

Photo by Christine Vaughan / The Pride

May 1, will you boycott?

BY RACHELL REYES
Pride Staff Writer

In a national effort to oppose the proposed law HR-4437, people of every race and ethnicity will boycott the policy on May 1. Known as The Great American Boycott, May 1 will also be marked as "the day without an immigrant."

The pending legislation of HR-4437, also known as the Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005, will seek to improve homeland security. One of the major points of the proposal is that an illegal immigrant would be classified as a felon. The U.S. will no longer give asylum to

illegal immigrants, as well. Another highlight of HR-4437 is the proposed construction of a 700 mile fence along the U.S./Mexico border.

The May 1 nationwide movement calls for a boycott of the economy: No work, no school, and no buy.

Some Cal State San Marcos students are preparing to participate and show their support in different ways on May 1.

Jose Cruz, an immigrant from Mexico, received an e-mail promoting him to boycott his classes on May 1.

"I don't support the boycott of classes, but I do support the immigrant cause," said Cruz, a graduating senior of Literature and Writing Studies. "Everyone who

goes to work everyday is a vital part of the economy."

Jenny Aaron, a graduating senior in Liberal Studies, plans to attend all of her class that day, despite the boycott. However, she will show her support by boycotting businesses. "It's a double-edged sword for undocumented workers, because they have to earn a paycheck and yet would want to support the immigration movement," explained Aaron.

Many students will also be showing their support against HR-4437 by rallying on Thursday, April 27, at the Library Plaza, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WALKOUT, SEE page 2

Be Black. Be Proud.

African American graduates to receive honorary recognition

BY JENNY NGUYEN
Pride Staff Writer

The African American Recognition Planning Committee will be hosting its 10th Annual African American Recognition Ceremony for the black seniors that will be graduating. The ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 4, at 5 p.m. in the Grand Salon of the Clarke Field House at Cal State San Marcos.

"This is not a graduation ceremony, but rather a recognition ceremony," said Oneita Billings, chair of the African American Faculty & Staff Association.

"It is about a celebration of culture. People should view the recognition ceremony as a facet of integrated education and celebrate it as progress in our nation and progress for ALL OF US as people," said graduating senior, Antoinette Johnson.

"It's nice to be recognized, there are programs out there and people out there

for the black students," said graduating senior, Katrena Robinson.

"Every ethnic group congratulates its members, everyone deserves to be recognized," said Lorenzo Grey, fellow graduating senior.

"At CSUSM, we more often then not have to deal with being the only black student, or one of two, in class," said Kayonni Williams.

This year, 72 African American students will be graduating. "We are growing in numbers, this is twice the number of last year," said Billings. As of Fall '05, statistics show that of the 7,500 students enrolled at Cal State San Marcos, only 3.1 percent are African American.

At the recognition ceremony, the African American graduating class of 2006 will each be presented with a Kente cloth that may be worn at the graduation ceremony. "This tradition of presenting the Kente cloth to graduates has been here since the very beginning, for about 10



Photo by Christine Vaughan / The Pride

African American graduates stand proud with only three weeks left before graduation. Pictured: Shamar McKinney, Lacey Dublin, Gerald Smith, Kayonni Williams, Jason Williams, Jamaul Tate, Antoinette Johnson, and Fantaya Bray.

years now," says Gezai Berhane, associate director of Student Life & Leadership, and Interim Assistant Dean of Students.

According to the information provided by The African American Faculty & Staff

Association, the origins of the Kente cloth date back to 1300s Africa, in the country of Ghana. The cloths were worn by kings,

RECOGNITION, SEE page 2

Silence makes a statement

BY JENNY NGUYEN
Pride Staff Writer

"Saying nothing... sometimes says the most." – Emily Dickinson.

Wednesday, April 26, marks the tenth annual Day of Silence, where thousands of students nationwide will choose not to speak for an entire day in order to make a statement in support of the gay and lesbian community.

The Day of Silence is a student led day of action where supporters, who believe anti-LGBT bullying and harassment should be unacceptable in schools, participate in events to recognize and protest the dis-

crimination and harassment, and in effect, the silencing experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students and their allies.

The Day of Silence started in 1996 at the University of Virginia, with over 150 students participating in the demonstration. In 2001, the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network became the official sponsor with new funding, staff and volunteers. Last year's event had more than 450,000 students participating from nearly 4,000 schools, colleges and universities.

"I've never heard of The Day of Silence before, but now that I know, I think it's a

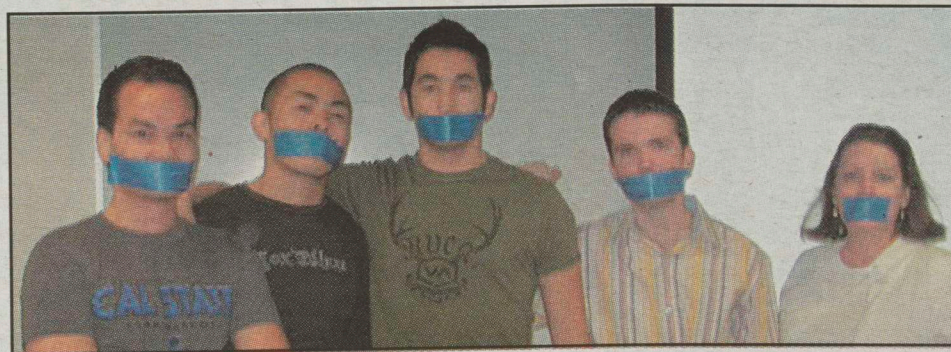


Photo courtesy of LGBTQA

really cool idea," said Jenna Amo, a sophomore at CSUSM. "There are posters advertising so many different things on campus; this is doing something that is the opposite of that. It is subtle and yet obvious and will

make a huge statement because it is something the campus is not used to."

