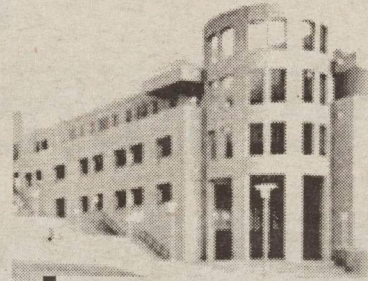


THE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS



# PRIDE

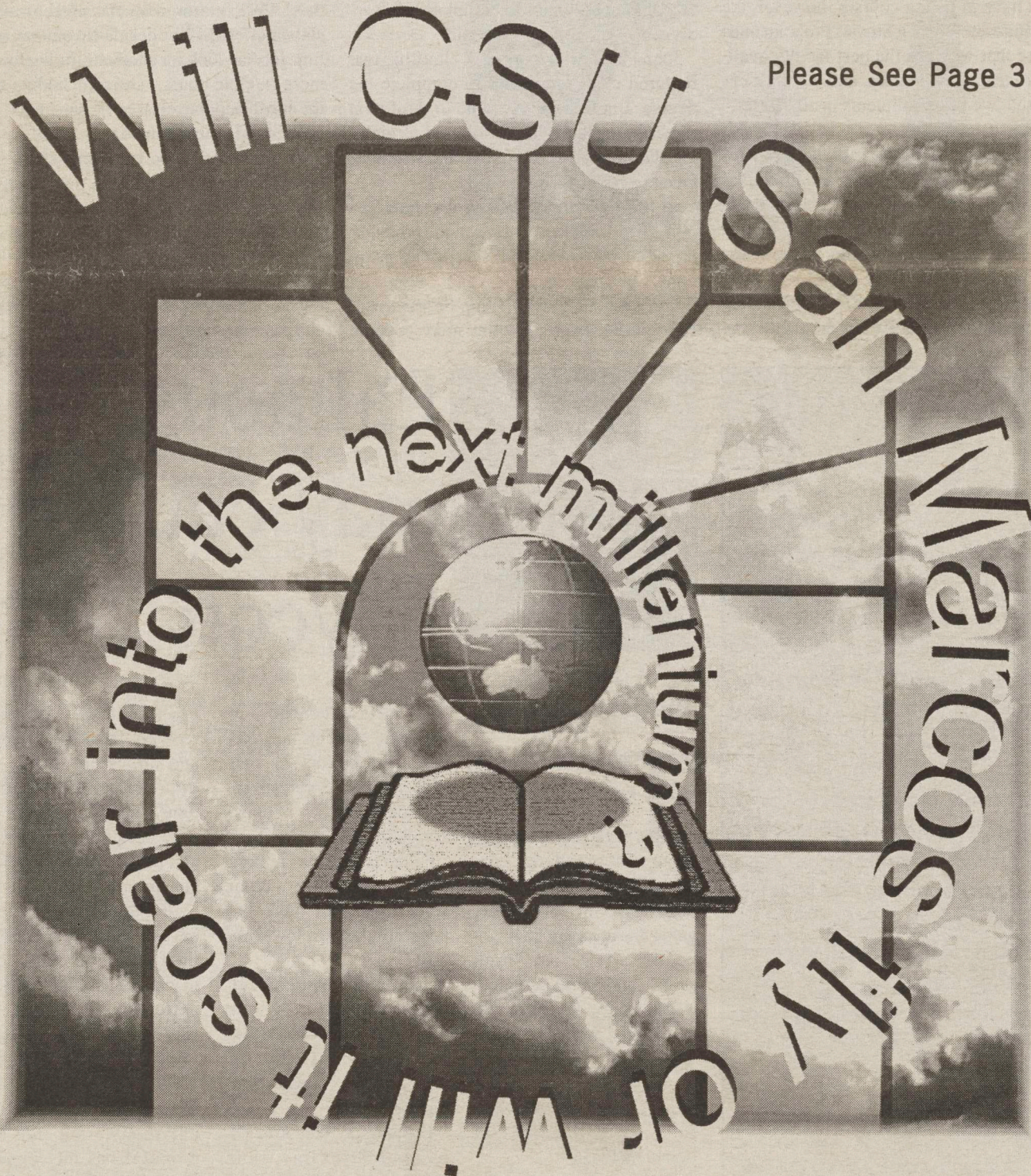


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## News

# Literature and writing majors hope for more night-school options

By EVELYN CHOROSER

Next semester, night school students majoring in Literature and Writing will change jobs, appeal to employers for more flexible hours, leave CSUSM temporarily, take non-major courses and hope more classes will be offered in the fall.

The College of Literature and Writing (LTWR) has scheduled three classes after 6 PM this spring, but two of them are on the same night and none are core classes. One is a 500 class oriented toward those who want to teach writing.

"I couldn't believe there are so few classes in my major. It's atrocious. The full-time worker who is a part-time student has been let down," said Sharon Hambly, who has attended CSUSM for 2 years and has only major classes left to complete.

Hambly enrolled in one LTWR class and a children's literature course offered through the College of Education next semester.

"Tuition is the same for one or two classes, so I elected to take a class that will not apply to my major. It is of interest to me, at least," she explained.

Professor Kenneth Mendoza, program director, said that a fourth course was proposed, but there was no room available with the equipment needed for the class.

"We recognize the difficulty working students have in taking courses, however, the Literature and Writing Studies Program must ensure that we have the best faculty available to teach our courses, and we must ensure that we fill enrollments in all classes," he said.

In the past, Mendoza said, the program has had to cancel several evening classes because of poor enrollment. "In these situations, if the faculty member is an adjunct professor, they lose a teaching position and students lose a class," he added.

John Rodriguez, another LTWR major, said he is waiting to get laid off from his job so he

can complete his required courses during the day. He has been a night-school student on and off for four years. "Cal State San Marcos has abandoned the night school student they originally encouraged to attend," Rodriguez said.

Junior Laura Hopkins will enroll at Palomar College because of the limited classes available at CSUSM. "It's disappointing, but I'll take this opportunity to complete a lower-division requirement," she said.

John Picha, who works full-time, has one required class remaining to complete his degree. But he won't be able to do it next semester, because it isn't offered at night. He plans to take a class or two and wait until he can get the class he needs.

"I like this school because it's small and close by. The size of the school probably has a lot to do with the scheduling problems," he suggests.

The Literature and Writing Program will continue its efforts to offer more evening

courses, Mendoza pledged. "Scheduling requires faculty members who are available to teach evening courses and also a significant population of students to fill those courses," he added.

That doesn't help junior Betsy Miltmore, however. "By next semester, I'll be a poor, starving student," she said.

She is unable to fulfill the requirements of the LTWR major with the present night classes offered. "I've decided to quit my full-time job and look for another offering fewer, more flexible hours," she said, adding that the most popular classes in her major are offered only during the day.

The greatest hope for night school students is larger enrollment, according to Mendoza. "We do have a commitment to serve our entire student population.

As our program grows, both in faculty and working students, we will be able to offer more evening, and perhaps even weekend, courses," he said.

## Extended hours and tutoring seek to relieve finals pressure

By MICHELE CECELSKI

If you're like most students, the last few weeks of every semester are a tense, strained blur, induced by trying to organize your time and resources in order to get everything done. This semester, Associated Students (A.S.) is doing its best to alleviate some of that pressure.

It has teamed up with the dean of the CSUSM library, the director of computing and the Aspire tutoring services to make finals a little less hectic.

From Dec. 8 through Dec. 14, the Student Lounge (Commons 201), will be open 24 hours a day to serve as a study hall. Math and science tutoring will be available there, courtesy of Aspire, but A.S. is footing the bill. Students can schedule appointments on a walk-in basis from 5-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday.

The computer labs will also be open from 6 a.m. to midnight all week for those with papers to type or online research to conduct.

And the library also will offer extended hours that same week, though specific times have not yet been released.

According to A.S. President Joe Faltaous, the A.S. "saw there was a demand" and wished to fill it. It has had many requests for such extended services, especially night students, he added.

