

Day of action against budget cuts nears CSSA prepares for march on state capitol

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

April 21, 2008 will be a day of change and a day of action for higher education in California. The California State Student Association (CSSA) in coordination with the University of California Student Association (UCSA) and the Student Senate for California Com-

munity Colleges (SSCCC) plan for 4-21-08 to be the day for students statewide to take a stand against the proposed \$5.3 billion dollar budget cuts Governor Schwarzenegger announced in January.

In hopes of spreading the word and increasing awareness of 4-21-08, the three distinct bodies of public higher education named the coalition campaign "Students

for California's Future." Aside from the thousands of students that have already organized to protest the budget cuts, the campaign is also reaching out to other agencies such as: environment, social reform, health, labor, and business affiliates to garner more support and concentrated action for their cause.

"4-21-08 is the day no student should be silent in the face of \$5.3

billion dollars in cuts to education," said CSSA Board Chair Dina Cervantes of CSU Northridge. "The proposed budget should increase investment in education from Preschool to PhD, not the opposite."

With a proposed \$386 million dollars in cuts to the California State University system alone, the proposed fiscal budget for 2008/2009 will continue to inflate the price of

public education and increase student fees—which have increased 67% since 2002 alone.

These cuts come in addition to the \$522 million dollars in funds that have been cut over the past 5 years.

The \$5.3 billion in cuts encompasses all levels of education,

See CSSA, Page 4

Student open forum with President Haynes coming soon

Next Thursday, April 15, will be the first student open forum of the semester with CSUSM President Haynes. The forum will take place during University Hour (12-1 p.m.) in the President's Boardroom (Craven 5302).

Last semester's two forums with President Haynes varied in topics from parking permits to student unions. The forum facilitates discussion between a CSU executive and the student body and welcomes any questions or concerns relevant to the campus community.

Take Back the Night at CSUSM Annual event strives to empower victims of sexual violence

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

April 8 – Today all members of the CSUSM community and of the extended community are invited to Take Back the Night. A day and night of activities all about empowerment—the events begin at 11:45 a.m. in front of Kellogg Library. Take Back the Night is dedicated to "raising awareness and walking in solidarity against sexual assault," and is hosted by ASI Women's Center.

It all begins with "Walk in Their Shoes," where students have the opportunity to hear music, poetry, and stories from survivors of sexual assault. All are encouraged to join the march for empowerment, as the evening activities will also be in memoriam of victims of

sexual assault.

Then this evening from 6 to 8 p.m. there will be an information fair provided by the Women's Center in conjunction with various campus and community organizations who hope to end sexual assault and support victims of sexual assault. "It's so important not only to stand in solidarity with victims of sexual assault but to raise awareness and provide information to women and men about how to prevent rape," said senior Phylisa Wisdom, who volunteers at the Women's Center. "The tabling event will give several organizations the opportunity to inform students of the services that are available to them. Perhaps most

See Night, Page 4

Second University Store Now Open



Photo by Jackie Carabajal / The Pride

BY JACKIE CARBAJAL
Pride Staff Writer

Craven 5110 on Founders Plaza is now home to the new University Store. Current operating hours are: Monday-

Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The new store features a more extensive assortment of student supplies, imprinted clothing and gifts in addition to more computer hardware and

software. The store also offers Fed/Ex Kinko's Services for drop-off and pick-up. The previous University Store still functions as a bookstore and both stores carry test forms and supplies.

Community Alert



Photo courtesy UPD

Dang has made threats against an unspecified college campus in San Diego. Dang resides in Sacramento County, but his current whereabouts are unknown. A warrant has been issued for his arrest for a probation violation.

Dang has threatened to kill police officers in the past, and should be considered armed and dangerous. Dang's full name is Thai Thanh Dang. He is 5'10", weighs 200 pounds and has black hair and brown eyes. If seen, do not attempt to contact, but please notify CSUSM Police immediately (760-750-4567 or 911 from any campus phone).