Cal State San Marcos is still a somewhat new participant in The Day of Silence. This year, the

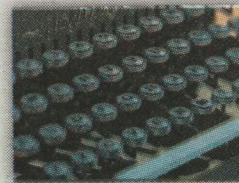
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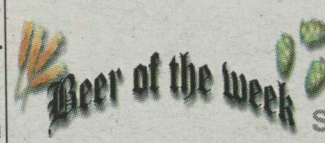
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From RECOGNITION page 1

queens, and important figures of state, during ceremonial events and special occasions. Kente cloth received its name from the term "kenten", which means "basket", because of the cloth's resemblance to the woven design of a basket. Kente cloths, with their vibrant colors and complex design portray deep philosophical meanings. The cloths came to symbolize the history, philosophy, ethics, and moral values in African culture.

This event will begin with the Black National Anthem, which will be led by BSU President, Ruby Udeh. Attending the ceremony will be President Haynes, expected to make a few remarks. The keynote speaker of the night will be Larry D. Thomas, Senior Human Resources Business Partner at Viejas Enterprises and a CSUSM Alumni. Each student is asked to provide a brief bio and picture to be posted up at the ceremony. The evening will be catered by Tony Roma's, with entertainment and dance to follow the ceremony.

"The event is free, but we are accepting donations" said Sharon Bowen, faculty support of finance

and accounting in the College of Business. "We'll even accept donations at the door the day of the event," said Marilyn McWilliams, coordinator of Student Accounts & Services with ASI.

For the future African American graduating classes, Lorenzo Grey encourages students to, "Join an organization that supports you. It doesn't have to be the BSU; it can be any organization that you like. Keep some family and friends nearby so that when school gets rough you can talk to them about your problems."

"It's been a challenging but quick two years since I transferred from a community college. In other words, hang in there, the end comes quickly!" said Bryon Garner.

"Like Rocky Balboa said to a nation of people watching him when he fought the Russian Boxer, Ivan Drago, in Rocky IV 'I didn't know what to expect when I came here. I didn't think you liked me and I didn't think I liked you. But at the end of it you liked me and I started to like you. If I can change you can change.' We all can change if we use the strength inside of us that God has given us," said Grey.

From WALKOUT page 1

"We as students want to voice our opinions and concerns," said Herminia Ramirez, a student activist and organizer of the rally. "We are not planning to walk out of classes or work obligations. Our goal is to provoke thought and to educate other students about HR-4437."

Although other students like Cruz do not condone boycotting classes, there will be students who will not attend their classes to show support. Maria Sanchez, also an immigrant from Mexico, will be one of those students who will be absent on May 1.

"I know the struggles that [immigrants] face and part of my participation is the understanding that I was once in that same situation," said Sanchez, a graduating History major.

Lorin Hernandez, a junior of Literature and Writing, is fully aware of both sides of the issue. Her husband is a Mexican immigrant and he supports the movement. Her family, on the other hand, is in opposition of the movement. Although she is on the fence with the issue, Hernandez is optimistic about May 1.

"I think it's a good way for stu-

dents to make an impact and to show what they believe in," said Hernandez. "You can't alienate people who have been here and have helped the country come together. It's not fair to say 'you don't belong here,' when [immigrants] contribute to society and every day life."

May 1 is not just an effort to oppose HR 4437, but also a way for immigrants to take action. Although there are concerns about attendance, there is little question that May 1 will impact the campus.

"I hope [the boycott] will inform students about the importance of this situation," said Ramirez. "People's futures are at stake and we need to be active by voicing our concerns about this legislation."

While there is a national concern for the consequences of May 1, students on the campus are more concerned with awareness.

"I hope the demonstration will show the nation what will happen if 11 million people are deported. It will show the solidarity of a group of people who just want opportunities," added Ramirez.

"Take out the blinders and look at the story from another point of view," said Cruz.

From SILENCE page 1

LGBTA anticipates at least 50-100 students to take part in this full day of devotion to silence. Participants are asked to wear all white on Wednesday, April 26, for The Day of Silence. Anyone interested in participating is asked to meet in front of the Kellogg Library at 12:00 noon, and asked to remain silent to respect those who have been forcibly silenced or choose to remain silent due to

intimidation and fear.

Silence Cards will be given out to anyone with questions about the event. A sample Silence Card may read something like: "Please understand my reasons for not speaking today. My deliberate silence echoes that silence, which is caused by harassment, prejudice, and discrimination. Think about the voices you are not hearing today. What are you going to do to end the silence?"

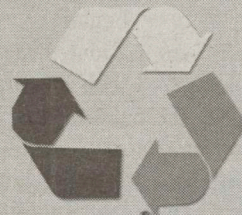
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RIAA and Music Downloading at CSUSM

BY MATTHEW SCHRAMM
Pride Staff Writer

In their ongoing campaign against illegal music sharing, the Recording Industry Association of America recently announced that, despite its numerous lawsuits, record sales are continuing to decline. The RIAA's announcement comes on the heels of a continuing onslaught of lawsuits against music downloaders nation-wide. Although having fallen out of headline news coverage, the RIAA has issued nearly 20,000 lawsuits since September 2003, with many of the most recent suits being brought against college students.