Faltaous said student response to the extended hours and tutoring will determine whether they will be repeated next semester.



## Faltaous may call for boycott

By JENIFER JAFFE

The president of Associated Students has been raising questions about what he calls the "monopoly" Aztec shops holds on the CSUSM campus. Arguing that competition might be the answer to "high prices and poor service," president Joe Faltaous said Associated Students is considering calling for a boycott of the bookstore, cafeteria, copy center and the new food cart located in Founders Plaza.

"We are currently at the mercy of the university.

They have a monopoly on the 5,000 students they provide services for," he said. "We want a 15 percent reduction on the cost of books across the board."

Faltaous said the cafeteria has "added some selections...but there has been no effort to lower the cost."

Associated Students attempted to set up its own food cart but was not allowed to do so by the CSUSM Foundation, Faltaous said.

Foundation Executive Director Marti Gray, said, "There is not enough business for competition." The

Foundation uses the rent it receives from the cafeteria and bookstore to pay for improvements and additions, she said, because the state does not pay for such amenities after the initial construction.

Faltaous said students have complained to him that there aren't enough copy machines and that they are extremely expensive. He said Associated Students would like to hire an outside vendor to provide a copy service "free of charge to the university," but that this proposal has met opposi-

see **BOYCOTT** page 4



## Feature

## What lies in store for our fledgling university?

STORY AND INTERVIEW

By JOHN M. RODRIGUEZ

The window of the president's office overlooks a commanding view of churned earth, half-completed buildings and a broad expanse of undeveloped property. The symbolism is hard to miss. It is like an unfinished portrait awaiting its final brush strokes.

But Dr. Alexander Gonzalez, CSUSM's dynamic interim president, is painting that canvas with his vision for the university's focus direction, and future. Gonzalez met with the Pride last week to discuss his first semester in office and his vision for creating an identity for CSUSM.

His office, a reflection of the man, is well appointed but still efficient and organized. And though his shirtsleeves weren't rolled up, his loosened tie and a dress shirt had lost its crispness to the workday fit the image of a hands-on administrator.

He answered questions with an openness and frankness that exuded confidence in himself and his abilities to get the job done. The first order of business was defining his role in the campus hierarchy.

"I'm the leader of the university. I'm the boss. I'm responsible for everything," he said.

Clarifying the special nature of his appointment, he added, "With the interim position, it's a little different in that I didn't go through the search process. I was appointed to be here for two years, possibly maybe more, until they can actually search and start going."

Given the quick and sudden nature of his appointment, Gonzalez's decision to accept the interim post did not come without sacrifice. His wife, Gloria, and his younger son, Michael, a junior in high school, did not make the move to San Marcos from Fresno with him. His older son, Alex Jr., is a junior at UCSD.

"By the time I go home for Christmas, I will have been home three times in five months," he said.

He said he wasn't apprehensive about accepting the CSUSM post, despite a spate of controversy on campus during the 1996-97 school year, including incidents of racism and the exodus of several prominent staff and faculty members. "No, that didn't bother me at all," he said. "I shouldn't say 'at all.' I knew it was going to be tough. I knew that there were some issues that I would deal with."

Until recently, he said, CSUSM was regarded as a "problem child" within the CSU system. "But I don't think it's viewed that way anymore," he added. "I think we are doing fine. I think that the Chancellor's office is taking San Marcos seriously. They're looking at San Marcos positively."

"Our plan to grow has been approved and we're right on it. I think we're settling down here as a campus and we're developing a rhythm as to how we do business. But it will take a long time to get everything straightened out."

He quickly dispels the notion that he might be handcuffed by the temporary nature of his interim position. "I will be here two years," he said. "I don't know if it will be any longer than that. When the chancellor asked me if I was interested in the job, one of the agreements we made was that I would not come in as an 'acting' president, in the sense of doing nothing or being a caretaker."

"The idea was that I would come here and move



Photo by John Rodriguez

**Dr. Alexander Gonzalez, President of CSU San Marcos, sets his sights on the future and where this institution might or might not be heading.**

the campus forward. This campus cannot afford to stand still."

But, neither the two-year limit nor the ineligibility for permanent presidency at CSUSM is apparently set

**The reality is, diversity is a value. It should be one of the cornerstones: the foundation on which San Marcos is built. But, it's not an academic program. Students are not coming here to get a degree in diversity. They're coming here to get a degree that's going to help them get a job or go on to graduate school.**

in stone, Gonzalez said. "In terms of what happens in the future here, my performance is going to say it all. If I do such an outstanding job and people are screaming to have me stay, well, that's up to the trustees."

Gonzalez said his success hinges largely on his ability to create an identity or a niche for CSUSM. "Both Fresno and San Diego State are large, comprehensive universities," he said. "They have everything for everybody. So they have programs in arts, sciences, literature, and

professions. The University of San Diego, on the other hand, it's character is undergraduate education and law school."

CSUSM, he added, doesn't have that "character."

"That's what this visioning process is going to do," he said. "What I'm calling San Marcos is a niche university. We have to make a university that defines for itself its niche relative to the community and its needs. We must build those programs of excellence, and then we start filling in with other programs for the basic structure and eventually, the demand is going to go up."

"Right now, I see four different areas: Education, business, a tremendous program in the arts and sciences at the undergraduate level, and technology. Those are the four strengths of this university, these four pillars. How we build this 'house' from these is going to depend on us."

"We have the technology, we have a really good infrastructure both electronically as well as in the sciences. Biotechnology could be one of the areas."

"If you take those four things and you put them in the community of San Marcos and in the region of North County, how can we serve the needs? What are the needs?" Reminded that he once identified international business and bilingual education as possible niches for CSUSM, Gonzalez acknowledged, "I don't think we have begun to explore that issue. We're on the Pacific Rim, it's not only Mexico. Here we are, an hour away from the border, and we don't really have an international program. Can you tell me anything we're doing with Mexico? What are we doing with the Pacific Rim? We can get involved with communications, Biotechnology, business, all kinds of things

see GONZALEZ page 5



# Students may qualify for 'HOPE' tax credit under new relief act

By MARJAN NAHVANDI

If you're a first- or second-year college student paying your own tuition, you may qualify for a new tax credit next year, but only if you wait until after Jan. 1 to pay your tuition.

The tax credit is available under the HOPE scholarship program, which is part of the Tax Relief Act of 1997, which becomes effective on Jan. 1, 1998. Here's how it works:

If you're enrolled in 6 or more units, working towards a degree, pay your own tuition and are in the first two years of your education, you may qualify for the HOPE tax credit.

According to Paul Phillips, CSUSM director of Financial Aid and Scholarships, such a credit is a dollar-for-dollar deduction. "It is the best form of tax break," he adds. Students who qualify will receive a 100 percent tax credit for their first \$1,000 of tuition and required fees, and a 50 percent credit on their second \$1,000.

But only those payments made on or after Jan. 1 count. So, if a student pays \$1,600 in tuition and fees in 1998, he or she would receive a tax break of \$1,300 on the taxes due April 15, 1999.

Michele Ojeda, supervisor of Financial Aid Accounting, stressed students who receive any kind of scholarship or grant cannot qualify for HOPE. "You have to pay your own fees out of pocket to benefit from HOPE credit," Ojeda adds.

There is also some new tax relief for those students who have been in school for more than two years and who do not qualify for HOPE. It's the Lifetime Learning tax credit, a 20 percent deduction the first \$5,000 of tuition and required fees paid each year through 2002, and for the first \$10,000 thereafter. It applies to payments made on or after July 1, 1998.

But, like HOPE, to be eligible for Lifetime Learning, students must be paying their own tuition. Unlike HOPE, however, there is no time

limit on the credit, and students do not have to be working towards a degree to be eligible. Neither of these tax credits can be applied for summer or winter sessions.

Both HOPE and Lifetime Learning were designed to help middle-income students who are not eligible for financial aid or other tax-free educational assistance.