Valley Elementary students lobby for Dolores Huerta statue at CSUSM

Women's History Month discussion generates equal rights movement

BY JACKIE CARBAJAL
Pride Staff Writer

As of now, Caesar Chavez stands alone at the top of the trek of stairs leading up to Chavez Plaza. If the students at Valley Elementary School in Poway have it their way, Chavez may have to make room for one more. In light of the recent Women's History month and Caesar Chavez Day, CSUSM

professor Dr. Natalie Wilson visited the third and fifth grade classes of the dual immersion program to teach students about feminism and the impact of fighting against sexism, racism, and classism. Part of Wilson's lesson plan involved having the elementary students write a letter to CSUSM President



Photo by Jackie Carabajal / The Pride

See Statue, Page 4

THE PRIDE

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR IN CHIEF
VIRIDIANA PACHECO-ISAAC

MANAGING EDITOR
BEN ROFFEE

LAYOUT EDITOR
NICK STRIZVER

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
NICK STRIZVER

NEWS EDITOR
JACKIE CARENAL

FEATURES EDITOR
ASSISTANT LAYOUT EDITOR
AMANDA ANDREEN

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR
TORIA SAGEV

SPORTS EDITOR &
ONLINE MANAGER
TIM MOORE

COPY EDITOR
TIFFANIE HOANG

BUSINESS MANAGER &
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
CRISTINE YOHIO
PRIDEADS@CSUSM.EDU

ADVISOR
JOAN ANDERSON

STAFF WRITERS
LANCE CARTELLI
PAMELA CASTILLO
DAVID CHURCH
TOM COCKING
ELBERT ESGUERRA
ANDREW GARAI
IVAN GARCIA
ALEX HAND
ROSS LICHTMAN
LEVI MARTINEZ
BILL RHEIN
AMY SALISBURY

JONATHAN E. THOMPSON
JON THOMPSON

CARTOONISTS
JENNY BIGFORD
JOSH BROWN

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

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

Display and classified advertising in The Pride should not be construed as the endorsement or investigation of commercial enterprises or ventures. The Pride reserves the right to reject any advertising.

The Pride is published weekly on Tuesdays during the academic year. Distribution includes all of CSUSM campus.

The Pride

Cal State San Marcos
333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, CA 92096-0001
Phone: (760) 750-6099
Fax: (760) 750-3345
Email: pride@csusm.edu
<http://www.thecsusmpride.com>
Advertising Email:
pride_ads@csusm.edu

Gas prices gouge students

BY JON THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer

No matter who you are, or where you are, in America, the consensus is in: gas prices are a travesty and are very quickly becoming the plight of the American people. The question is what can we do about it. Certainly we can't go about our lives without transportation, nor should we have to. There is always the alternative of public transportation. However, while it is an alternative, public transportation, which, also generally runs on petroleum has also become subject to rate increases due to inflated gas prices.

The first solution that pops into many Americans' minds is to boycott buying gas on a pre-determined day. While I won't claim that this has no ill effect on the gas companies, what have we really accomplished? The fact of the matter is that in order for us to avoid gassing up one day of the week we are going to have to pump even more

gas either before or after said boycott. So I ask, what is accomplished if you are ultimately pumping the same amount of gas. Not to mention that in the wake of past gas boycotts we commonly see gas companies and OPEC nations raising prices immediately following the boycott to make up for any potential profit losses and to no doubt show the consumer and western countries, who is really in control.

Here are a few tips I came across to help you get the best value for your gas dollar, the last thing you want to do is waste away that \$4 a gallon liquid.

When filling at the pump, set the nozzle trigger to the lowest speed, thereby creating a minimum amount of vapors. Gas pumped at a high speed into your tank has a far greater chance of becoming gasoline vapor, vapors that you just paid for are being sucked back into the underground storage tanks and resold. The idea being, to get as much fuel into your tank as possible, while creating as little vapors

as possible.