At CSUSM, no students have been cited by the RIAA in over a year, and before that "just a couple" of students had run-

ins with the RIAA, said Wayne Veres, dean of the Instructional and Information Technology Services. In both incidents, letters of cease and desist were sent to the offending students, and the issue was quickly resolved. At colleges across the nation, campus computers and email accounts have been used for the setup of file sharing software, commonly used for trading music online. The RIAA uses email and IP addresses to track down the offenders, many of which lead them straight to college campuses.

"Our students are adults here, and it's not a problem," stated Veres in regards to RIAA lawsuits and illegal music downloading. Although "personal use of computer facilities" is restricted under section 3.9 of the CSUSM

computer access policies, any cursory examination of computers on campus reveal obvious and frequent personal use, a common example being the abundance of sites like myspace.com listed in the browser history.

While Veres observes that Cal State San Marcos does not have any way of actually observing or regulating the use of campus computers, the college does use a complex system of anti-virus software that cuts out most file sharing traffic by blocking ports often used in the transfer of such material. This system does not stop the use of file sharing programs, yet the virus software installed on campus recognizes the protocols used by such programs as potentially unsafe and thus blocks all Internet traffic over the ports in use.

Rather than employ a large network of devices to regulate the 'personal' activities of students on campus computers, Veres notes that the larger problem is to stop viruses from being downloaded onto campus computers. "Viruses could spread within the network and need to be stopped at various levels," said Veres. Many of the questionable activities that students could employ campus computers for are inadvertently stopped in this process.

CSUSM has also been looking into employing new technologies, such as a more extensive use of laptops, and ipods for webcasts, which are currently being used in a several Cal State San Marcos classes. As for music downloads, Veres said that "students use itunes quite a bit," and the campus has been looking

into contracting with a legitimate music download site for the benefit of students. Currently, talks are underway with itunes for an agreement where the college would receive a small financial kickback from the funds generated from songs downloaded via itunes on campus computers.

Overall, "students use the network properly," stated Veres, and a "massive amount of network traffic" occurs. The few instances that have occurred in relation to downloading illegal music files have been dealt with quickly. According to Veres such incidents have been insignificant, compared to the growth of CSUSM's computer facilities. CSUSM continues to expand and create a "robust network," and a computer system that students can use openly.

Campus Resources: Helpful technology on Kellogg's second floor

BY SUMMER CONNERY
Pride Staff Writer

The Kellogg Library's second floor offers more resources than students might be aware of. Immediately to the right of the ground floor entrance, the Media Library contains a wide variety of films and programming, including 16 multimedia editing stations, two sections of which, according to Suzanne Rios, Library Assistant in the Media Library, are more "beefed up," than the others. These have DVD and VHS editing capabilities, including programs to transfer video from different sized tapes on to a VHS or DVD.

The most underutilized portions of the Media Library, according to Rios, are the CD and DVD recorders, along with the dual VCRs. Students can feel free to go into the media library to transfer music from a cassette tape to

a CD, a movie from a VHS to a DVD, or transfer video from one VHS to another. All of the stations are set up with a program, created by an alumnus of CSUSM, which will walk users through each of the editing options, step by step. There is also additional help provided by the Systems Staff from 8am to 5pm for more in-depth assistance.

While those interested in taking a piece of the Media Library home with them are likely to favor DVDs, Rios states that, "I personally don't like having DVDs here; they just don't withstand the use and abuse of people using them." The Media Library began its collection of DVDs about three years ago, and since then has had to replace many of them due to damage. They are now ordering most everything in DVD form, yet, "It is going to take a while," says Rios.

Some might have confused

the Media Library with the other underutilized service directly across from it. Chris Thaeler, a knowledgeable student working at the Student Technology Help Desk, was more than willing to clarify what sets it apart.

"Basically, the Help Desk services all of the students on campus whenever they have computer problems."

Recently, this included some confusion regarding with many students' Computer Competency Requirements (CCR). Mary Atkins, who operates as CSUSM's Scheduling & Software Coordinator as well as its Computer Competency Requirement Coordinator, clarified the matter with the Pride via email.

"The purpose of the Computer Competency Requirement is to ensure that students are competent in the basics of computer use early in their studies. These four basic competencies include:

word processing skills, spreadsheets skills, internet skills, and ethics and viruses knowledge. (General Knowledge is no longer being given.) This requirement must be fulfilled by the end of the student's second semester of attendance at CSUSM. After the second semester, if the CCR has not been fulfilled, a registration hold will be placed, preventing any further registration activity..."

As for why some students who met the requirement recently found themselves needing it again, Ms. Atkins explains.

"A short while ago, we changed the BANNER page to reflect the fact that the General Knowledge section of the CCR was no longer being given.

"On Thursday, April 13, 2006, the System Development people corrected the Advising Transcript so that it also reflected this fact. For a short while, the Advising Transcript was showing that students still needed to take this section when they, in fact, did not. This discrepancy reflected the process of getting all "scripts"

which point to the CCR BANNER page to be reading it correctly. No student was suddenly in a non-fulfilled state, it only appeared that they were. The problem was fixed last week."

Students still uncertain about their CCR can check their status through 'Smart Web' and can read a description of the program at www.csusm.edu/iits/ccr. This link provides a sample exam, study materials, and the exam schedule.

No matter a student's computer literacy, the Help Desk makes a variety of equipment available for check out, including laptops, video equipment (camcorders and digital cameras), headphones, and tape recorders, to name a few. These resources are limited, however, so they check items out on a first come first serve basis.