There is a maximum income level requirement for eligibility in both programs, which will be phased in gradually.

Eventually, 12.9 million students are expected to benefit from the two tax credits. CSUSM will not notify students about eligibility for either tax credit.

Students must initiate them. Phillips and Ojeda suspect that a form similar to the present W-2 will be sent to students explaining more about the process.

But because next year will be the first time that the tax credits are implemented, not much more information about either is available yet. Although the Tax Relief Act of 1997 is basically designed for future students, it also offers a break for those who are about to graduate and are worried about paying back student loans.

"Any interest paid on a student loan on or after Jan. 1, 1998, is deductible, as long as the student is in the first five years of his or her payments," Phillips said.

The Tax Relief Act also has a break for those who are not old enough to attend college as yet. It will be possible, starting Jan. 1, to create Education Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) for any child under 18. Contributions are limited to \$500 a year, and earnings in the Education IRA will accumulate tax-free, and no tax due upon withdrawal provided the money is used to pay for post-secondary tuition and fees. But students receiving grants, scholarships, or other tax-free educational assistance are ineligible for this benefit.

## The California State University San Marcos

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## Boycott

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tion. Currently CSUSM operates the copy center on campus, which draws \$48,000 per year from the university's general fund, according to Susan Green, assistant vice president of Administrative Services at CSUSM.

She added that copy machines have been strategically placed throughout campus, including in the library, computer lab and career center.

Since CSUSM already has a copy service, she added, stu-

dents and administration need to do "what we can to make it work."

The goal, she said, is to make the copy center self-supporting within two years.

Of five students randomly polled in Founders Plaza, only one had heard of the copy center, which is in the new one-story building next to the faculty and staff parking lot.

"I read something about it at orientation," the student, a 21-

year-old psychology major, said. "But isn't it for faculty only?"

An employee at the copy center said, "Students have been coming to us for years. A lot of students know about us."

She also said the center usually advertises in the Pride at the start of each semester, but "since there was not an editor, we didn't this time."

The Pride, though, indeed has had an editor and a business manager the entire semester.

## Public Safety asks students to stop using construction road

By FRANCES BERNAL

Not even a hard hat will be good enough in the future to use one of the favorite shortcuts of CSUSM students.

The Public Safety Department has asked students to stop using the construction road to get to the Visual and Performing Arts annex. "It's a safety factor," said Lt. Alicia Smith.

The road, which runs from the Foundation Building to La Moree Road, is for construction vehicles only, she stressed.

A blind spot on the road can have damaging, or even fatal repercussions for students, she said, adding, "It's dangerous. We don't want students to get run over by a dump truck."

A construction worker, who asked that he not be

identified, said he hadn't heard of any close encounters between trucks and students.

The alternative to driving around campus to get to the Arts annex is an access road built by Public Safety which begins at Parking Lot 3 and ends just north of the Public Safety building. But those using it should be warned that rattlesnakes have been found on the hillside.

The long walk might not be the only delay for students next semester. CSUSM is planning to expand its faculty/staff parking lot, a move that some campus environmental activists are planning to protest. "Natural habitat is growing up in those mountains and we don't want it destroyed," said one such activist, Susan Garcia.



# Gonzalez

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internationally."

Noting the unused resources within CSUSM's proximity, Gonzalez added, "We're right in the middle of a tourist Mecca, recreational leisure, 85 golf courses in San Diego, and most of them are in North County. The Four Seasons hotel just opened up, La Costa is just down the road. The Wild Animal Park is here. Legoland is going to open soon. San Diego is thirty miles away with the zoo. And the weather! People love to come here. So where are we?"

"We're not doing anything. I'm not talking about hotel management, I'm talking about training people to be international experts on recreational leisure and travel, tourism, business, as well as education in other areas. But we need to define what that is and make those programs the best that we can and then build on those."

CSUSM's reputation for diversity has both helped and hurt the fledgling university. "As an outsider coming in, the character that San Marcos was known for was diversity. And the president, Bill Stacy, was promoting that.

And everyone was talking about diversity and some were getting angry about diversity.

"The reality is, diversity is a value. It should be one of the cornerstones: the foundation on which San Marcos is built. But, it's not an academic program. Students are not coming here to get a degree in diversity. They're coming here to get a degree that's going to help them get a job or go on to graduate school."

"Diversity was the character of this campus, which I agree with. That should be the number one thing that we do here. But the real issue for me is access. Who gains access to this university? I think where the campus went awry, if you can call it that, was its inability to really identify in an academic sense where it was headed. Where is it going to develop?"

Acknowledging CSUSM's large influx of non-traditional students, he asked, "Why couldn't we develop ways where we would be meeting their needs?"

Where they wouldn't have to be on campus and sit through a lecture two or three times a week. Where maybe they

could come to the campus once a week and have an eight-week semester or eight-week course. They could go year-round with one course rather than two semesters at two courses each. Those are the kind of things that we need to do here and I think we're starting to do that."

Gonzalez firmly believes that San Marcos will have no problem gaining full Accreditation, "I don't really think that it's an issue. I think that by the time that I leave here in two years, and we're actually going through the visit, there shouldn't be any problem with the standards by which we judge institutions," he said.

Gonzalez noted that in time he would like to see students become more than just customers. Those who maintain a "get-in, get-out" attitude, he added, "are coming to the university for the wrong reasons. We need to shift the focus from teaching to learning, move it from the faculty member to the student. That's not to take anything away from the faculty, but make the faculty less responsible for the teaching part of it and make the student more responsible for the learning part of it."

not available.

But, I also feel that the struggles have made me stronger. The Independent Studies program, is an excellent way to acquire hands-on experience with media analysis. I recommend it highly.

Today, the Communications Department is finally up and running. Although there are not nearly as many communications majors as hoped, the classes grow a little bigger each semester. Some new professors have been hired: helping to make the program more diversified.

Bud Morris was hired as head of the department this fall. He is a welcome addition. So, too, is Professor Lora Coad, who has helped show many students the path to graduation. Many would have gotten lost without her help.

It's nice in one way to belong to a department that is fairly small. For the most part, we communications majors have become good friends. Whereas the business and liberal arts departments have hundreds of students, the Communications Department is more like an extended family. Anywhere from 5 to 15 of us often get together to talk about how we're going to get through the semester. It's a strong bond.

This semester, too, I was able to sign up for a full load of classes in my major. It appears that next semester will be even more promising. Although many of the classes overlap, several new types are being added.

When I began 2 years ago, there wasn't a single communications class. Many of my peers thought I was out of my mind to think I could graduate with a communications degree. Well, I did it, and others will follow suit in the spring.

Professor Coad once asked me how it felt to be a "pioneer." At the time, I told her I wasn't interested in being one since I just wanted to graduate.

But, now that I look back, I do feel pretty 'pioneerish.' And, guess what? It isn't that bad.

Within my time here, I have seen the school grow tremendously. There are more students than ever this semester, freshmen and sophomores, but also less available parking spaces. Buildings are being constructed to make room for next spring's new arrivals. I'm happy to say that I will not be here to have to make room for them.

My final thoughts are simple: When I return in years to come to see how the school has grown, I ask only one small favor: PLEASE BUILD MORE PARKING LOTS!



## Growing pains re-lived as one student bids San Marcos a fair 'Adieu'

BY AMY HUDSON

Starting in the fall of 1995, I began my educational experience at CSUSM. I would have to say that, as a communication major, it was a difficult journey. Difficult? Well, for starters, the communications department did not even exist back then. In the beginning, I had to declare my major as Liberal Arts. I was told that, within the next year, communications courses would be available, at which point I could change my major.

This turned out not to be the case. Though, by the Fall 1996 semester there were four communications classes on the schedule and I signed up for all four, three of them were

canceled two weeks prior to the semester start. Supposedly, this was because the university did not have enough professors.

Although greatly inconvenienced, I managed to get into a couple of sociology and psychology classes that eventually were acceptable for a communications major.

