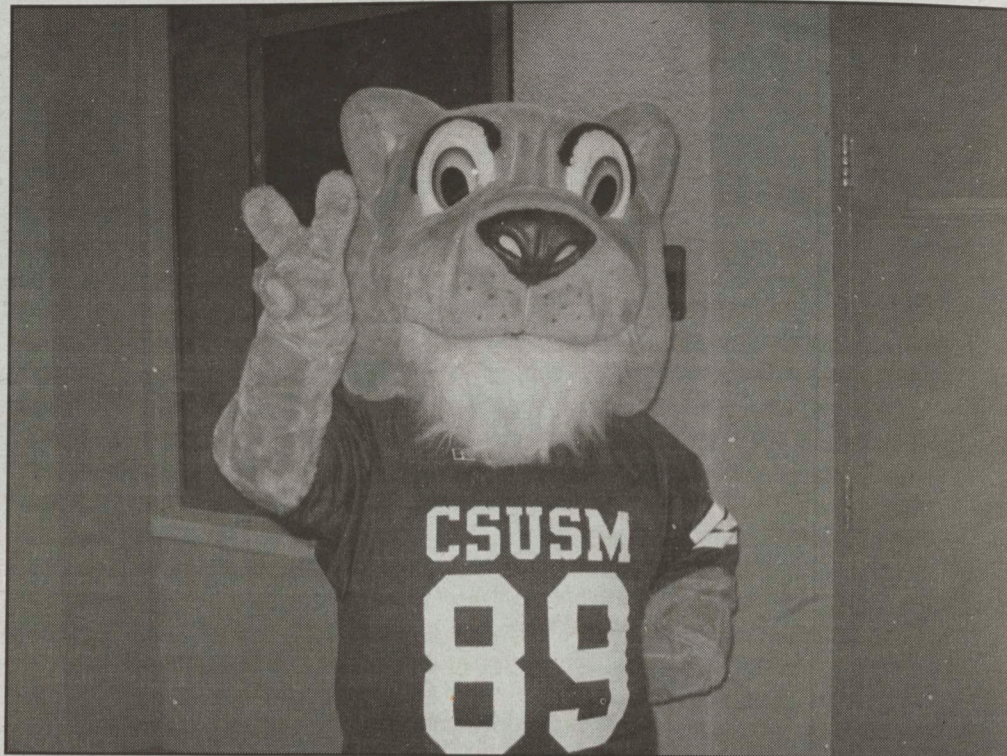


Photo Courtesy of Associated Students Incorporated

students the opportunity to rub elbows with the mascot and share in campus-wide pride at the CRASH Pride Day. The event will be located in the Kellogg Plaza, complete with free food, games, entertainment, free-prizes for students showing their pride, and the

man of the hour, CSUSM's lovable mascot, CRASH.

If making people smile and helping students to find their school spirit sounds like fun, please contact Kellie Klopf at kklopf@csusm.edu. Who will be the next CRASH?

All opinions and letters to the editor, published in The Pride, represent the opinions of the author, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Pride, or of California State University San Marcos. Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of The Pride editorial board.

Letters to the editors should include an address, telephone number, e-mail and identification. Letters may be edited for grammar and length. Letters should be under 300 words and submitted via electronic mail to pride@csusm.edu, rather than to the individual editors. It is the policy of The Pride not to print anonymous letters.

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The Pride
Cal State San Marcos
333 N Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, CA 92096-0001
Phone: (760) 750-6099
Fax: (760) 750-3345
E-mail: pride@csusm.edu
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through their box office. Collectively, this financial income totals approximately \$15,000 dollars of the budget, which generally goes toward commercial operations.

The third and smallest contributor to the ASI budget is the interest gained off of investments in mutual funds. This equates to about a thousand dollars within the academic year. Interest does not provide a large amount of ASI's funds, but can help cushion budgets for many events and programs.

About \$120,000 is used annually for program events on campus, compensating guest speakers, and hosting social events. ASI also utilizes some of its budget to sponsor and co-sponsor events, such as the Middle Eastern Conference, Oktoberfest, and recreational activities.

Commercial operations also have costs, which can include

front business office expenses and maintenance on copiers and fax machines. Costs in this area also include buying wholesale tickets for amusement parks, leisure activities, etc. ASI also funds the Early Learning Center, the Recreation Center/Clarke Field House and club/ intramural sports.

The ASI general fund budget is decided and allocated by various ASI departments and the ASI Board of Directors, with approval/suggestions from the University President and her administration. The current ASI administration makes the budget for the upcoming year/administration.

June 30 is the end of the fiscal academic year, and all departments are putting forward their proposals this Spring to prepare for the upcoming fiscal year. Once decisions are made regarding the proposals and the amount of funds available, ASI begins

drafting the general fund. Each department decides what they need and with all things considered, a general budget is drafted by the main ASI Board of Directors, consisting of five key executive directors.

ASI officers are salaried workers, but often the labor outweighs the compensation. The presidential position for ASI pays \$8,000 per term, which is one full academic year. The ASI President has to put in a minimum of ten hours a week in the summer and a minimum of 20 hours a week in the Fall and Spring semesters. Executive officers earn \$7,000 a year, logging in the same minimum weekly hours as the president. Student representatives make considerably less with \$1,200 for the year for a minimum of eight hours a week. All

ASI elected positions serve for a full term from Summer semester through Spring semester.

"We put in many more hours than [what is required]," said Marc DeGuzman, current ASI president. He also adds that "some students may feel that ASI doesn't do anything," but actually it is a very complex organization with many responsibilities that impact students.