Though the Help Desk is there to aid students in need, they do not have any office supplies for sale. Helpful as they may be, "we're not Office Depot," said Thaeler. For more information, please contact (760)750-4371 or Mary Atkins at 760-750-4788.

Corrections and Clarifications:

Volume XV Issue No. 13: Headline on Page 1 should have read Recycling Wins.

Volume XV Issue No. 13: Page 5 misspelling of Katrena Robinson

Classifieds

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Campus Clubs: Getting the Word Out on VOX

BY KAYONNI WILLAMS
Pride Staff Writer

"We need all the support we can get," said Ana Liza P. Soriano, at the close of the first ever VOX meeting at CSUSM. Co-founders Soriano and Chad Costales, both senior Human Development majors, introduced VOX (voices for Planned Parenthood) to the campus on April 19th, as a new student organization.

In addition to free pizza, many attendees, like junior Tara Miller, were looking "to get more information."

"I came to offer support," said senior, Tayari Shorter.

Soon to be graduate, Sandra Carmona, was eager to join, saying, "My major is health, it's relevant to my major and I also wanted to offer to support."

"VOX is a national organization. Ours is the 3rd chapter in San Diego," said co-founder Costales. "It's established and running well at SDSU and UCSD". Costales believes he might be the first male founder in the nation for the VOX movement.

Staff advisor for VOX, psychology professor Sonja Ruiz PhD, is proud to advise the organization.

"Chad and Ana Liza came and talked to me about it. I thought it was a great idea. I respect Ana Liza and Chad," said Dr. Ruiz,

"It's a great opportunity to educate students."

For those unfamiliar with VOX, or the contributions of Planned Parenthood, Costales defines the group as a student organization that functions as "an answer to the anti-choice movement" adding that "it's not just for women".

Their official objectives are listed as: Support, Educate, Organize and Mobilize. "We want to educate our peers on campus about sexual health," Soriano informed attendees. She explained that, "anti-choice organizations spend millions of dollars on campuses each year to limit access to reproductive information and care."

Despite the efforts of people like Soriano, many people still have a misconstrued idea of what it means to be "pro-choice."

"If you believe abortion is wrong for you, but respect the right of another to choose, you are pro-choice," explained Soriano.

Attendant prospective student, Ross Sanders, took a moment to ask the group what they would say to those opposing VOX on campus.

"The group will welcome intellectual

discussion," Dr. Ruiz answered, with Soriano adding, "we'll hear them out, and then explain our standing".

Costales, however, took a more decisive stance.

"I don't think it's fair to deny education. We can see what's in the media, we should be able to educate ourselves about having safe sex ... about the truth, medically accurate facts."

VOX will soon be recognized as a student organization and will have a recognition kick-off party, possibly during finals week. "Alumni, faculty, staff, and students are free to attend all of our meetings and events," announced Soriano.

The first meeting was already highly informative. Attendees learned that, among other things Costales explained as contrary to popular belief, "abortion accounts for only 8% of services offered by Planned Parenthood." Soriano informed attendees that many in the media "portray emergency contraceptive pills (ECP) and abortion pills as the same thing, and they're not; ECP prevents pregnancy in an emergency, while an abortion pill (works) within the first few weeks of pregnancy."

There is much more to learn from Costales, Soriano and VOX as a whole, and those interested can contact aps8179@hotmail.com or thechad5150@hotmail.com.

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Jock Talk With Josh: NBA Playoffs

BY JOSH SANDOVAL
Special to The Pride



Although this isn't going to be read until Tuesday April 25 with most of the NBA playoff series

already into game two, remember that I am writing this on Thursday April 20 before the playoffs even start.

On October 25, 2005 I predicted a Miami Heat versus San Antonio Spurs championship. Now that the match-ups have been established I will go through them to see if my prediction comes through.

The Spurs will have no problem getting by the Sacramento Kings in the first round. The Kings kind of remind me of George W. on 9/11. The NBA has told the Kings that they have to play the Spurs and I don't think they know what to do. They just can't wait until this term...I mean season...is over.

The Dallas Mavericks will beat

the Memphis Grizzlies because the Mavericks actually play defense to go along with a strong offense led by the only man who is more popular in Germany than David Hasselhoff, in Dirk Nowitzki.

I think the Los Angeles Lakers will provide the upset of the playoffs when they beat the Phoenix Suns. Phil Jackson, the Lakers coach, has never lost a first round playoff series and the L.A. Kobe's are playing their best basketball of the season right now with the sudden resurgence of Kwame Brown, the awakening of Lamar Odom and they have that guy named Bryant.

The other L.A. team will provide another upset when they beat the Denver Nuggets. The Clippers have a beast in Elton Brand who has been waiting for this opportunity since he joined the NBA. Sam Cassell has two rings with the Houston Rockets and knows how to get things done during this time of the year. Not to mention, the Nuggets seem to always play their worst ball in the playoffs.

In the second round of the West playoffs the Spurs will beat the Mavericks because the Spurs have much better guard play than the Mavericks and the Mavs won't be able to compete with Emmanuel Ginobili and Tony Parker.

An all L.A. match-up here is going to be interesting. I think it would be a sign of the Apocalypse if the Clippers were to beat the Lakers in the playoffs so we can't have that happen. The Lakers will beat the Clippers, because the Lakers have the best player in the NBA, Kobe.