I feel I lost some of the education I would have received if the department had been up and running sooner.

In addition to the sociology and psychology classes, I had to complete six units of Independent Studies in order to graduate this semester. Why?

Because, again, the classes I needed last semester were





## Youths at risk: 'Severe' hate crimes on the rise

By SHARON HAMBLY

**A**lthough hate crimes are down recently in San Diego County, the severity of such attacks has increased and they continue to be committed most frequently by young individuals, according to a new county report.

The report by the San Diego City and County Hate Crimes Registry is based on 123 verified offenses reported by county law enforcement agencies between December 1995 and December 1996.

Gayle Falkenthal, public affairs director at the San Diego District Attorney's office, said, "Hate crimes are a young crime for both the defendants and the victims. At least this is what all the statistics show. This is very surprising be-

cause with all the culture and diversity exposure today, it should be less. But hate crimes mostly affect those under 21 years of age."

The annual report also said that the younger the assailants, the more likely they are to attack in groups of two or more. Some 84 percent of those under 21 participated only in group attacks, it added. "Why is the message not being received? We need to talk about it, report it, and see that it is dealt with very aggressively by the police," said Falkenthal. The U.S. Attorney's Office has called for the formation of a new work group to ensure that San Diego develops a coordinated effort to respond to, investigate, prosecute and prevent such crimes.

The San Diego Hate Crimes Community Working Group will be chaired by Anti-Defamation League Regional Director Morris Casuto and will largely consist of education and religious leaders, since they guide youth groups in school and church.

"To be a hate crime it must be a crime first: assault or vandalism. A victim must be picked out and targeted for who or what they are. Hate crimes are not speech, flyers, web sites or speakers. These are considered our freedom of speech and they are protected," Falkenthal said.

"A hate crime is a crime because it causes everyone else that is a member of the group to fear that they may be targeted for the same reason or because of who they are. For example, if you walk down a street and are robbed, you can change the street you use, but you can not change it if you are black or gay."

On Dec. 1, the Anti-Defamation League began providing information about hate crimes and contacts for community resources on its World Wide Web site. Its address is [www.sandiego.adl.org](http://www.sandiego.adl.org).

"It is incumbent upon our community to ensure that no victim is left invisible; that each individual's worth as a human being is reaffirmed," Casuto said.

The report recommended that schools should be a major site for anti-hate efforts since 53 percent of the hate-crime assailants were 20 or developmental programs, beginning with preschool, to promote positive social attitudes and behaviors. Diversion programs that target at-risk youth to bring about behavioral change through education and understanding should also be developed, it added.

## San Marcos grads "surge" into the real world: New cafe opens for business

By DEBBIE HOLDERBY

**T**he graduation ceremony is over. Bachelor degree in hand, it's time for students to ask the big question: "What now?"

Well, for Mark DuBois, a graduate of CSUSM in May 1996, it was something he hadn't really planned on. DuBois, a Spanish major, originally planned to travel the world and teach English after earning his degree.

"But my experiences at CSUSM were so positive, I didn't want to leave. I realized that I wanted to give something back to the university and the community of San Marcos," he said.

So he filed an application with the city to open a coffee shop. The result, the Power Surge Cafe, which opened on Dec. 1 near the CSUSM campus. Looking out of a window at the cafe toward the campus, DuBois said, "I want Power Surge

to be the kind of place where students can come and spread out their books and talk. If one person makes a friend or learns something here, it will be worth it."

Located on the corner of Barham and Twin Oaks Drives, the old house destined to become the Power Surge Cafe intrigued DuBois as a student. "I used to drive by this place on the way to school and think, 'Gee, someone should open a coffee shop here. What a perfect place!' I used to study with my friends on campus and we wished there were someplace close by where we could go and relax for a while.

"I just never thought I'd be the one doing this." It took him a year to turn his dream into reality. San Marcos required building plans, tremendous paperwork and compliance with health department regulations that were "thick as a telephone book," he said. But DuBois was determined. "I've gained so much experience in the last year, I feel like I've earned a

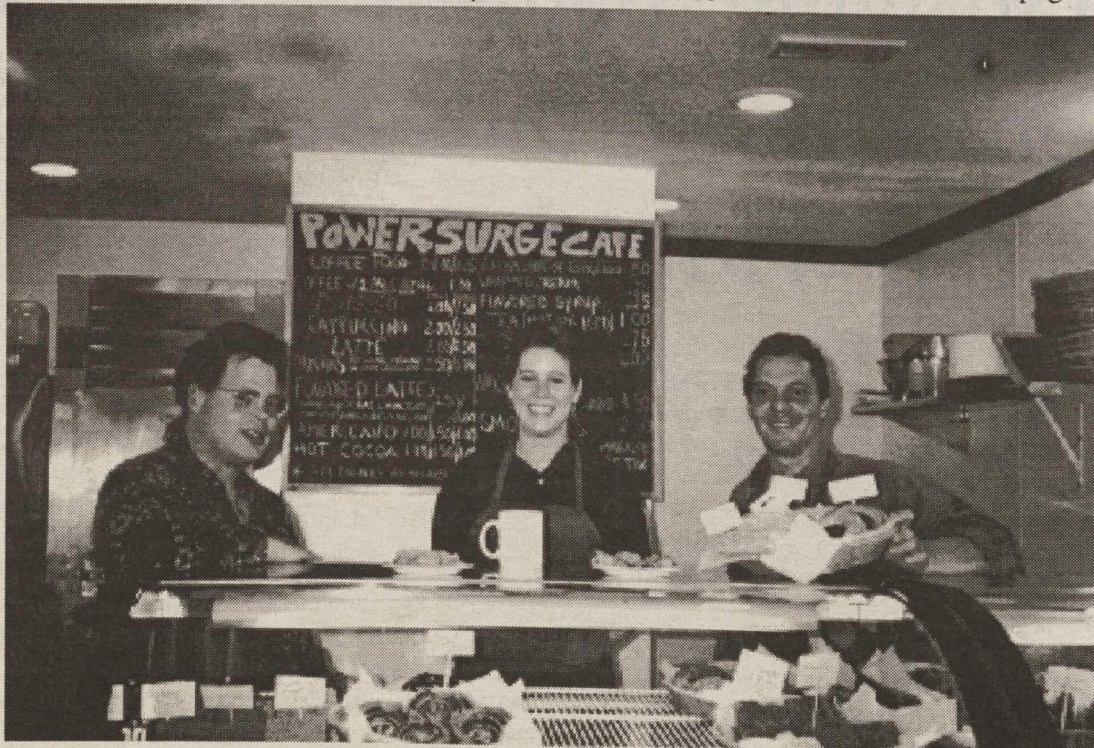
master's degree in Life 101," he added.

DuBois said he has been overwhelmed by the support offered by well wishers. "People just want to

help," he added. "They have painted, helped lay concrete, decorated and offered lots of suggestions and ideas." A well-rounded team of partners and friends do-

nated countless hours of time and effort to the opening of the cafe," he added. The inviting aroma of

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# Power Surge

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rich coffee greets those who walk through the doors of Power Surge.

The coffees are provided by Cafe Moto, a branch of Pannikin. Power Surge also serves excellent croissants and pastries. A Mexican chocolate coffee is \$1, and most of the cookies and croissants are \$1.50.

The fresh bakery goods are provided by such bakeries as La Provence of Vista and Bon Jour in La Jolla.

In January, Power Surge will also become a cyber cafe. Tim Burks, a partner and experienced computer operator, said five PCs and a MacIntosh would be installed. Guests can "come in and use the computer for \$6 an

hour, half the rate most other places charge," he added. Customers can surf the Internet or use the word processor. "You can bring your coffee in, too," said Burks.

Eventually, Power Surge will add video conferencing, which Burks called "the wave of the future," adding, "Within the next five years, lots of people will be using it instead of the phone, I think."

Just imagine, you can video conference to New Zealand or Europe." On opening day, DuBois said, "People kept sticking their heads in the door, asking, 'Are you open yet? They could hardly wait. And neither could I.'"