ASI is currently looking for ways to expand on commercial operations. Foundations have lots of control over food sales and vendors. No negotiations are in the works, but ASI is considering other options to help raise more funds and increase the ASI operating budget, which means more programs and event opportunities for CSUSM students and affiliates.

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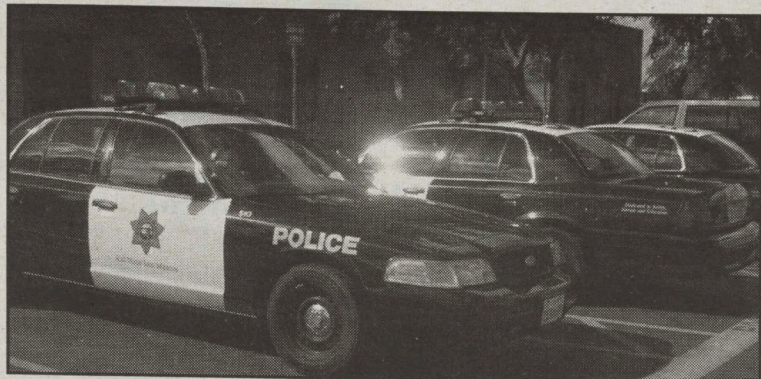


Photo by Antoinette Johnson / The Pride

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times 24 hours. Nonetheless, a contributing factor in the department's response time is lack of staffing. The campus is growing at an exponential rate while the department's size remains at a standstill.

This issue is not only felt on the university level, but also county-wide. "San Diego County law enforcement has 500 vacant jobs to be filled due to the difficulty to recruit individuals for sworn law enforcement jobs," said Sergeant

Rigo Chaves. The interviewing and preliminary screening process is composed of multiple steps, often too many steps for most applicants. Due to the staffing obstacles and campus growth the University Police must face, the department encourages all students to report all suspicious behaviors to any of the campus officers on campus in efforts to keep crime incidents low. To contact the University Police Department, call 760-750-4567.

'NO!' Rape in the African American Community.

BY ZACHARY J. SIMON
Pride Staff Writer

Dean of Students, Jonathan Poulard, was able to convince Ms. Simmons to make a side-trip to San Marcos.

International lecturer and activist Aishah Shahidah Simmons, a graduate of film and gender studies at Temple University in Philadelphia, attributes the greater part of her training to the Scribe Video Center, a creative community establishment focusing on filmmaking.

"No!" is her first feature length film and the culmination of 11 years of independent work, much of it spent gathering funds to cover the copyright costs of extensive news and interview footage. Yet, to call the final result a 'collage' would give far too little credit to its historic, personal, and artistic depth.

The film has been screened several times through the years as a work in progress, primarily on US campuses, but also in women's centers across Europe. With the exception of a sneak preview at Quinnipiac University in CT, CSUSM shares the honor of the first public screening with the PAN African Film Festival, which ran Feb. 9 through Feb. 20 in L.A.

The reaction, from the well-mixed crowd, was one of both stunned and blooming awe. This is not 'in spite' of its focus on the African American woman's experience, but because that identity was so frankly and emotionally embraced. The news footage used was spaced and pointed enough so as not to sensationalize. So too the interpretive dance and poetry recitals, speaking to the audience with neither self-servience nor pity. The film illuminated the necessity of questioning both political and religious authority figures and the ongoing effort by men's groups to counteract the socializing factors that enable rapists.

From the young woman who freely attended, afterward sharing her memories and tears, to students who came for class credit, yet, like undeclared freshman Gabriella Mireles, left echoing "I just thought it was awesome, and I'm really glad I came."

More information is available at www.notherapedocumentary.org

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office at the I Pay-One Sports Arena. However, only tickets purchased through ASI will benefit the students going on Alternative Spring Break.

If the Alternative Spring Break crew reaches its goal of selling 100 tickets, the group will make \$600 in profit. In addition, the crew plans to attend the game to sell souvenir hockey pucks in hopes of making more money.

Sara Gallegos, coordinator of Student Activities, considers this fundraiser sponsored by the San Diego Gulls a very generous offer because the Gulls give half of the ticket proceeds to the organization. All the money that the group makes from "Hockey Night" will go toward helping students pay for the cost of Alternative Spring Break.

The seats available through the ASI box office are located

in the terrace section, T6B, of the I-Pay One Sports Arena. Although everyone will be sitting together during the game, each person is responsible for arranging his or her own ride to the game.

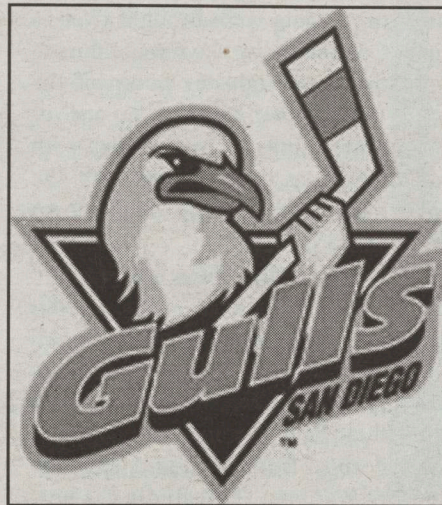


Photo Courtesy of SanDiegoGulls.com

Students are encouraged to take advantage of this event because it is "a chance to participate in something different and students will be helping their fellow students, who have

decided to do something meaningful with their Spring Break," mentioned Gallegos.

Liz Sheets, a CSUSM student who has wanted to go on Alternative spring Break for the last three years, but is only now taking the opportunity to participate in the program, explained that, "It's a chance to help out a community with fellow students, and everyone who has gone, has said they had a good experience." Gallegos added that other students, who have previously worked with a local division of Habitat for Humanity for one-day activities, wanted to get more involved and do something bigger.