In the Western Conference Finals the Spurs will sweep the Lakers. Kobe can't go 5-on-1, in basketball that is. The Lakers did beat the Spurs one time in the regular season but the Spurs are just too good and will await the Eastern Conference winner.

In the Eastern first round playoffs the Detroit Pistons could send half their team to take on the Milwaukee Bucks and still sweep them with a double digit victory in each game.

The NBA wants the Cleveland

Cavaliers to beat the Washington Wizards because their golden goose for marketing, LeBron James, is a big draw for T.V. ratings, but I think the Wizards will take the series. The Wiz took three-of-four in the regular season and the trifecta of Gilbert Arenas, Antawn Jamison and Caron Butler is much better than any combo on the Cavs.

I think the Chicago Bulls will take the Miami Heat to six games in the first round, but the Heat has too much talent to lose in the first round. The Bulls barely made the playoffs and for some reason they have many of the experts choosing them for the upset. There is no way I am picking against Batman (Shaq) and Robin (Wade) because Michael Jeffrey Jordan certainly isn't walking onto that court for the Bulls.

The New Jersey Nets have been en fuego lately and the Indiana Pacers have been beat up this whole season. The Pacers haven't had an opportunity to get into a flow because one key person has always been out, whereas the Nets

have been healthy all season and it will show in this match-up.

In the second round of the East playoffs the Pistons will take down the Wiz without even breaking a sweat. The Wizards couldn't even win if they were actual wizards and used magic.

The Nets will beat the Heat, because like I said before regarding the Pacers, the same applies to the Heat, thus ending my prediction. The Nets attack the hoop on nearly every possession so look for Shaq to be in constant foul trouble and that will be the determining factor in the series.

The Pistons will cut the Nets down in the East. Great defense always beats great offense and the Nets really don't play defense at all whereas the Pistons do both exceptionally well.

In the NBA Finals there will be a rematch. I think it will go seven games again and the Pistons will take game seven this time around with Chauncey Billups winning his second Finals MVP award.

Comments can be sent to Sando026@csusm.edu.

UFC Reality Check: Sylvia KO's Andovskiy in One

BY MICHELLE HEROLD
Pride Staff Writer

In a display that demonstrates why the Ultimate Fighting Championship can be so exciting, Tim Sylvia upset Andrei Arlovski when he knocked out reigning champion Arlovski in less than two and a half minutes with a big right hand in the UFC Main



Photo courtesy of ufc.com

Event, last Saturday night at the Anaheim Pond.

Billed as UFC 59: Reality check, the heavyweight title fight was set for five five-minute rounds, but no one thought it would go the distance in this rematch. The first fight in February 2005 lasted less than a minute when Arlovski took the title from Sylvia, and this fight lasted less than a round as well when Andovskiy got a little too reckless and threw his 236 lbs behind a right hand to the jaw, knocking Tim Sylvia to the canvas, nearly unconscious.

Within seconds, however, Sylvia ricocheted back to his feet and kept punching a little wildly until his left grazed past Arlovski's head, and then he used the wild punch to hook Arlovski back toward him and right into a straight right punch to Arlovski's chin. Arlovski crashed to the canvas and Sylvia dived after him, punching him repeatedly with vicious right punches to Arlovski's head until referee Herb Dean pulled Sylvia off and declared him the winner by a knockout.

"The only thing wrong with having a belt is I'm no longer the underdog," an elated Tim Sylvia said after the fight. He also claimed some "unfinished business" with big Frank Mir in a clear bid for another match against the big fighter.

In the return of Tito Ortiz against Forrest Griffin, the veteran Ortiz was expected to defeat Griffin handily in this Middle

Weight (185 lbs) fight, but underdog Griffin surprised his detractors when he made a fight of it. "I'm an underdog fighter," Griffin said before the fight, "I need people to come out and hit me and push me a bit."

Ortiz certainly did that. "I have no mercy for Forrest Griffin" he said before the fight, and showed it in the first round when this former middle weight champion of three years came out and took Griffin, a former Ohio police officer, to the canvas against the Octagon fence and pounded him with downward elbow strikes to the face and head for the better part of the round.

In the second round, Griffin came back with a stunning recovery when he attacked Ortiz at the sound of the bell and never let up the whole round. He fought Ortiz toe to toe for the second round, punching and moving, foiling the repeated attempts of Ortiz to take him back down. "The more he's hurt, the better he fights," Stephan Bonner, Griffin's former (defeated) opponent said as Griffin took the fight to Ortiz.

Griffin made Ortiz fight on his feet nearly through the entire third round, until Ortiz finally took Griffin down for some more ground and pound, but Griffin defended much better than in the first round, and although Ortiz was declared the winner, it was a very close split decision, with Ortiz avoiding a tie by a single point.

Although Griffin yelled for two more rounds, the UFC maximum usually reserved for a title match, he said afterward that Sylvia "won it fair and square" going on to say, "No matter who you put in against me ... I'll make it a fight."

In other notable matches, the bull-like Monson took veteran Cruz in a three round by decision, and Sean Sherk beat Nick Diaz unanimously. Nonetheless, it looks like Sherk will have to learn to put some more power behind his blows; Nick Diaz fought an almost entirely defensive fight, but went the distance and only lost by one point per round.

UFC 59: Reality Check was the Califor-

nia debut of The Octagon, and with 18,000 fans in attendance it was the largest venue the UFC had ever seen. The next fight will be at Staples Center on May 27, between

the current Welterweight Champion, Matt Hughes and the legend Royce Gracie, the very first welterweight of the Octagon. The fight promises to be phenomenal.