Fill up when your tank is half full, by minimizing the amount of air in your tank you are further eliminating the possibility for the gas to evaporate into excess air.

When filling up try to do so in the early morning, when it's cold out. All gas stations have underground storage tanks and in the morning the ground temperature is at it's coolest. Like most liquid substances, when gasoline is cool its density increases. Keeping in mind that while gasoline is denser when cool, it in turn, expands when warm. So by filling up in the late morning or afternoon when the ground temperature has increase you will most likely be getting less than an actual gallon per metered gallon.

Now this is all well and good for getting the most out of your gas dollar, while the consumer still is for the most part rendered helpless. Lets face it—we as a society for better or worse rely on our cars for daily life. By not buying gas, as the consumer and the oil compa-

nies well know, we end up hurting ourselves far more than we could ever impact the oil industry. The power we do have as consumers is to choose from who we buy our gas. The idea being that if consumers avoid making purchases from the larger gas companies, Shell, Exxon/Mobile, Chevron/Texaco, they will be forced to lower prices. When the industry giants lower their prices the smaller, independent gas companies will have to follow suit.

Unfortunately in this case one person can't make any kind of difference. For any kind of result or effect to be felt by OPEC and their American oil company bedmates, consumers nation wide need to act. Your alternative to action is grabbing your ankles and wait for \$5 a gallon this summer, then drop to your knees and prey for divine intervention, the only likely way the oil industry would be inclined to stop gas prices from rising without consumer action. Any action is better than inaction.

Church's Influence on Sports
NHL Playoffs set to begin

BY DAVID CHURCH
Pride Staff Writer



On March 25, 2007, Tim Moore, 25 simulated seasons on NHL '08 and I made some big predictions about the then upcoming hockey season. But with the playoffs finally here, it is time to talk trophies and who they are going to and see how off we truly were.

Art Ross Trophy

If it wasn't for a his right ankle which lead to Sidney Crosby missing 28 games, Tim and I would of looked like we made the correct pick. As Sid the Kid probably would have put up some great numbers again. But the reigning champion is handing over to the guy who beat him out for the Calder trophy two years ago, Alexander Ovechkin.

Calder Trophy

I think it is safe to say that the finalist for this award will be Washington Capitals Nicklas Backstrom and Chicago Blackhawks Patrick

Kane and Jonathon Toews. The question here is who will is it going to. I feel that Kane and Backstrom are the top two rookies in their class. The only differences between them are that Backstrom was a linemate to Ovechkin, whereas Kane became a huge playmaker for his team and became a leader on the ice.

Presidents Trophy

Here is where I can say that I had it right on the bubble. Because of a weak division, the Detroit Red Wings were able to jump out as favorites for the Presidents Trophy. Although it was conference play that led to a record of 54-21-7 with 115 points, coach Mike Babcock led an injured plagued Red Wings to another president trophy.

Hart Trophy and Rocket Richard Trophy

What was the biggest question all season long was answered when the Carolina Hurricanes fell to the Florida Panthers on Friday. But that was only the formula being brewed;

the true answer came when Alexander Ovechkin led his Capitals to a playoff berth. While in the process of bouncing his team back from the worst team in the conference to the southeast division title, Ovechkin finished with top honors in goal scoring (65) and will also receive the Rocket Richard Trophy in the process.

Vezina and William M. Jennings Trophies

What once was thought as an easy Martin Brodeur, Roberto Luongo and Henrik Lundqvist final is looking more and more like a Jean-Sebastien Giguere, Evgeni Nabokov and Brodeur finish for top goaltending honors. Giguere will win his first Vezina do to in large part of his great defense in front of him, but also because he is in the top three in nearly all goaltending stats since the All-Star break which is considered playoff time.