## Local Interest

**Well, it's approaching that time again.** The gray whales are on their way south for the winter. The gray whale has the longest migration route of any mammal on earth: 12,000 miles roundtrip! First, they feed in the Arctic Ocean and Bering Sea for about four months and then begin a 6,000-mile, three-month trip to the warm waters of Baja California to mate or give birth. After spending about two months in the lagoons or shallow waters off Baja, they make their trip back to the Arctic. That takes them another three months. The gray is a baleen whale (a filter feeder); it doesn't have teeth. It feeds on bottom-dwellers, shrimp-like animals that seldom exceed an inch in length, small fish, squid and aquatic crabs.

The whales strain these small creatures from the seawater with their rows of outside edged, baleen plates lined around the roof of their mouths.

Their initial skin color is black. They get their name from the white barnacles and white blotchy patterns which give an overall appearance of gray.

These whales do not have dorsal fins (like dolphins or orcas), but instead have a low round-like hump of flesh followed by a sequence of sharp bumps (or knuckles) extending to their flukes. The flukes are made entirely of cartilage and connective tissue (no bones) and are extremely flexible and strong.

The grays begin passing California coasts about Thanksgiving but do not appear in great numbers until Christmas. They can be seen easily from shore since they follow the coast in shallower waters in search for the lagoons.

The trick to whale-watching is knowing their breathing habits. They normally take three breaths in roughly half-minute intervals, followed by a three-to-five minute dive. Their



## P.A.N. offers an alternative

By FRANCES BERNAL

The Pagan Alliance Network (PAN), an alternative faith organization for CSUSM students, is currently in the formation process and is seeking potential members to assist in the development of a mission statement and bylaws for the spring semester.

It founding member, Robert Nanniga, complained that some of his Pagan bumper stickers had been stolen on campus, while other PAN members said they had received hate mail via campus e-mail for wearing Faith pins.

Nanniga said PAN wants to create a forum to help people interested in alternative spirituality find a haven in an earth-based spirituality that doesn't negate other dominant relations.

PAN member Samantha Cahill said, "The club is being formed in response to a perceived lack of inclusion of individuals involved in alternative faith systems. The club will engage in outreach and public education as members seek to promote acceptance,

diversity, understanding and, above all else, respect for people involved in spiritual quests."

Nanniga said he expects controversy due to intolerance, misunderstanding and lack of education. "We are seeking truths other than what's been given to us by mainstream western dogma," he said, adding, "Spirituality is a tool, not a weapon."

PAN, he added, has a strong environmental base. "As this campus develops, if we don't take earth spirits into consideration, we are only going to have a cement cathedral," he said.

Nanniga said the club is open to all and its direction will be determined by its membership. Old age to new age faiths, and even those associated with main stream religions are welcome, he said, noting that, "We are a collage of people seeking spiritual identity that accepts all interpretations." Interested individuals can contact Cahill at cahill002.

## Gray whales migrate south

By JENNIFER SCHRAMM

flukes are normally thrown out of the water after their third breath to assist in the dive.

The whales' "blow" is its breath, which is easily seen because it is ejected hurriedly under great pressure. The cooling by the pressure-release causes the 10-12 foot high "mist" allowing whale watchers to spot them from boats or land.

The southern migration tapers off in February. But the whales can be seen returning north from early March until the end of April. But they don't hug the shoreline as closely going north.

Sometimes, though, some grays are seen migrating north just outside the surf-line.

Seaforth Sportfishing in San Diego has three daily whale-watching trips on weekends, and two on weekdays. The cost is \$12 per adult and \$8 per child. Other charters can be taken from H&M Landing and Fisherman's Landing, also in San Diego, at roughly the same rates.

For a more extravagant experience, the Royal Hornblower in San Diego follows the whales while offering both dinner and cocktails at a rate of up to \$55 per person. But it is considered a 4-5 star restaurant.

Also, Helgrens Sportfishing in Oceanside Harbor offers whale-watching excursions for \$14 per adult and \$10 per child.

Group rates are available at all the above. And, with the exception of the Royal Hornblower, each cruise offers a free trip within the next year if a whale is not sighted.

So, if you try this month, keep your eyes open and remember that these large, beautiful mammals once neared extinction. An international treaty was protecting them was signed in 1938, and it is still illegal to harm or harass them in any way.

Take advantage of our coastal environment and be thankful you don't live in Kansas.



# Grandpa becomes an actor

BY WILLIAM VADASY

**"I need someone who's been around the block to play the role of the Old Man in Sam Shepard's 'Fool for Love'."**

You've not only been around the block, but the city as well," said Professor Martinez, the drama teacher. The last time I was drafted was for World War II years ago; this time when I was drafted it would be less stressful, or so I thought!

Theater Arts was a class I enrolled in to give me better projection in speaking and help to reduce my anxiety when facing an audience. Little did I dream I would get a part in a big production, especially because of my age! Professor Martinez must have seen something I was not aware of in me because the moment I started to read the lines I became one of those roustabouts who were very common in my era. Mr. Martinez "draped me in Shepard's Old Man's robe"

and each rehearsal brought me closer to being him!

When I was in my early teens, a long time ago, Saturday afternoon was a big day. We could go to the movies for a nickel. These matinees featured westerns where the hero captured the bad guys, saved the heroine and good triumphed over evil.

The next day, Sunday, a group of us went on horseback to a vacant farm or wooded area and acted out what we had

seen the day before. (We drew straws to see who would be the hero!) "How much fun it would be to play a real hero, to have a real part," I thought. This was as far as my dreams had gone until they were awakened in my role as the Old Man. Each night as we took our bows, heard the applause of the audience, I found myself back on the farm playing the hero again, living the dream of my youth. Yes, Grandpa finally did become an actor and had the time of his life!

## Performing Arts Center shines

BY DEBBIE HOLDERBY

On the outside, it is an unassuming gray building. But, on the inside, it's magic. CSUSM's Visual Performing Arts annex, located off Barham Drive, came to life last month with the Theatre Arts' production of "Fool For Love." Ordinary building, ordinary play by ordinary college students, right? Wrong.

What happens inside the annex when the lights go down is far from ordinary. The production of "Fool For Love" played to a full house of 70 on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>.

In such an intimate setting, the sounds, sights and emotions of the play seemed bigger than life.

"I always wanted to try acting," said Bill Vadasy, 80, one of

the CSUSM students acting in the play. "I thought I would give it a try, and I really enjoyed it. First grandpa became a student, now grandpa becomes an actor."

Peter Benelli, who played the lead male role in the play, said he is "not like the character (I played) at all. In fact, I'm just the opposite. But to become someone else for an hour is just the most incredible high you can imagine."

Benelli, a graduate of CSUSM, currently is applying to graduate schools to further his studies in the performing arts.

Lisa Eskan, Theatre Arts major at CSUSM who also played in "Fool For Love" said she used to get in trouble for her voice because her teacher complained it was "too loud." Now that she uses her talents on stage, her strong clear voice is an asset, she

added.

Eskan said she eventually would like to use her talents to mentor children. "It's so important to encourage them," she added.

Visual and performing arts talents include more than acting, however. Before the lights went down for the beginning of "Fool For Love," pianist Guido Tevini Jr. greeted playgoers with classical Beethoven and Mozart. Tevini, a junior at CSUSM, is planning to change his major from chemistry to music. He also tutors at the Math Center on campus.

"I love helping students with their math. It's especially rewarding when the light goes on," he said.

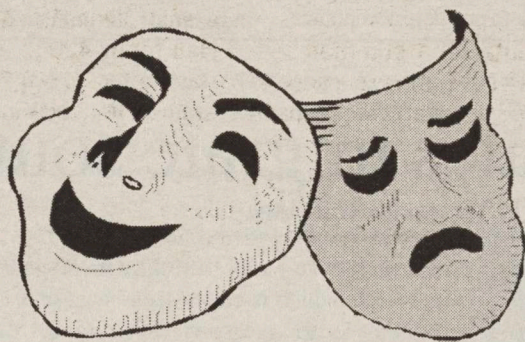
Jack Edward Huff, a Theatre Arts major and senior at CSUSM, uses his talents on stage as well as off.