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Response to letter to the Editor:

Cheyenne,
I read your letter to the editor in "The Pride". I just wanted to point out to you that in your letter you wrote that there is an, 'importance for such an event' (the gay wedding). Cheyenne, this is a false statement.

ASI is promoting something that is illegal in our country and I don't see importance in this. Weekly I see protests, conventions, and parades on campus that are promoting rights and issues that many people on campus are tired of. I plead that ASI and the LBGTA stop pushing these issues in students lives. Forcing these issues down our throats is actually impeding on our rights. Many people do not

wish to see a transgender fashion show or gay wedding, and i think it is wrong to promote something that is completely anti-America. I am not looking for a fight and i can tell you that i really am not a hateful person, i am just doing my duty to our community and asking in a respectful way to stop such behavior.

Hopefully we can make some headway to more important topics to promote on our campus at Cal State San Marcos University. If you need ideas, i can think of plenty and i would be willing to help.

Thanks for reading,
Phil Hoffman.

Letter to the Editor:

I recently saw an article in the newest edition of the pride that slandered Catholics and Christians. It upsets me that the pride thinks everyone should love and support the LGBT club when people from LGBT (in this case, Jay Franklin) ridicule and slander members of our society.

It is becoming obvious to many students that i have discussed this with that LGBT does not practice the 'tolerance' that they pretend to live by and hide behind. I know of many people that were deeply offended by this article and I, as a student, suggest that Jay Franklin make an apology to the Christians and Catholic Christians

that he offended in the next issue. He may feel hurt by those loved ones in his past that wronged him, which we must understand, but it still does not make it right for him to slander Christians and insinuate that all Christians and Catholic Christians act in such a hateful behavior. Please make an effort to solve this problem, for the articles being printed should not harvest resentment how they have recently been doing. Everyone must be heard, and this should not go unnoticed.

Thank you,
Phil Hoffman.

Letter to the Editor: Immigrant Rights

We're ALL Immigrants--Rally for Immigrants Rights.

Hi, my name is Karen Perez and i am a junior at CSUSM. Now, i ask you, are you aware of the HR4437? Did you know that this bill makes illegal people criminals? It deems certain people violent, and it reinforces the images that we see in the media. But this needs to stop! We, the students in CSUSM have decided to make a rally against this injustice. We ask you to spread the word and participate. The rally will take place in the Library Plaza on Thursday, the 27th of April from 10 am - 1:00 pm. We need your support. Bring a white t-shirt and if time permits, paint a black cross on the back, it will represent the deaths of illegal immigrants who have lost their lives trying to cross the Mexican/Canadian border for the American dream that unfortunately only remains a dream. Remember, an opportunity is all we ask, but an injustice is what we are receiving. Let's demand a change!!
SPREAD THE WORD!!!

-Karen Perez

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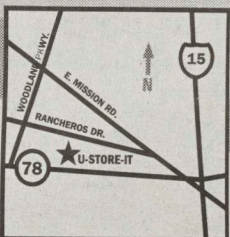
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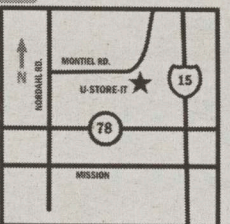
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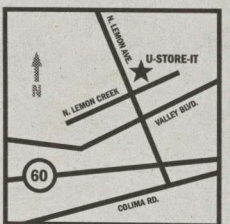
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Les Moonves presents ...

BY ANTOINETTE JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

The start of 2006 saw the birth of a new television network as the result of a merger between CBS Corporation and Warner Brothers, The CW. Though the creation of this conglomerate network is not finalized as of yet, the network is projected to be up and running this September. CW's lineup will be a mix of primetime shows from both the WB and UPN featuring America's Next Top Model, Everybody Hates Chris, and Veronica Mars coexisting alongside shows such as Beauty and the Geek and Smallville.

CBS Corporation CEO Leslie Moonves explained to the press upon the CW's announcement that the goal of the network is to target a diverse bracket of women aged 18-34 years. "They're two networks, with distinct company styles. You could spot a WB show from a mile away when it was at its peak. UPN also had that with its African-American casts. I'm not sure how, in the beginning, they'll merge. Smallville followed by Smackdown, Everybody Hates Chris, leading into 'Reba'; it'll be an odd marriage at first," said Moonves in a press conference on Jan 24.

It's true that CW will carry an odd mix of both WB and UPN programming as its lineup, however, it's important that many viewers are aware of the shows that will not be transferred over to the new network. 7th Heaven, once referred to as the WB's most popular series, has just recently been cancelled and the show's final episode will air on May 8. After running for eight straight seasons, WB series Charmed will also not be picked up by CW's primetime lineup. UPN programs that will not be aired on CW due to being picked up by other networks through syndication are Eve, and All of Us. Both shows are now set to air on TV One alongside

similar African American programs like Martin, Amen, and Good Times.

In addition to the lineup changes both WB and UPN are undergoing with this merger, CW is also running up against pockets of resistance with network affiliates. Fox Television Stations Group, having purchased many UPN affiliates in 2002, has announced that stations in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Minneapolis, Orlando, and Phoenix will not be affiliated with the new CW network. Instead, these stations will carry a new Fox programming service called My Network TV, set to open when the CW makes its debut this fall.