But the Red Wings goaltending duo of Chris Osgood (2.09 GAA) and Dominik Hasek (2.17 GAA), it only seems fair that their combination of 80 starts between the two would be more significant than

Giguere's 2.12 GAA in 58 games going into Sunday's finale.

Stanley Cup

It is never too early to say who the clear favorites are going into the playoffs. I believe that the winner will come out of the West once again, but you never know in the best of seven series.

However, I still feel that the Ducks are going to do what they do best and that is shut down top scoring line after top scoring line in order to win the cup. However, the San Jose Sharks do have home ice against the Ducks and have become the team to beat heading into the playoffs.

With the Sharks and Ducks facing off in the Western Conference final, I would predict that the Eastern Conference final will match up the Pittsburgh Penguins and Philadelphia Flyers. And I will stick to my preseason prediction of the Anaheim Ducks sweeping the Flyers in the Stanley Cup Finals.

Any questions or comments can be sent to churc009@csusm.edu or pride@csusm.edu.

Bill of Rights It is just a game

BY BILL RHEIN
Pride Staff Writer



There is nothing more relaxing after a hard day of classes than to wander off into the fantastic realm of video games. Moreover, nothing

is more annoying than someone who complains while playing video games. Players who insist on shouting every time they feel the game systems has wronged them belong on the same level of frustration as those who talk aloud at the cinema.

First, shouting will get a player nowhere. As technologically

advanced as it is, the XBOX 360 system cannot hear you. If the enemy kills you in "Call of Duty," even though you think you got a headshot, complaining about it does not make a difference. The game goes on and the player has another chance. Swearing and bellowing, "no way!" does not take away what just happened.

The effect of shouting is on others nearby. Fellow players and people nearby often do not sympathize when a game does not go as expected. They may not be willing to admit it, this racket is bothersome and a waste of time. In the big picture, these other people do not care

if the player really did hit all the notes on "Guitar Hero." Gamers have linked unpopularity to people who whine while playing.

Often the case in games like "Halo" is that a grenade that was not seen kills players or because shots from the Battle Rifle were not as accurate as thought. Yet this is where most complaining occurs. Most games are advanced enough dispense damage fairly. However, there are occasions where the game glitches and something occurs unjustly. Players must keep this in mind and consider that they too might have been helped by a error at one point. What goes around comes around.

Possibly the most annoying brand

of complaints comes from instances where players moan about being truly bested. In this world, fate gifts some people in areas more than others are. When beaten by someone of greater skill, one should gracefully admit defeat, rather than complain that the other person is a nerd who only plays that game all the time. Even though there is resentment against those who are experts, other players would like to have that skill if possible and are just upset they are not as good.

Even though pressure may be overwhelming, players should remember video games are just games. Complaining does not better the person and it only ruins the experience for others.



Calendar of Events

Tuesday April 8
12:00 p.m.

 Sexual Assault Awareness
Forum Plaza

12:00 p.m.

 Take a Bite Out of the Budget
Kellogg Plaza

5:00 p.m.

 Take Back the Night
Forum Plaza

Wednesday April 9
5:30 p.m.

 Admissions Information Session
Craven 3701

Thursday April 10
12:00 p.m.

 Thinking Outside of the [Lunch]Box
Mark 101

12:00 p.m.

 Costa Rica Information Session
ACD 102

12:00 p.m.

 ASI Yoga
Com 206

Friday April 11
12:00 p.m.

 ASI Flag Football
Mngrm Field

12-4 p.m.

 Powderpuff Football Tournament
Lower fields

6:00 p.m.

 Doctoral Class
Univ 443

Saturday April 12
9:00 a.m.

 Doctoral Class
Univ 443

Monday April 14
8:00 a.m.

 Info table for the US Marines
Kellogg Breezway/Terrace

8:00 a.m.

 Cougar Bazaar & Student Fundraising Week
Kellogg Plaza

10:00 a.m.

 Disney Info Table
Kellogg Breezway/Terrace

11:00 a.m.