If you are interested in helping the group get to Alternative Spring Break, tickets for the hockey game are on sale now in the ASI Business office.

For additional information about the event or Alternative Spring Break, contact Sara Gallegos at sgallego@csusm.edu.

On Campus: Documenting the history of the 'Tijuana Jews'

BY ALEX GARIN
Pride Staff Writer

As Americans, our images of Tijuana might include: painted donkeys, shoeless children selling Chiclets, cheap Rolex knockoffs, booze, Montezuma's revenge, maniacal drivers in search of the best possible route to the "front of the line" at the international border, etc... In any case, a bustling Jewish community doesn't rank high on the list. In fact, the notion of a Mexican Jew can be downright baffling to some.

Isaac Arntstein's documentary, "Tijuana Jews," breaks through many misconceptions regarding Jews and Mexico, while providing a warm, comprehensive history of the people.

The film uncovers the bustling Mexican Jewish community, most of which emi-

grated from pre-World War II Europe to find a safer home in secular Mexico. Arntstein digs into his family's history and uncovers the personalities of predominate members of the community. They lived just like any other Jewish community would elsewhere in the world.

Through the use of old photo's, interviews with surviving members of the original community, warm narratives and seemingly ancient super 8 footage, Arntstein gives the forgotten community an unforgettable voice. The film also recounts events that happened at many Tijuana landmarks such as the Jai Alai Palace, Avenida Revolucion, and Tijuana's "Centro Social Isrealista," adding a bit of history to both well-known or otherwise unknown parts of town.

"Tijuana Jews" is more than an informative documentary on Jews living in Tijuana, it is also a colorful commemoration of an

all but forgotten cluster of families who escaped European persecution and made a comfortable home in the prosperous environment Tijuana provided before its economic downfall in the 1960's.

Since then, many of those families have moved into the United States (particularly in the southern parts of San Diego County) and have blended in with the predominant culture. Meanwhile, their parents and grandparents, who experienced Tijuana's boom, are slowly fading away.

Of course, immortalizing these people in film is one of the main reasons Arntstein produced "Tijuana Jews", in addition to dispelling the perception of a Mexican Jew as some sort of mythological creature.

The Center ARTS at CSUSM held the showing and lecture of "Tijuana Jews" in Room 240 of the Arts building on Wednesday, February 15 as part of their series of arts and lectures.

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On Campus: Cuban Magic takes hold of CSUSM

BY DUSTIN FRANKS
Pride Staff Writer

Last Thursday afternoon, CSUSM students in ARTS 240 were taken on a literary trip to Cuba to explore the secretive religion of "Palo Monte," often considered "Black Magic". Armin Schwegler, a professor of Spanish at both U.C. Irvine and CSUSM, guided audience members through the inter-workings and curiosities of the obscure religious practices, language and context of Palo Monte.

The lecture was presented as part of the Black History Month events on campus. "This is the story of African people coming to the New World and what was retained as far as their culture, language and religious practices," said Prof. Schwegler, before speaking to the audience as a whole.

His lecture began by narrating

the origins of the Palo Monte religion, tracing it back to the lower Congo region of Africa and the Kikongo language. These cultural roots were brought over to Cuba with the slave trade during the sugar industry boom of the 1820s. This religion is one of four to migrate from Africa with the slave trade, along with the likes of the more well-known Santeria.

Previously thought to be a complete pidgin, mixed with different languages from all over Africa, Prof. Schwegler's research sheds light on the fact that Palo Monte was actually derived from the single language of Kikongo. This finding is now considered irrefutable by the academic world.

The language now used in religious practice is heavily restructured, and mixes standard traditional Spanish with the Kikongo language. This dialect has turned

into its own entity and research has led to a translation of over three thousand words.

The practice of Palo Monte is characterized as being extremely secretive, and Prof. Schwegler spent a great deal of time in Cuba digging deep to find his information. His studies led him to find that the religion is very much alive and, in fact, thriving all over the country of Cuba. The lecture made a notable point of explaining that, despite the dark stereotype of the old African religions gathered from mainstream media, Palo Monte is actually practiced by all different members of Cuban society, from city to village, from doctors to cab drivers.

Palo Monte emphasizes the idea of "invoking" or otherwise working with the spirits of the dead. Those practicing the religion build small temples with shrine-like sculptures made of

natural objects such as wood, herbs, and bone. Small trinkets of significance are sometimes tied in as well. While widely practiced, its secrecy has made learning about the language extremely difficult.

Nevertheless, Prof. Schwegler's photos, sound clips, and grammatical breakdown of this mysterious religion made for an impressively informative presentation. The broad content of the lecture also left a lot open to the interpretation and interests of the diverse student audience. As to whether there was any particular kind of student that frequented his lectures, Prof. Schwegler replied that "Linguistics, History, and Spanish majors can all be tied into the subject matter".

These lectures have taken him all over the world, and Prof. Schwegler is energized by the fact that scholars "still have a lot to learn".

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On Campus: Student Life and Leadership

BY JENNY NGUYEN
Pride Staff Writer

It's a common perception that for CSUSM students there is very little to 'student life' outside of the studying and traveling from one class to the next. For those looking to change this experience, the tools can be found in Craven Hall 4116 at the Student Life & Leadership (SLL) office.

"This ('no student life' label) is a matter of perspective. For our age and size, we are doing very well," says Bridget Blanshan, Director of Student Life & Leadership. She explains that student life and culture here on campus may not be as obvious as other universities because some traditions at other campuses are a lot older, due to the fact that those universities are a lot older.