Along with the selective affiliates battle, CW executives must also decide what business plan to adopt in securing distribution through affiliates. In the past, the WB has used a reverse compensation method which in a nutshell requires that network affiliates would pay reverse comp when primetime ratings

with CW programming exceeded certain amounts. UPN required only that affiliates relinquish prime-time advertising to the network, with no compensation. Negotiations over the CW's business plan are still under wraps with no commentaries from either Moonves, or WB chief Barry Meyer. It seems that CW executives are dragging their feet with preparation of a fall lineup due to ambiguity about the network's terms with affiliates, which is discouraging for prospective advertisers. This could prove to be more detrimental than expected in CW's startup.

All of this aside, it seems that if CW succeeds in capturing such a diverse audience of primarily women age 18 and up, many women on college campuses should enjoy a unique blend of their favorite network programming in one conveniently accessible station. It is unclear when CW's exact launch date is, but programming of both UPN and WB will cease on September 4 (Labor Day).



Photo courtesy of warnerbrothers.com

Beer of the week Blue Heron Pale Ale

BY MATTHEW SCHRAMM
Pride Staff Writer

While many people expect a mild taste with pale ale it is not necessarily always the case with all light colored beer. One such exception to the rule is Mendocino Brewing Company's Blue Heron Pale Ale.

Brewed since 1985, and originally only as a seasonal, Blue Heron Pale Ale was one of the first brews at Mendocino

Brewing, located roughly a 100 miles north of San Francisco. According to the Mendocino Brewery website, Blue Heron Pale Ale features malted barley, along with "generous amounts" of bittering and finishing hops. Although not an IPA, Blue Heron Pale Ale retains some of the strong flavors found in modern India Pale Ales. A well-balanced beer, Blue Heron

looks lighter than it tastes with its pale golden clear coloration. Featuring lots of carbonation, Blue Heron is smooth and almost watery in texture, yet strong in a mild, bitter, happy flavor. Yet despite its slight bitterness, this is one pale ale that leaves a clean and pleasant aftertaste.

Available at stores such as Beverages and More, Mendocino brews, the vast majority featuring hawks on their

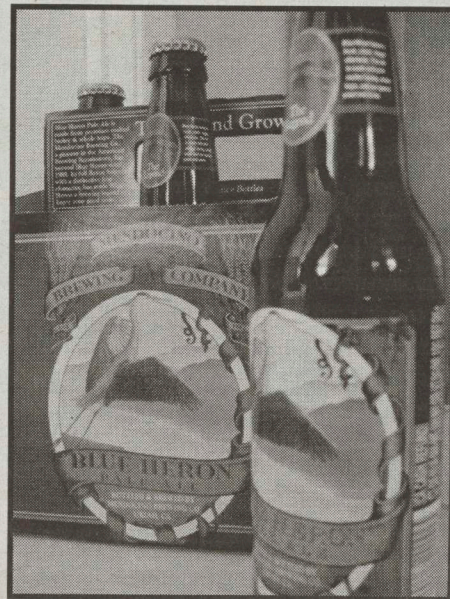


Photo by Matthew Schramm / The Pride

labels, features a range of beer styles, including ales, stouts, and IPAs. As one of their first brews, Blue Heron Pale Ale remains one of Mendocino's best, and is worth a try any time of year.

For more information on Blue Heron Pale Ale, visit the Mendocino Brewing Company website at www.mendobrew.com

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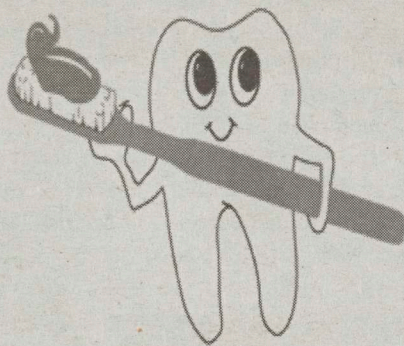
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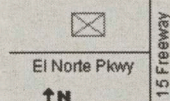
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P!NK'S 'NOT DEAD'

BY RACHEL CARIE WANN
Pride Staff Writer

She's been out of the spotlight for quite some time, three years in fact, following the release of her third in a string of relatively successful albums in 2003. But where's the rebel pop princess been this whole time? Well, she got married for one thing, to Motocross hot shot, Carey Hart. And she spent time putting a lot of thought into her next projects. The effort paid off as Pink is back. In fact, she's back in a big way, and she's anything but dead, as her newly released record clearly insists.

As her aggressive album cover depicts, on "I'm Not Dead" no one is safe from being called out in one way or another through Pink's fierce lyrics.

Coming out swinging, Pink is addressing more controversial issues than ever before in her edgy blend of expletive-filled, rock-infused pop. Pink uses "I'm Not Dead" as her platform to speak out against everything from bulimia to current events.

On "Stupid Girls," the album's first

single, Pink attacks the abundance of disgusting celebrity qualities that are keeping the masses infatuated.

Along with the track comes a highly satirical video that badly mocks the likes of a Daisy Duke-wearing, suds-up, General Lee-washing Jessica Simpson, skinny doggy-toting, oversized glasses wearing Nicole Richie, and of course, the infamous sidekick addicted poor driver, Lindsay Lohan.

On the reminiscent "Conversations with My 13 Year Old Self," and "Runaway," Pink struggles with her remaining inner-teenager. She also attacks a prominent politician and his agenda on "Dear Mr. President."

Bringing an acoustic guitar driven sound into the mix on "The One That Got Away," Pink adds some musical diversity to the record, as she does with the R&B flavored take on the concept of insane materialism in the aptly named "I Got Money Now."