 Prayer Meeting
Mark 344

12:00 p.m.

 Biotech Club Meeting
Kellogg 3010

 (Email event submissions to pride@csusm.edu ATTN: Calendar of Events)

STUDENT CONFERENCES QUESTIONS

THE CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ESCONDIDO MUSEUM

EXHIBITION

RAUL GUERRERO
JEAN LOWE
MAY-LING MARTINEZ
IANA QUESNELL
ERNEST SILVA
YVONNE VENEGAS
MARCH 1 – MAY 31, 2008

Bring in this ad for
2 FOR 1 ADMISSION
to the Center Museum

That's 2 Admissions for \$3
With valid student ID



340 N. Escondido Boulevard
Escondido, CA 92025
artcenter.org

The 2007/2008
Museum season is generously
sponsored by



From **CSSA**, page 1

preschool through the university level—with an estimated \$1 billion to just higher education. Even though in his address to the state on January 8, 2008, the Governor discussed an upcoming shortage in teachers, he still plans to cut millions from the CSU system, which in 2007 was the greatest producer of K-12 teachers.

If the proposed budget becomes official, CSUSM students—and all CSU students for that matter—can expect an additional 10% increase in student fees, on top of the rising costs of parking permits and gas

that have already depleted students' wallets. It could also mean increased class sizes, less course offerings, the loss of qualified instructors, less student organization funding support and perhaps a longer than expected time to graduate.

"Our generation has yet to see another issue with the power to single-handedly affect multitudes of Californians the way these budget cuts could," said Louise Hendrickson, UCSA Board President. "Now is the time to put aside differences, come together, and ensure a better, brighter future for all."

For students near the state capitol on 4-21, the Day of Action begins

at 8:00 a.m. with a march through Capitol Mall. After the march there will be a press conference hosted by CSSA to talk about the proposed budget and other support efforts happening throughout California's education system. "Students for California's Future" encourages all students on all other California campuses to rally together and take a stand for their education.

"CSSA will be working with student leaders on each of the 23 CSU campuses, as well as at the UC and CCC campuses to analyze the proposed budget, and empower all students to hold elected officials accountable to fully fund public

higher education and stop student fee increases," said Cervantes.

"Over 3.2 million students at the CCC, CSU and UC will be adversely affected by \$1 billion dollars in cuts to higher education," said SSSCC President Frank Fernandez of Imperial Valley College. "With the help of UCSA and CSSA, we are organizing our peers at over 100 CCC campuses across the state to take action on 4-21-08."

Current information can be found online at CSUSM's Budget Central: www.csusm.edu/plan/budgetcentral or at the Student's for California's Future website: www.studentsforcalifornia.org.

From **NIGHT**, page 1

importantly, though, is the message that the CSUSM campus community does not condone sexual assault and is actively working to stop it. Hopefully we'll get a good turn out so the message is loud and clear."

Following the information fair all in attendance are invited and welcome to walk together without fear to symbolize the end of the victimization of women.

From **STATUE**, page 1

Karen Haynes arguing the case for a statue of Dolores Huerta to stand next to Caesar Chavez on the college campus.

"The letter was prompted by discussions with students (both at CSUSM and at my children's school) about Huerta and Chavez. Over the years I have been teaching, many students have asked why Chavez is honored with a holiday, statues, etc and Huerta is forgotten," said Wilson. "I was motivated to think about how, on a local level, we could honor Huerta and decided a movement to try and put a statue of her alongside Chavez would be a good way to honor her work and give her the rightful place she deserves next to Chavez. Also, as Chavez day is supposed to be a day honoring community service, I think the idea of using the holiday to serve underrepresented communities (like the predominantly Latino, dual-immersion

school I visited on Thursday) is in keeping with the purpose of the day -- to inspire service and activism to change one's community for the better."