What's nice about the fact that CSUSM is less than 20 years old is that it gives students today an opportunity to become involved in creating these lasting traditions and organizations. Furthermore, the staff at the Student Life & Leadership office will partner with students to help them establish organizations, as well as give instruction on how to lead them. By becoming involved in the creating process, students are building a legacy. At most other universities here in San Diego, organizations have been established for so long that few are born while some fail to progress.

"I have been here at CSUSM since July 2001, and since then, the number of student organizations has doubled," said Blanshan. According to Erika Kirst, Coordinator of Student Involvement, there are currently over

60 clubs and organizations here on campus, with seven new or renewed organizations this semester alone. With 60 organizations, there is something for everyone, a complete list of which is available in the Student Life & Leadership office.

In order to change the perception that there is 'not much to do' at CSUSM, the SLL staff works together tirelessly with other organizations such as ASI and the Campus Programs and Recreations departments to encourage student involvement and raise awareness that there are more than enough reasons, apart from class attendance, to stay on campus.

In addition to clubs and organizations, the SLL office also offers Co-Curricular Event Funding Applications. If an organization wishes to hold an event, such as the Internship/College Major Fair, or Cultural Performances, they can and should apply for funding. The funds come from monies that have been allocated by President Haynes for such purposes.

Another often unnoticed service is the Multicultural Program. Established 3 years ago, and continuing to blossom today, The Multicultural Program's office is located next door to the SLL, and is the beginning of what will one day be the Cross Cultural Center. This office offers a cozy, living room-like atmosphere with big comfortable couches, shelves lined with books and videos on vast varieties of cultures, and walls papered with beautiful posters of leaders from all over the world.

In addition to his internal duties, Associate Director of the Multicultural Program, Alexis

S. Montevirgen, advises student organizations with a cultural focus, helps plan cultural events on campus and organizes educational programs. This past Fall, the Multicultural Program held an event during Welcome Week called the "Celebration of Culture". In the Spring, look forward to the very first "All People Celebration".

Other services offered include, but certainly aren't limited to, a web based Calendar of Events, Cougar Wellness, Emerging Leaders Program, Fraternity & Sorority Life, Housing, Leadership Fast Tips, Orientation Programs and Tukwut Transcripts.

"There is nothing like it, in terms of learning core life skills," says Blanshan, about the importance of student involvement.

Leadership, negotiating conflicts, managing projects, organizing events, not only do these skills look great to prospective employers, but becoming involved at CSUSM can make the commute seem much less of a chore. Meeting new people and making new friends brings a sense of belonging to campus, a sense that a difference can be made.

To those who've never been, the Student Life & Leadership Office, so close to the top floor of Craven Hall, might seem obscure. Fortunately, students and faculty will be pleased to know that by the Fall semester, SLL will move down a floor where they will be closer to student traffic and will have more room for the growing and expanding life of CSUSM.

For more information, visit the friendly staff at the Student Life & Leadership Office at Craven Hall 4116, or visit their website at <http://www.csusm.edu/sll/>

HISTORY, from page 1

"The History Department is very excited to be welcoming so many community partners, professional public historians, and history enthusiasts to our campus," said Patty Seleski, history department chair. "It's a great opportunity for history majors and others to see examples of the ways in which their interest in history can be continued beyond their college experience, in either a professional and career oriented capacity, or as a personal passion."

"San Diego County has a whole range of history museums and local history societies; the Congress of History is a kind of umbrella organization for these local societies," explained Associate Professor Jeff Charles, who has been working closely with the Congress of History, as well as others, in offering this event at CSUSM. "Many students don't realize how deeply their own lives are shaped by the

history of local development, and this conference will present an interesting perspective on the legacy of our county's past. History teachers, at every level, appreciate work and knowledge of those who study local history because they help keep history alive in the community."

The Annual History Conference will be an informative delight for history buffs, students, and all members of the public alike.

"All local history lovers will find something of interest and will learn something new," added Richard Hann, president of the Congress of History of San Diego and Imperial Counties.

The registration cost for both days is \$30 per person, and offers discounts for seniors, students, and children. All attendees will receive a complimentary 55-page book, "The Railroad Stations of San Diego County: Then and Now," by James N. Price. For more information or to register, call 619/469-7283.

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Jock Talk With Josh

BY JOSH SANDOVAL
Special to The Pride



Dear NBC,
Kudos on the Summer Olympics coverage that you guys provide

every four years, but my biggest pet peeve in sports is when something is called a sport and it clearly isn't. By broadcasting the Winter Olympics you are making me one aggravated sports journalist.

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.

Anything that involves cleaning the ice in front of a large disc that is gliding down the rink is not what I would call entertainment. If you throw some skates on some maids and tell them to hit the ice, it is not a sport.

Anything that involves a person holding on for dear life while sliding down a frozen chute, although it may be entertaining to see them crash, it's not

a sport.

In my mind, events fall into three categories which consist of activities, competitions, and sports.

Figure skating and snowboarding should be considered a competition because the result is determined by the opinion of a judge. Sports should not be viewed like movies. Just because Ebert and Roeper liked your 1080 on the half-pipe doesn't mean you deserve a 10 out of 10.

Curling is an activity, because how can you honestly consider an event with a broom a sport? Bobsledding and pretty much the rest of the Winter Olympics should be considered activities, not sports. The only events in the Olympics that I consider sports are ice hockey and speed skating and you may already know my feelings about ice hockey.

How can you consider these Olympics a success? I mean "American Idol" kicked your freezing butts in viewer-ship on February 14, with the wannabe singers racking in 27 million to your 16.1 million. Heck, at least in "American Idol" the singers are taunted if they suck. I wish I could do that to Bode Miller.