In addition to his role in "Fool for Love," Huff also served as the play's technical director.

An experienced performing artist, Huff directed two plays at U.S. International University at Scripps Ranch. "I would eventually like to get a Ph.D. in the performing arts and teach acting to college students," he said.

Other students in the Theatre Arts program assist with lighting, ticketing, costuming and set direction. Dr. Marcos Martinez, head of the department, said students who have always wanted to try acting or are just interested in Visual Performing Arts do not need to major in theatre arts to participate in the program.

"We encourage everyone who has always wanted to try theatre to join us," he added.



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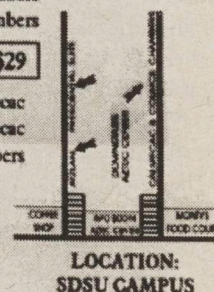
ELM				Fee \$69
1A	Wed & Thur	Jan 7 & 8	1:00-5:30 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
2A	Sat & Sun	Mar 21 & 22	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
3A	Sat & Sun	Mar 21 & 22	3:00-8:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
4A	Sat & Sun	Apr 25 & 26	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac
5A	Sat & Sun	Apr 25 & 26	3:00-10:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
6A	Sat & Sun	May 30 & 31	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
7A	Sat & Sun	May 30 & 31	3:00-8:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers

MATH COMP (Part C)				Fee \$45
1B	Wed	Jan 7	8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
2B	Thur	Jan 8	8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
3B	Sat	Jan 24	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac
4B	Sun	Jan 25	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac
5B	Wed	Jan 28	4:00-9:00 p.m.	Rm: Presidential Suite
6B	Sun	Mar 8	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
7B	Wed	Mar 11	4:00-9:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac
8B	Thur	Mar 12	4:00-9:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac
9B	Sat	Apr 18	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
10B	Sun	Apr 19	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
11B	Wed	Apr 22	4:00-9:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac
12B	Sun	May 3	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
13B	Wed	May 6	4:00-9:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac

WRITING COMP (Lower Division)				Fee \$35
1C	Thur	Jan 8	2:00-5:30 p.m.	Rm: Aztlán
2C	Sun	Mar 8	2:30-6:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
3C	Sat	Apr 18	2:30-6:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers
4C	Sun	Apr 19	2:30-6:00 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers

WRITING COMP (Upper Division)				Fee \$29
5C	Sun	Feb 22	10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac
6C	Sat	Mar 21	1:00-4:00 p.m.	Rm: Calmecac
7C	Sun	May 3	2:30-5:30 p.m.	Rm: Council Chambers

You don't have to pay the class fee until the day of the class. Please call today and make your reservation.

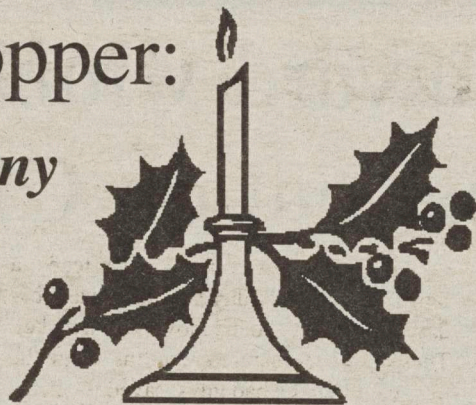




## Holiday Shopper:

### Carlsbad Company Stores has it all

BY EVELYN CHOROSER



Looking for a unique gift at a discount? Or maybe a brand name at 20 to 30 percent less than offered at department stores? There's a good chance you'll find what you're looking for at the new Carlsbad Company Stores. The mall is a mix of upscale designer and manufacturers' outlets, art galleries and restaurants and is located next to the Car Country Carlsbad just off Interstate 5.

Designer shops not found at any other North County location include Donna Karan, Harry & David, Calvin Klein and Barney's New York.

Polo Ralph Lauren is scheduled to open later this month. Its designer lines may be discounted 30 percent or more (but also be last season's designs.)

This outdoor center features Mediterranean-style architecture with Tuscany flair and courtyards dotted with large palms now leading to a huge Christmas Tree.

Shoppers can enjoy "a complete wine country experience" at John and Martha Culbertson's Bellefleur Winery and Restaurant, the first of its kind to open in a shopping center. Other restaurants include

Panda Panda and Ruby's Diner scheduled to open next February.

A unique art gallery, Spirits in Stone, exhibits Shona Stone Sculptures from Zimbabwe. It features stone art sculptures in various sizes from art that can be carried in the palm of your hand to two-ton pieces for the garden. Prices range from \$30 to \$33,000.

Among the more familiar stores is Carter's Children's Wear, which offers 20 to 25 percent off its entire stock. It features a large layette department and currently has a special on many items priced at \$5 and \$10.

Baby Guess/Guess Kids, OshKosh B'Gosh and The Right Start are other children's stores offering similar discounts.

The Gap location includes Baby and Kids Gap with prices 20 to 35 percent less than those found in full-price stores, according to Paul Catherwood, communications manager for Gab Outlets. He said many of the store's fashion lines are specially made for outlets. Some items could be made from fabric that was purchased in excess for a full-price design. The results are similar product at a greatly reduced price.

"You can make one stop at this store and find something for everyone in the family," Catherwood said.

If you're looking for a great buy in sport shoes, check out Van's. In addition to the low prices on regular stock, it carries seconds at terrific discounts.

Reebok is now running the kind of sale that makes it hard to stop buying; the more you buy, the more you save. Buy one T-shirt at \$12, the second is \$8. Buy a third and the price is \$5. Manager Kevin Fretheim said the store takes 25 percent off the top of all merchandise.

There are many other shops, but the mall is compact and very easy to get around.

## Travel

### Catalina offers fun and romance

BY HEATHER PHILLIPS GRAHAM

Need a reality break? Only a few short hours away, Catalina Island awaits you. Think about it, a quick romantic get away with your significant other. You know, that person you haven't seen for the last couple of months. No children, no phones, no school-books. Just the two of you, a bottle of cham-

pagne and the sunset. Sound wonderful?

The Catalina Express (phone: 1-800-464-4228) offers several "Paradise Packages" which include one or two nights stay in a Catalina hotel and round-trip boat service with departures from Newport Beach, Long Beach, or San Pedro. Many of them include extras such as glass-bottom-boat excursions

## Letter to the Editor

### RE: *Winter session article in the Nov. 25-Dec. 9 Pride*

I am writing to clarify a couple of issues in the article regarding the pros and cons of taking Winter session courses. First, it is noted that the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office does not process loans for summer. Our policy is that we process summer aid only for those programs that require summer attendance. At this time, those programs are:

- The MBA program
- The Learning Handicapped Credential
- The Intern Credential

Second, in the article it notes that I say that there are ways to "beat the system". This was worded incorrectly. What I indicated to the reporter is that there are alternatives to winter session. One of them being, if lower division work is still required, to take those courses at the community college rather than paying the higher intercession fee.

Winter and summer sessions have their uses and are a service to many students. It does, however have

a higher cost. From a financial aid perspective, it is more economical to take those courses during the regular academic year, when the cost is less and there is financial aid available to assist with those costs. I do suggest that, given limited resources, students carefully review their academic plan and determine if taking winter or summer session is indeed the best course of action. If a student decides that it is in his or her best interest to take extended studies over winter or summer, then with some planning ahead of time, and budgeting, students can choose to set a portion of their aid aside to assist with winter or summer costs.

Students considering summer session should start looking now to see if it is within their budget. Questions regarding budgeting and aid should be referred to the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office. We are located in Craven Hall room 4204. We can be also be reached at (760) 750-4850 or send an email to [finaid@mailhost1.csusm.edu](mailto:finaid@mailhost1.csusm.edu).