Dolores Huerta worked alongside Chavez, fighting for the rights of farm and field workers, immigrants, and migrant workers.

"Although Chavez has been framed as the 'father' of the farm workers/Latino rights cause, she (Huerta) is just as important as him. Yet, in keeping with our patriarchal culture, we honor the fathers and forget the mothers," said Wilson.

Wilson plays an active role in the Women's Center and Women's Studies department in addition to the Literature and Writing department. Earlier this year, CSUSM recognized Wilson under its February Faculty Achievements for her many publications including a chapter, "Womb Fiction: Late Twentieth Century Challenges to the Woman as Womb Paradigm,"

in *Women in Anglophone Literary Culture: Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Perspectives* Ed. Robin Hammerman, Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2007.

In her discussion with students, Wilson cited many important women in history including Coretta Scott King, Rosa Parks, Eleanor Roosevelt, Mary Wollstonecraft, Pocahontas, Sacajawea, Mary Shelley, and J.K. Rowling.

To end the discussion, Wilson discussed the achievements and advancements made throughout history to help women attain their rights, adding that letters and petitions are ways of evoking change. Students then collectively drafted their letter for Haynes stating, "We, the students of Valley Elementary feel that Dolores Huerta deserves to have a statue next to Cesar Chavez. They both worked together; she was just as important as he was. In order to honor her and women's

history, we hope that you will please consider putting a statue of Huerta next to the Chavez statue."

"She should put a statue next to the other one of Chavez that is the same size and not smaller or behind Chavez," added third grader Naomi Clift.

When asked why Huerta should also have a statue, third grade student Oscar Garcis replied, "They worked together as a team, and they were equally important in the fight for farm workers rights."

The experience proved enlightening to Wilson, having received skepticism from educators over whether or not the issues discussed would be too complicated for young students to comprehend.

"These kids proved that they do understand and can grasp the injustice of the way in which our world judges people based on skin color, monetary earnings, or on whether they are male or female. They were really

excited to learn about feminism and important women," said Wilson. "I would love to see CSUSM student organizations get involved in trying to make the statue a reality. We have so many vibrant groups and passionate students on this campus from MECHA to the Black Students Union to the Women's Center, the LGBTQ center, the Cross Cultural Center, and Women's Studies Student Association. With their help, and the support of faculty and departments, it seems that even in this time of horrendous budget cuts, we could direct our energies towards honoring a woman who so valiantly fights for social justice."

Any students interested in furthering the movement on campus can follow the advice of Valley Elementary student Georgia Gilmore, "Students at college should sign a petition and show it to President Haynes to show their support of the statue."

PoliceBeat

3/18/08 10:30 p.m.

An unknown suspect vandalized the Caesar Chavez statue with paint around the face and groin. An officer wiped off the water based paint. UPD did not classify it as a hate crime and found the vandalism non-bias motivated.

3/19/08 11:30 p.m.

During a traffic stop on Barham Rd., an officer found 24.5 grams and 3.8 grams of marijuana. Driver and passenger were cited and released.

3/20/08 1:30 p.m.

A female victim reported a domestic violence battery that took place on campus 3/12, no injuries. Suspect is a Canadian resident. UPD provided info to ICE and referred case to the district attorney.

3/21/08 1 a.m.

After an argument, a victim parked in lot N. The victim returned to find air let out of 4 tires, significant dents, hand and shoe prints on hood, and a liquid stain. UPD located the suspects. The male admitted to jumping on hood and female admitted urinating on hood. Case referred to D.A. and Dean of Students.

3/20/08 9:45 p.m.

A student sent inappropriate e-mails to another student. The non-criminal case is

under investigation.

3/22/08 12:07 a.m.

An officer made traffic stop for vehicle code violations and found an open bottle of liquor. Driver was cited for minor in possession of alcohol.

3/22/08 1:30 a.m.

UPD assisted SD Dept on a report of an attempted suicide. SD transported the CSUSM student to the hospital for a 72 hour mental health evaluation.