It was supposed to be Miller Time at these Olympics, but

the drunkard party animal has been more disappointing than a hunting trip with Dick Cheney. There was so much hype around this guy that he is one of the few Olympians who had an advertising campaign in major magazines and networks with his campaign of joinbode.com. I want to know where they want us to join Bode, at the bar maybe, because it clearly isn't at the medal podium?

How do you expect us to know the rules of some of these crazy events if you don't even know what to call these Olympics? Is it Torino or Turin? I think I could get used to some of these activities if you exposed me to them more than once every four years. I might actually get into these events if you televised the national skeleton championships, if they even have those. Also, your marketing for these games has been horrible. You guys have focused your media attention on three competitors, Miller, Shaun White and Michelle Kwan.

I've already told you what I think about Miller. You would think I would have support for White since he is from Carlsbad, CA but I can't stand listening to the "dude" be interviewed. I speak a lot of slang in my daily life and don't always use proper

English, but I for sure don't use it 24/7 like White. Now Kwan, there was no chance in hell she was actually going to compete at Turin/Torino and all the talk leading up to these games regarded her. You don't see the NBA marketing its injured stars to get people to watch their sport. It just doesn't make business sense.

What kills me most about these events is how disappointed my peers are when the Americans don't win a gold medal. Honestly, how can people be upset that the U.S. doesn't win at the skeleton event? It's not like you lost your skeleton fantasy league because American didn't bring home the gold. Does America really have to squash every other country in everything? Can't we just leave the world domination thing to George W?

I will be waiting for your response at Sando026@csusm.edu.

Warm Regards,
"Jock Talk" w/ Josh Sandoval

P.S. to the Olympic committee: If you get any wild ideas regarding the start-up of a Spring Olympics, make sure Easter egg hunts aren't part of the events.

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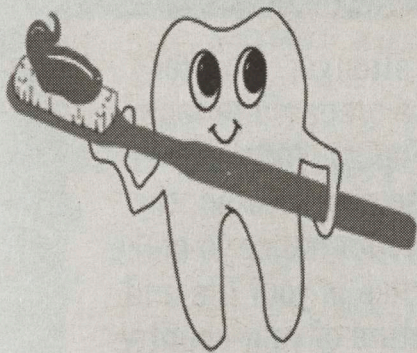
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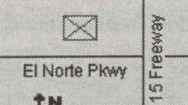
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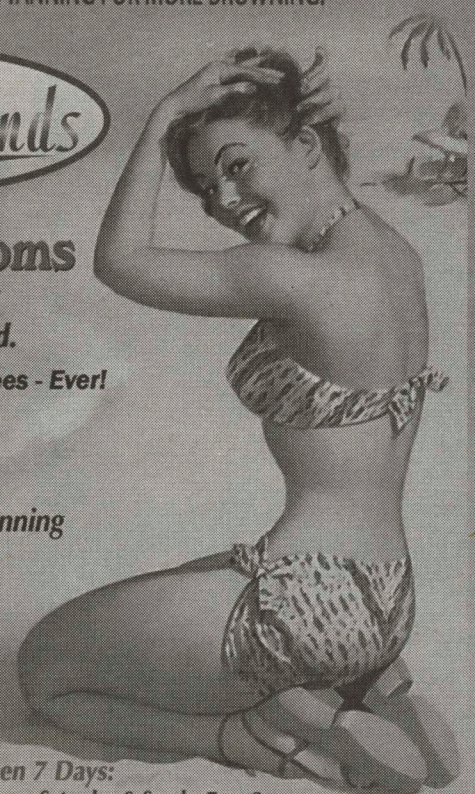
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The Spectre of Avarice

BY ZACHARY J. SIMON
Pride Staff Writer

There's little mind and less matter in wondering how many other bathroom mirrors received similar treatment here on the last Holy Day till the next. The offense or offering lies not in contemplating the implications of public-private ads n' art, but in reflecting upon the journey through society's holiday gauntlet.

No matter how well rounded or timely we consider our relation to Holy Days, most often we do worse than 'forget' their significance, we neglect it. From the Winter Dates to the new calendar, to the matching strike, the members of a comparatively diverse society fill their moats and erect their towers, convinced that their concept of one holiday to the next is not only profoundly sovereign, but perpetually under attack.

Thus it happens, we sing 'with' our hearts and our families while we sing 'at' our cares and anyone who dares to hold less wholly to our concept of our hole. Like a frightened animal, we crap on anything that tries to swallow us

into its fold, or we vomit out our gorgings for the proper nourishment of the neglected. We want OUR plans for that particular day to be recognized, thus projecting our exaggerated joy and reflecting our exaggerated disgust when we should be saving it for its source.

Rolling your eyes at someone when they share a litany of joys, whatever the reason, makes no impact on your mood or their's greater than the chasm stretched between you both. Asking "why don't you" when we clearly mean "what's wrong with you" divides you just as much. Everyone can enjoy good food and drink, gifts, and times of reflection; the occasion should be only a slightly more than minor detail.