**Gerrie Hatten**

Assistant Director of Financial Aid & Scholarships

or gift baskets.

The cost starts at \$64 per person, based on double occupancy and mid-week arrival (Sunday-Thursday). Each hotel offers something slightly different and at slightly higher or lower rates.

The rates are lowest in the winter, the off season for tourists.

The Catalina Express offers comfortable, quick transport to the island. Departures are also available from San Diego and Oceanside but are not connected to the packages, and tend to be higher-priced.

It's also possible to arrange accommodations on the island separately. At this time of year, reservations generally are not a problem. The Hotel Villa Portafino, for example, offers a small, cozy room and complimentary continental breakfast for \$55 a night.

For the nature enthusiast, Catalina offers

42,000 acres of wildlife preserve. On the coast, snorkeling and boat tours, or fishing and scuba diving excursions can be arranged.

To see the interior, Jeep Eco-tours or the Inland Motor Tours offer the opportunity to explore the rare plant and animal life indigenous to the island, including the Catalina fox, buffalo, wild boar, deer and bald eagles. Bike, golf cart, and horse rentals are also available.

If you decide roughing it is your dream weekend, the island has camping available at both coastal and interior sites. Camping can be arranged through the Catalina Island Camping Company at 1-888-510-7979.

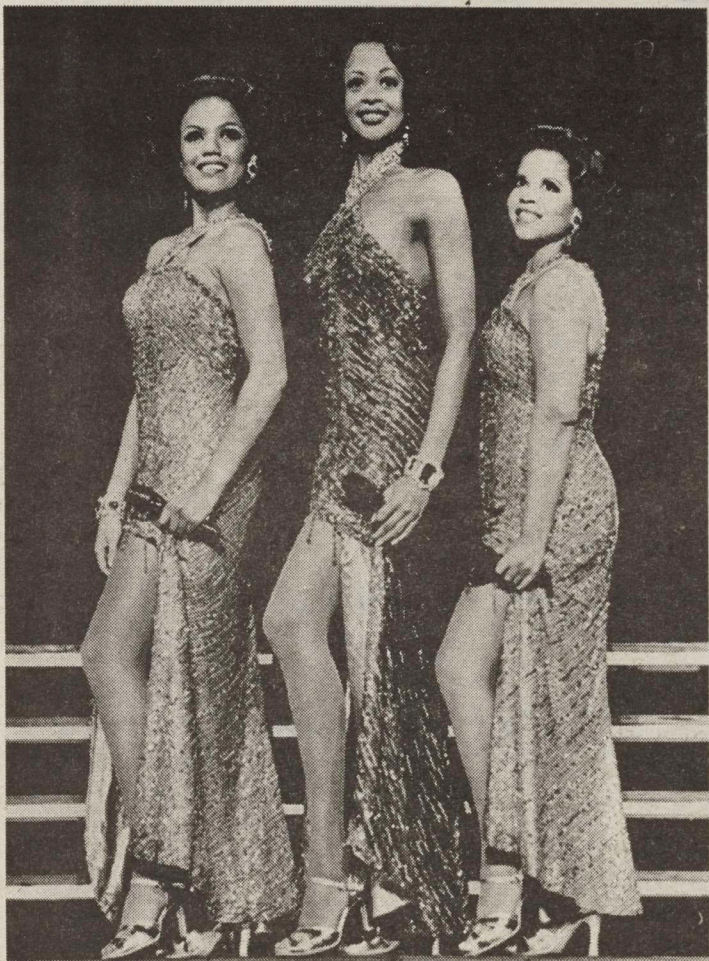
Further information about the island can be obtained on the web at <http://www.catalina.com>, or by calling (310) 510-1830



# Entertainment

## Tony award winning musical out on CD

BY NICOLE FAWCETT



**Y**ou might have missed the Tony Award-winning musical, "Dream Girls." Thanks giving weekend at the Civic Theatre in San Diego, but you can still catch up on its music.

The original Broadway cast of the show performs all 38 songs of the newly released album, "The Sound Track to the Musical Dream Girls."

The music, appropriate for any age group, is an upbeat, toe-tapping mix of rhythm and blues and jazz, and it's not the stuff you'll hear on your normal, latest top-40 radio station.

All but four of the 38 songs are faced-paced. The show is about the hopes, struggles, dreams and failures of a three-woman singing group (perhaps modeled on Dianna Ross and the Supremes?) in the early 1970s.

The show starts out with the three women beginning at the very bottom by entering a talent contest. Even though they do not win, a music producer noticed them. Eventually the group goes on the road and makes it big, only to find that fame and fortune are not what they're cracked up to be.

The girls are betrayed by the people they work for, the press and even their own boyfriends and husbands. They learn that show business is just like any other business, in that a lot depends on who you know, what you look like, and who you're sleeping with rather than what you know or how talented you are.

Eventually three break up, and they decide to move on with their lives: realizing they've had enough of show biz. But, they swear to remain friends.

Because songs such as, "Only the Beginning," "Heavy," "It's All Over," and "Fake Your Way to the Top," are in the same sequence as the musical, you can follow the story the group story through the album.

It can be found under the "Sound Track" section in most music stores. The compact disk sells for about \$20 and the tape for about \$15. Geffen Records and Tapes produced the album.

Tom Eyen, who has two Emmy Awards for previous musicals as well as a Grammy award for Best Cast Album for "Dream Girls", wrote the lyrics. The composer, Henry Krieger who received a Grammy and a Tony Award for the music.

## Physical comedy makes for mindless fun

BY DEBBIE HOLDERBY

**T**he world is divided between those who love British humor, and those who don't. But both groups probably would agree that *Bean* is the utmost in British silliness. Rowan Atkinson, a British comedian well known for his physical antics, stars in this comedy of errors that was loved by the Brits. The San Diego Union-Tribune reported that the movie was rumored to have made more than \$100 million in Europe, an unusually large figure for that market.

Bean (Is it Mr. or Dr.? No, just Bean) is a childlike dope who tries to fit in, but rarely succeeds. He is a guard at the Royal National Gallery in England, and the board members of the Gallery would dearly love to get rid of him. No wonder, the Gallery sends Bean to the United States for the unveiling of a priceless painting, "Whistler's Mother." As a

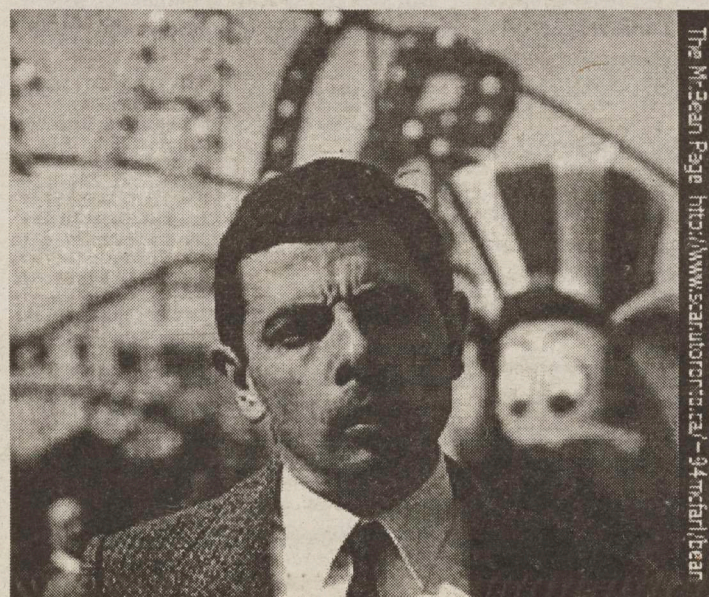
representative of the UK, Bean is treated like an honored guest, but the royal treatment is clearly wasted on him.

The American family he stays with is afraid their honored guest will look like "Meatloaf's butt" but soon discovers that Bean is more of an ass more in action than looks. Bean is a man of few words and his vocabulary is limited to grunts and one-word sentences. A high point of the film is when he is shoved to the front of the room and forced to give a speech at the unveiling of "Whistler's Mother."