3/23/08 3:45 p.m.

During a security check in Lot B, an officer made a traffic stop on two minors, discovering a small amount of marijuana and pipe in their possession. UPD released the minors to parents.

3/22/08 4:30 p.m.

An unknown suspect vandalized a power chord and outlet in the computer lab on the second floor of the library causing \$150 in damages.

3/23/08 12:10 a.m.

An officer made a traffic stop for vehicle code violation in front of local apartments. The passenger was in possession of a police baton, 2.7grams of marijuana, and various alcohols. Possession of a police baton in California is a felony.

3/24/08 4 a.m.

An officer was dispatched to Lot O for a student possibly ingesting drugs. Paramedics transported the female student to the hospital where she was treated for over consuming alcohol.

3/25/08 3:15 a.m.

During a traffic stop, an officer found open and closed alcohol containers. UPD cited driver and passengers for alcohol violations and confiscated the marijuana.

3/25/08 12:30 p.m.

A student fell asleep in the library. Later, he discovered that his wallet was missing. The wallet was turned into Lost and Found minus the \$80.

3/25/08 5 p.m.

On the first floor of University Hall, a student fell on steps injuring shoulder and was transported to Palomar hospital.

4/2/08 12-5 p.m.

UPD will be conducting active shooter training along with Palomar PD on the first floor of Arts. There will be plastic guns, the sounds of gunfire, and the drill will be announced over P.A. notification system. Any info needed contact Lt. Miller.



Autism in America

The relentless disease confounding the nation

BY AMY SALISBURY
Pride Staff Writer

According to the Autism Society of America, Autism Spectrum Disorder, or ASD, has risen to a baffling prevalence of 1 in 150 American children as of 2007. In California, the number of autism cases has tripled since 1985. The disease has no known cause, nor a certain cure.

At its most severe, autism can cause an otherwise healthy child to be emotionally insufferable, with hardly any verbal skills, or trigger the urge to self-harm. However, the puzzling disease can produce unusual intelligence and memorization, as Dennis Hopper showed the world in the film "Rainman," while still presenting debilitating gaps in social skills and emotional identification.

The scientific community generally recognizes abnormalities in brain structure or function as the main cause of varying degrees of ASD, though no one knows exactly why.

A child afflicted with autism will show differences in his brain shape and organization versus those without. Nevertheless, researchers maintain several theories as to ASD's origin. Many families studied display a genetic predisposition to developing the disease, though no specific ethnic group shows any kind of inclination toward autism's increase.

At this point, there is no amount of research that explicitly shows one particular gene to cause autism. Genetic instability in the womb may impede brain development, or even complications with delivery may contribute, not to mention the increased sensitivity of a developing child to environmental toxins like alcohol and drugs.

Children with ASD usually receive a diagnosis within three years of birth, but there are no actual medical tests to aid in the identification. An individual's communication skills and behavioral characteristics tend to be the factors most associated with ASD detection. Even so, autism may be commonly mistaken for mental retardation, a hearing disorder, or simply eccentric behavior. Early identification and appropriate treatment programs provide the best chance for a child with ASD to develop as fully as possible.

Autism is in no way contagious, but it is so common that most people have some connection to the disease. Peter Bell, CEO of the national research and advocacy group Cure Autism Now, called autism "the polio of the 21st century." Bell is in fact the father of a young man with autism, stating, "It's very rare that you meet someone who doesn't know a family that's affected. I meet strangers on planes who say they have a nephew, or a friend, or a work colleague with a child who is

autistic."

There is no denial among researchers that autism has reached pandemic proportions because of some unknown change occurring in current generations. In 2003, Florida congressman and physician Dave Weldon reopened a previously discarded debate on whether thimerosal, a mercury-based preservative used in common vaccines in the United States, may cause autism.