Don't be unconsciously greedy; there are enough hours in enough days in enough calendars for everyone. It is challenge enough to reconcile our Good God Tastes, the living spirits we ascribe to our favorite things, when so many are willing to turn our headstones into cobblestones. This is not even to mention the choking walls that hoard

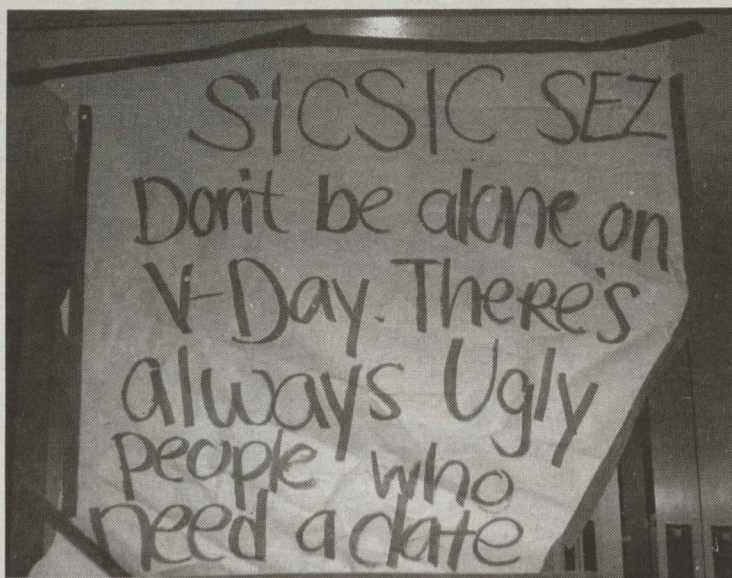


Photo by Zachary J. Simon / The Pride

our refinements and rarities, our secret and artificially shameful pleasures. Beware the talking hands of Avarice, of the will to accumulate what is neither used nor consumed, keep sure and silent that they belong to a dealing demon rather than a riddling ghost. In other words, keep holidays, like possessions, in progressive circulation or serene orbit, that they become neither chains nor an army restless for

conquest.

The shadows and shades of your experiences are your own. Share them as you will, but to truly "share" them, you must first be asked. Abstain as a choice, as precious choice is neither desperate nor pious, as another's Holy Day should be no more your concern than another's chosen mate.

There's enough for all, and too much to be had to be burdened by having it all.

Letter to the Editor

As a graduate student who pays large fees to ASI and feels as though I get nothing in return for my fees, I was very excited to receive a flyer stating that there would be free Cinnabons in celebration of Valentine's day. So you can imagine my anger to discover that your flyer was indeed a hoax and there were no free Cinnabons to be had. I was in the area of the library between 11:15 and 1:00, and I saw no students with Cinnabons, no signs announcing where the Cinnabons could be, and no replacement for the missing Cinnabons.

I know this may seem petty, but I pay alot. Give me my freaking Cinnabons.

Kaylyn Loomis (LTWR)

Corrections and Clarifications:

Volume XV Issue No. 5: The byline for Jock Talk with Josh should have read "Josh Sandoval"

Volume XV Issue No. 5: The byline for On Campus: Casino Night, a sure bet should have read "Rachell Reyes"

Volume XV Issue No. 5: The Pride comic byline should have read "Comic by Matthew Schramm"

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Uncover the secrets in the best seller, 'The Da Vinci Code'

BY RACHELL RAYES
Pride Staff Writer

This year, I didn't want to fall prey into Hollywood's latest adaptation because I hate watching a movie before reading the book.

So I finally finished Dan Brown's "The Da Vinci Code."

I don't want to give the plot away but the book begins with a murder scene. Right away, Brown hooks me in.

Jacques Saunière is the curator of the Louvre. He is murdered inside the Grand Hall of the museum and the plot begins.

The point of the story is NOT to find the killer. That's just too easy. Brown tells you who the killer is. But before Saunière died, he left a bunch of clues pointing out the killer and the key to an ancient secret.

That's where Robert Langdon comes in. He is a Harvard Professor specializing in art history and religious symbology. But Brown's character is not the typical mystery detective. He's smarter. He's so good that Brown brought him back into this novel (Langdon first appeared in

Brown's "Angels and Demons"). The French police needed his expertise inside the crime scene. But he really isn't there to help.

Langdon is actually the prime suspect for the murder.

Bezu Fache, the captain of the French police, brought Langdon inside the Louvre only to interrogate him. While I expected one thing, Brown quickly changed the pace and brought a twist at the end of the scene.

Again, I was hooked.

I wanted to know what happened next.

The story suddenly becomes a learning experience. Langdon's descriptions inside the Louvre sounded like a textbook (probably because Langdon is a professor). I found it refreshing because it actually made me feel right inside the building.

The story shifts and Brown introduces Sophie Neveu. She is a cryptologist who also happens to be the granddaughter of Saunière. Suddenly, Langdon and Sophie become fugitives and race against time to solve the mystery.

But that's just half the book in a

nutshell. There are secret societies involved with the Vatican. There's a great part where Langdon gives a brief explanation behind the meaning of Leonardo Da Vinci's, "Mona Lisa," and there's the history of the Holy Grail included as well.

I'll stop right there and let you decide if you want to know more.

After reading this book, I felt not only refreshed but smarter. This novel is listed as a fiction but somehow, I want to believe that everything is true. With all the controversy surrounding this book, Brown manages to keep the reader educated and guessing all the time.

The chapters are short and Brown's cliffhangers and sharp twists make it easy to read. The puzzles and clues entertained and made it impossible for me to put the book down.

"The Da Vinci Code," has been on the best seller's list for over 146 weeks. Hollywood just couldn't wait to adapt Brown's novel.

The movie will hit theaters on May 19, this year. With Ron Howard directing the film and Tom Hanks as the lead role, this movie will definitely be a blockbuster.