The physical humor in the movie is hilarious, particularly one scene involving the stuffing of a turkey.

But the film's portrayal of Bean's hosts a Los Angeles family, is rather flat and boring. The American family is pretentious and too concerned with appearances. But this does serve to endear the unassuming Bean to the audience.

This is a movie for the adolescent young and the young at heart, and definitely not for the serious-minded. No thinking required. Leave your brains at home.



The M-Bean Page: <http://www.sanantonio.com/bean>

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# Alien Resurrection: predictably action packed

BY DAWN KNEPPER

She's back.

Sigourney Weaver, a.k.a. Ellen Ripley, the alien butt-kicking extraordinaire, returns from the dead and is ready for action in "Alien Resurrection," the fourth in the Alien series.

She has been cloned from a drop of her own blood, and is being used as a breeding machine.

The movie opens with surgeons removing a baby alien from her chest. The government hopes to use the aliens for vaccines, medicines and research. The plot is thin and familiar, aliens on a freighter ship break out of confinement and the human crew fights to survive. The only really interesting points in the movie are: Is Ellen Ripley still all human? When she bleeds her blood fizzes acid-like on the floor and an alien recognizes Ripley as her grandmother and sticks out a tongue to lick her.

The only other interesting point is: Will Winona Ryder, the heir apparent, be able

to deliver (and continue the Alien line, series, that is). As Annalee Call, she is tentative and uncertain, lacking the conviction, power and size needed to carry out the part. She pales in comparison to Weaver and previous series female crewmembers.

But the real stars in this sci-fi horror genre are the aliens (heads within heads, within heads?), and the action (a great underwater chase scene).

Yes, she's back. We are now left with the question: will she return?

## Alien Resurrection

Directed by Jean-Pierre Jeunet. Starring Sigourney Weaver, Winona Ryder, Dominique Pinon, Ron Perlman, Gary Dourdan, Michael Wincott, Kim Flowers, Dan Hedaya, Brad Dourif. Rated R (for strong sci-fi violence, gross images and language) 109 minutes.



<http://www.alien-resurrection.com>

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# Eastwood falls under *Midnight*

BY HELEN DAHLSTROM

Feeling a little stressed? In need of a natural sedative to cure that end-of-the-semester insomnia? Well, Clint Eastwood may have just the remedy for you: *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*.

Based on John Berendt's best seller, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* is a cross between a murder trial and a character study (of sorts).

Arriving in Savanna, Ga., to write a feature article

for Town and Country magazine on a lavish Christmas party, John Kelso (John Cusack) finds himself among a population filled with eccentric personalities.

Kelso's interest in the article is thrown aside, however, when his host, socialite Jim Williams (Kevin Spacey) is arrested for murder. The victim, Danny Hansford (Jude Law), it seems, was not only a caretaker of the Williams estate, but of Williams as well, as his hustler-lover.

see MIDNIGHT page 12

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# Midnight

continued from PAGE 11

Yet, despite murder, sordid sex lives and voodoo rituals in spooky cemeteries, the movie's plot never seems to thicken. The murder and the courtroom drama is like driving to Barstow, it takes too long to get there and when you do, there's nothing there.

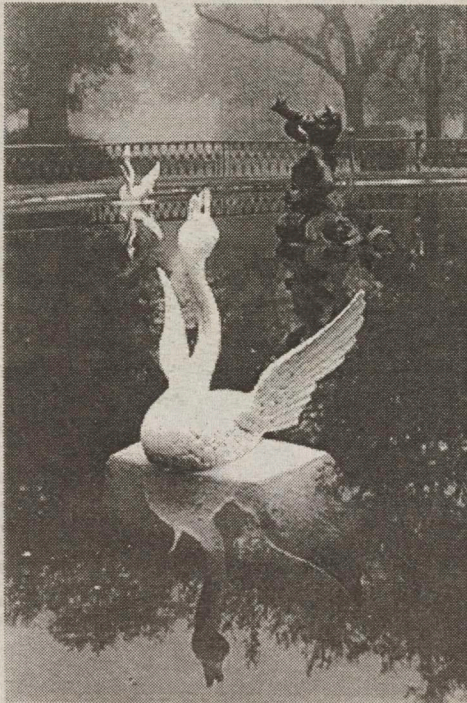
What carries the film for Eastwood, however, is the unique oddness of the characters. Veteran actor Spacey is perfectly cast as the creepy but ostentatious antique dealer with a passion for lavish displays of wealth and power.

Cusack also gives a strong performance as the likable and witty author, despite the lack of a strong script.

Minerva (Irma T. Hall), the voodoo priestess, has just the right mix of queerness and mystery for the part even though the script seems to fail her, too, with far-fetched rituals of the occult.

Eastwood strays from tradition by using a handful of characters playing themselves, including Lady Chablis, a transvestite in full color. If you can stay awake long enough, be sure to

catch her antics at the black debutante ball.



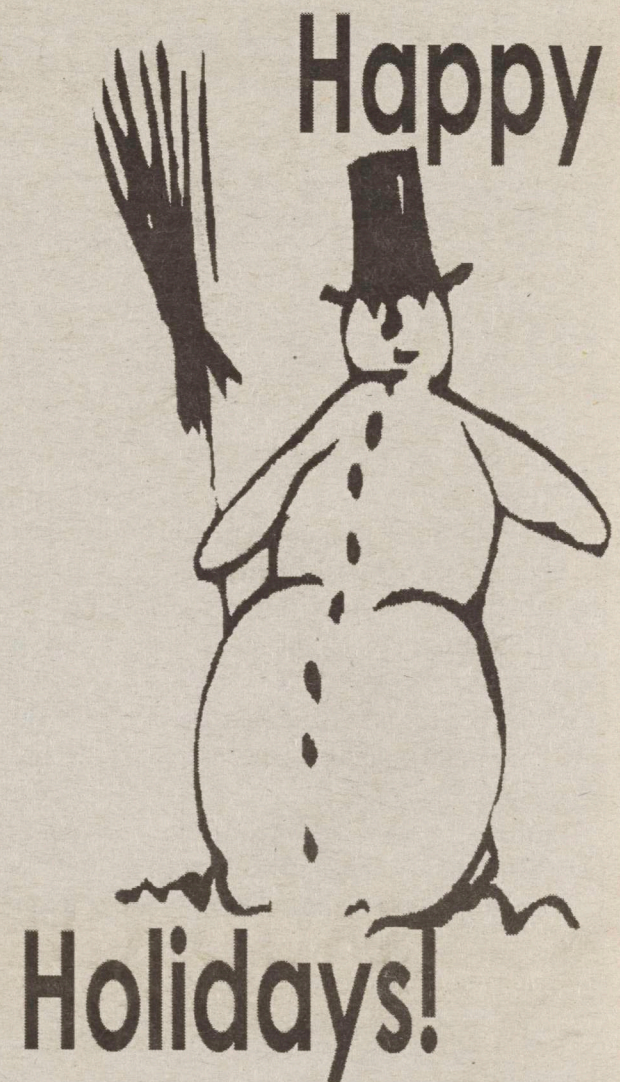
The best performance, however, is not by Cusack, Spacey, Hall or Lady Chablis. It's by Spacey's lawyer, Jack Thompson. Plot aside, it's the surrealistic quality of the characters that carries the film. As Kelso describes Savannah to a friend over the phone, "It's like 'Gone With the Wind' on Mescaline."

That "mescaline" quality that Kelso speaks of, however, refers to the more abstract characters in the movie, the dignified old man who walks "Patrick," an imaginary dog, the people who stop to pet Patrick and the strange but endearing recluse who carries a small vial in his pocket containing enough poison to kill the entire town.

Even if you're able to stay awake long enough to be amused by the all the oddities of Savannah, you're apt to be disappointed by the ending of the movie.

The reappearance of the victim has the effect of taking whatever credibil-

ity Eastwood may have earned and blowing it away like a puff of smoke.



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