Pink chooses on this record to collaborate with some unexpected artists. While she could have her pick of celebrity rappers



Photo courtesy of La Face Records

and singers across the board, Pink chooses instead to work with the Indigo Girls and her very own father on the hidden track, "I Have Seen the Rain."

Whatever she chooses to sing about, essentially doing whatever she wants, on this new record Pink proves that she's alive and well.

American Nightmarez

BY DUSTIN FRANKS
Pride Staff Writer

The movie American Dreamz had potential in taking a direct stab at American pop culture, its current presidential office, terrorism, and the glue binding it all together: American Idol. The plot was clever enough to lure a packed audience into the matinee on Friday, but when I left the theater I felt more unscathed than when I walked in two hours earlier.

The movie careens through several subplots, revolving around the show "American

Dreamz," a near direct take-off of American Idol. It eventually brings all the contestants together in a predictable ending to the grand finale of the show. Mandy Moore plays a comically heartless young singer, willing to do anything to win the game show, while going up against a fellow featured Arab contestant and "American Dreamz" sensation, Omer (Golzari), who is coincidentally a terrorist sleeper cell set out to kill the President, who happens to be guest hosting the show in an attempt to boost his popularity ratings. Hugh Grant plays

the egotistical movie version of Simon Cowell and almost holds the whole thing



Photo courtesy Universal Studios

together with his lampooning of Cowell's notoriously cold demeanor and arrogance.

The movie takes a very uncreative and unenthused stab at the current White House office, with Dennis Quaid playing President Staton. The dim, light-hearted President, already in the midst of a nervous breakdown, is torn between his political guidance and his newfound interest in public opinion. Dafoe plays the overbearing chief of staff and puppeteers the Commander in Chief via an earpiece throughout the movie, scripting every line and sedating the President

with "happy pills."

While moderately funny, and while die-hard fans of American Idol will find its take of the shows previous contestants fairly amusing, I felt the movie never went where it had the potential to go.

American Dreamz stomps on the pedal and then lets off the gas, toying with the notion of taking a stance on what's currently warped with American society. The political statement I felt it was trying to make was mild at best and never reached the mark it seemed set for. This one is best saved for a rental.

Remembering Lisa "Left-Eye" Lopes

BY RACHEL CARIE WANN
Pride Staff Writer

This week, the music world and TLC fans everywhere will remember the life of Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes, which was tragically cut short four years ago on April 25, 2002. Known to most

of the world as a member of the widely successful Hip-Hop R&B trio, TLC, Lopes stood out among the remaining members as the most outspoken and controversial of the group and left the world to remember both her talent, adding flavor and originality to TLC with her raps and

spunky stage presence, and the public drama that infiltrated her life.

Born in Philly on May 27, 1971, Lopes joined TLC at the age of 20 in the early nineties in Atlanta, Georgia with Tionne "TBoz" Watkins and Rozonda "Chilli" Thomas. The flashy clothing worn by the girls that featured a staple wardrobe of baggy pants and condoms as accessories garnered TLC almost as much as attention as their in-your-face songs which quickly escalated the singer's/rapper's career to extreme heights as the girl group took a stand in their music speaking out against prevalent issues such as AIDS and safe-sex and youth crime. TLC went on to produce top-ten hit-filled records beginning with "Oooooohhhh... On the TLC Tip," the infamous "CrazySexyCool" which included such giant hits as "Creep" and "Waterfalls" and "Fan Mail" which featured the radio-friendly hits, "No Scrubs" and "Unpretty."

Aside from her musical accolades, Lopes garnered as much, if not more, press for her baby-faced bad-girl

reputation in the music world and the tabloid headlines of her constant antics and exploits, such as her tumultuous relationship with her then-boyfriend, NFL star Andre Rison, whose mansion she famously set fire to in 1994. Lopes pleaded guilty to arson and accepted five years of probation and a hefty, but this wasn't the last time the ladies of TLC found themselves in controversy. Lopes, along with her band mates, fought publicly with their manager, singer Pebbles, and again with her record label Pebbetone prior to the release of her much-anticipated solo-record, "Supernova." They also endured filing for bankruptcy and dealing with substance abuse and chronic diseases in the eye of the ever critical media.

The band was in the middle of recording a new album in 2002 when tragedy struck. Sadly, Lopes's life was cut short by her untimely sudden death. While vacationing in La Cieba, Honduras, Lopes was volunteering at a holistic healing center and a children's institute, when Lopes and her party of eight that included her brother and sister, were involved in a car crash that proved to be fatal for Lopes after she sustained a blow to the head.

Lopes was the driver and the only fatality out of the eight tourists.

Shortly after Lopes's death, Lopes's band mates called in to the MTV show TRL to express their deepest sorrows stating that "Lisa had one of the biggest hearts of anybody we've ever known. She did charity work with kids for the lupus disease. She adopted a little girl named Snow. ... Lisa could do anything she put her mind to."

Lopes's impact on those she encountered and worked with was evident in a statement from Antonio "L.A." Reid, CEO and president of Arista Records, the label which TLC called home for over 10 years.

"No words can possibly express the sorrow and sadness I feel for this most devastating loss", Reid said in a statement following Lopes's death. He went on to say that "Lisa was not only a gifted and talented musical inspiration, but more importantly, she was like a daughter to me. My thoughts and prayers are with Lisa's family and friends. Her legacy will be remembered forever."

Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes was laid to rest in Lithonia, Georgia on May 3, 2002. She will not soon be forgotten as her legacy continues to live on in her music.



Photos courtesy of La Face Records