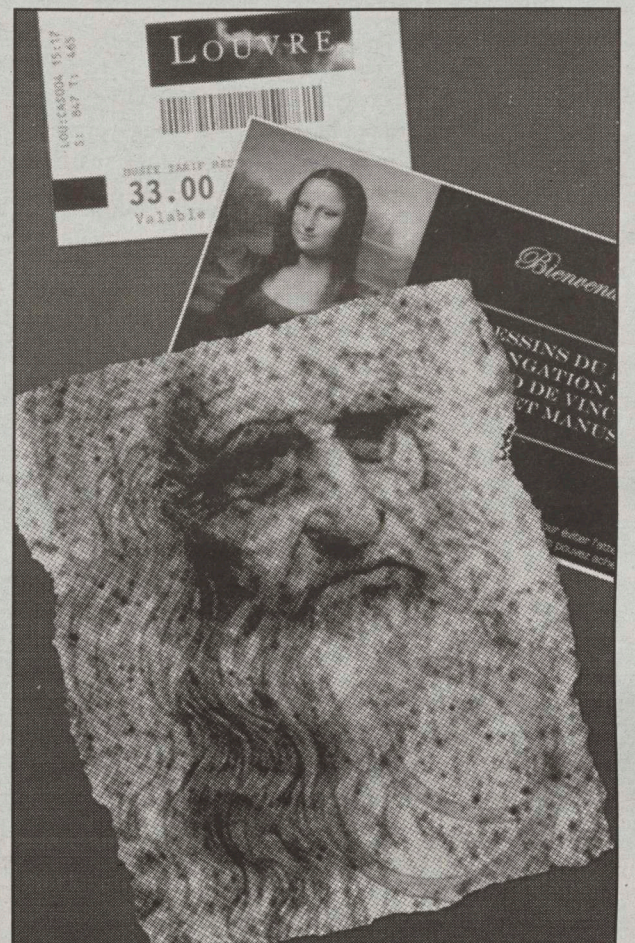
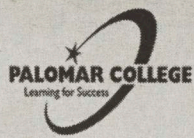


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BEER OF THE WEEK: Pumpkin Ale

BY MATTHEW SCHRAMM
Pride Staff Writer

One great thing about beer is the remarkable number of different types available, especially when it comes to ingredients used in a given brewing process. Although pumpkin-flavored and brewed beers probably sound distasteful to some and seasonal to others, if it's good enough it doesn't hurt to have a sip of it year round.

The Buffalo Bill's Pumpkin Ale is a squash-tinted beer that is worth a taste in any season. Brewed by the Buffalo Bill Brewery in Hayward, California, this ale uses actual pumpkin in the brewing process, with added spices common to pumpkin pie to top it off. Surprisingly mild in flavor, this ale pours orange-amber in color and has a smooth texture and feel. Featuring a hint of pumpkin flavor and aroma, Buffalo Bill's Pumpkin Ale has just the right amount of spices added to give it a perfect balance. Nutmeg and cinnamon come through the strongest as the lead spices, but do not overpower the taste of pumpkin and ale. To top this off there is little to no taste of bitterness with this beer, the majority probably being overshadowed by the pumpkin and spices.

Sporting a pumpkin and vines from a

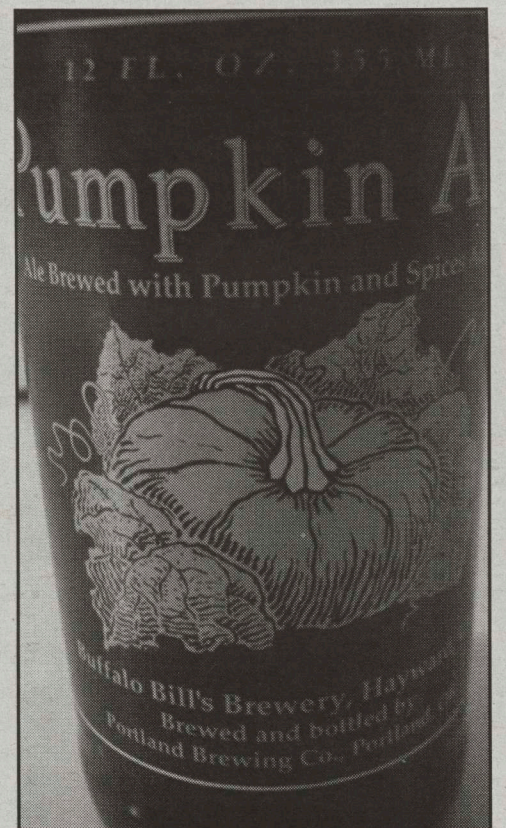


Photo by Matthew Schramm / The Pride

patch on its label, Buffalo Bill's Pumpkin Ale is drinkable year-round and can usually be found in such stores as Beverages and More and Cost Plus World Market.

Put down something borrowed and pick up 'Something New'

BY ANTOINETTE JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer



It's been said that love knows no boundaries, but the author of that phrase must have forgotten that life indeed does. Unfortunately in a case of love, life can put a damper on the pursuit of happiness. Perhaps the ability for two individuals to overcome this damper is a true measure of just how deep love is.

"Something New" is a movie about the ups and downs of love seasoned with the implications of interracial relations. All of this is showcased through the story of a single and successful black woman whose path crosses with a charming and witty white man and unfolds in their journey through a romance that is entirely unfamiliar yet comforting on both sides.

"Something New" is directed by newcomer Sanaa Hamri whose previous works are with Mariah Carey for both her Intimate Portrait, and Around The World features. For Something New Hamri teamed up with the more prevalent Kriss Turner who is best recognized for her screenwriting skills on the series

Everybody Hates Chris, and The Bernie Mac Show. Something New is also a host to an appropriate ensemble of actors such as,

Sanaa Lathan, from the movies Life, Alien Vs. Predator, and Love and Basketball, and Simon Baker from the movies The Ring Two, Land of The Dead, and Red Planet. Supporting actors and actresses include Donald Faison, Mike Epps, and Taraji Henson.

The movie opens up on the life of strict and sophisticated Kenya McQueen (Sanaa Lathan), a woman in the prime of her career who is in need of two things: a man to share her life with, and a landscaper for her undeveloped backyard. Kenya's three best friends, also successful black women, insist that she "let go and let flow," encouraging her to be more lax in her standards for dating. That is of course, until her coworker sets her up on a blind date with a white man. Kenya shuts down the ever so eager Brian (Simon Baker) and proceeds as though she'll never see him again, until she encounters him at her coworker's engagement party. Impressed by the landscape work he's done for her coworker, Kenya employs Brian to work on her backyard with a strictly business mindset going in. However, Kenya's heart gets the best of her as she finds herself breaking with habit and embracing difference



Photo Courtesy of Focus Features

through the inspiration Brian gives her.

More important than the romance that Brian and Kenya share on screen are the issues the two must face, which could be determined as the bottom line of the entire script. Interracial dating and marriages come under the scrutiny of all onlookers, including family, close friends and the most harsh, critics. Within this realm of intolerance the innermost workings of a relationship, can be tested too as

each member must in one sense be confident and comfortable in their own skin, and in the other sense be able to empathize with the implications of their partners' race. When this issue presented itself in the movie, viewers were given a glimpse of a truly impressive display of honesty and emotion through acting. Screenwriter, Kriss Turner spared no details in outlining scenes where the reality of politics enter a romance at any given time with no warning and the relationship's partici-

pants must either successfully (or unsuccessfully) cope with it. Such interactions on screen brought the audience at Krikorian's Auditorium 7 to a chilled silence.

All in all, "Something New" delivers on its name; a refreshing and different perspective on an old and unceasing issue in our nation. It leaves audiences to consume in its message as a truthful relay of what most US American couples face, as well as presents a whole new perspective on the story of black and white.

How To ... Make Guacamole

The ultimate snack: mix, mash & dip away!

BY DUSTIN FRANKS
Pride Staff Writer

A fine guacamole is rare when stumbled upon; it makes a great snack or an amazing appetizer that can feed an entire party in just a few quick and easy steps. This simple to make, tasty treat will only cost you a few bucks and will add some spice to your college dining appetite. Everyone's got their own taste preferences, but here's a great way of getting started and devising your own avocado masterpiece. This recipe makes about a cereal bowl full of guacamole heaven, here's what you need.

- Bowl
- Knife
- Fork and Large spoon
- (2) Avocados
- (1) Lime
- (1) Tomato
- (1/4) Onion
- A dash of cilantro
- Garlic Salt
- Lemon Pepper
- Black Pepper

Step 1: Choose your avocados wisely, the softer the better. They should be heavy in hand, and have a clean oily smell. If the avocados aren't ripe yet, throw them together in a brown paper bag. Apparently, once one starts to soften up it releases a chemical that makes the others do the same. Slice the avocados in half and use the knife to gently remove the pit. Use the spoon like your scooping ice cream, and remove the avocado from the skins and throw them in the bowl. Tip: you can cut up the avocado in long slices before you scoop to make mixing easier.

Step 2: Dice up the tomatoes, onions and cilantro and throw them into the bowl, or take a couple of heaping spoonfuls of pre-made salsa and throw them in the mix. This saves time and cleanup, and usually we all have salsa sitting in the fridge.

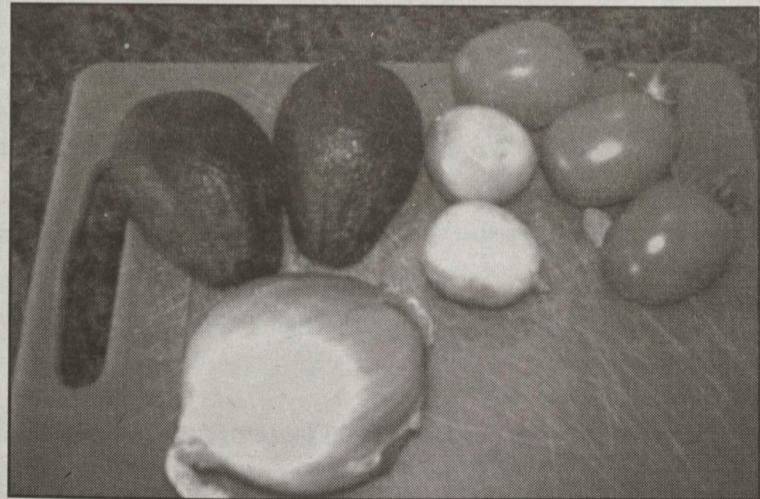
Step 3: Cut your lime in half and squeeze into the bowl, the more you use the tangier your guacamole becomes.

Step 4: Add about 3/4 teaspoon of garlic salt into bowl. Then add lemon pepper and black pepper

to your liking. Tip: add a little, then taste, add a little then taste. You don't want to destroy your guacamole by adding too much spice. The garlic salt is key, like the lime, it's the secret ingredient.

Step 5: Mix all ingredients together with a spoon, the more you mash the smoother your guacamole will be. If you like it chunky, use a fork and lightly stir, resembling the appearance of thick mashed potatoes. Mess around with what you like and don't. Keep adding ingredients a little at a time to your liking and get creative, if you like it spicy, throw some Tapatio or Cholula hot sauce in.

Now that you've got your homemade guacamole, throw it on a salad, sandwich or have it as a side with chips. Guacamole can spoil fast though, to keep it green and fresh save the avocado pit, place in back in the bowl, cover and refrigerate immediately. Never cut up the pit of the avocado, it will make your guacamole bitter with a weird texture. Enjoy your snack or spread and remember to share with others.



Photos by Dustin Franks / The Pride