Some parents of autistic children claimed their babies and toddlers were developing normally then suddenly became unusually withdrawn within hours of receiving a routine round of pediatric shots. As promising as it sounded, multiple studies have repeatedly failed to present a connection between thimerosal and autism.

Other researchers have theorized that widespread illegal drug use in the 1960s and 1970s somehow broke into the genetic code of humanity and altered the fundamental structure of DNA. Some public health agencies like the CDC and FDA once even thought that preservatives or pesticides in food contributed to the ever-growing problem. Science's unanimous conclusion that drug use is harmful still could not account for any con-

sistent DNA change, nor could the FDA conclusively prove that preservatives produce immediate harm in the consumer.

The only known facts in the world of ASD are of the disease's frequency and questionability. Those affected with ASD may find comfort in the Autism Society of America's support groups and throughout the States. The local chapters reach out to those with the disorder and families linked to autism.

The Autism Soci-

ety of America also collaborates with many other organizations like CARD, the Center for Autism and Related Diseases, NARPA, National Association of Residential Providers for Adults with Autism, and WAO, the World Autism Organization.

If you or someone you know is struggling with the weights and fears of autism, the ASA San Diego County Chapter may be reached by phone at 858.715.0678.

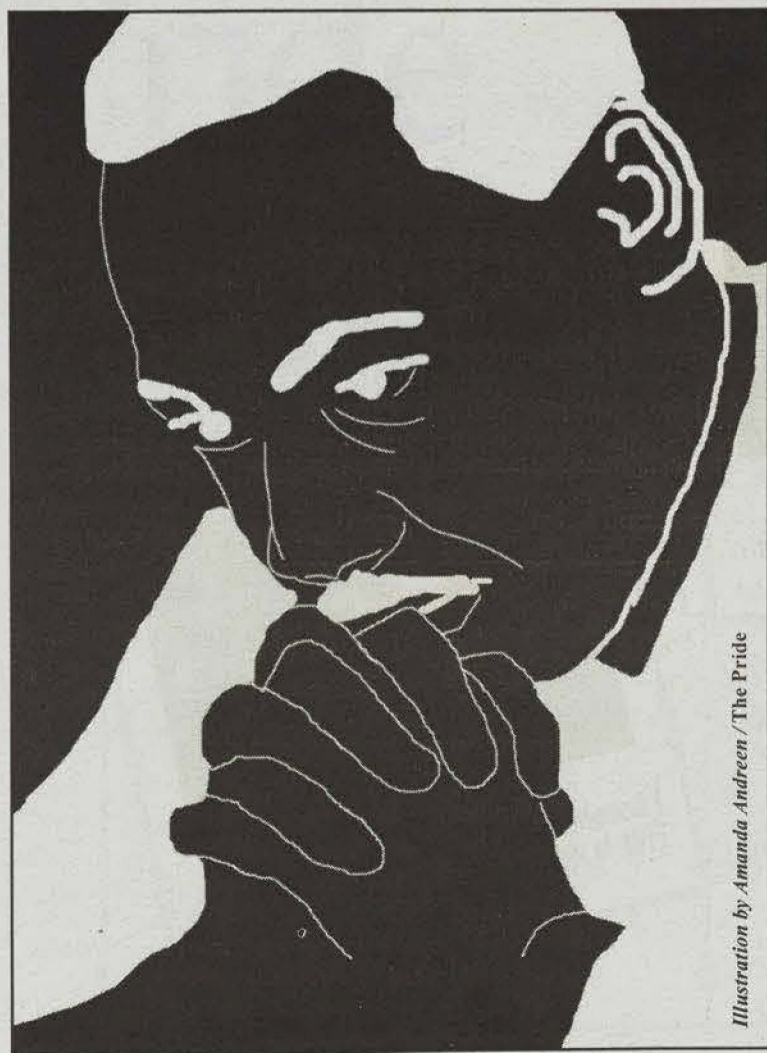
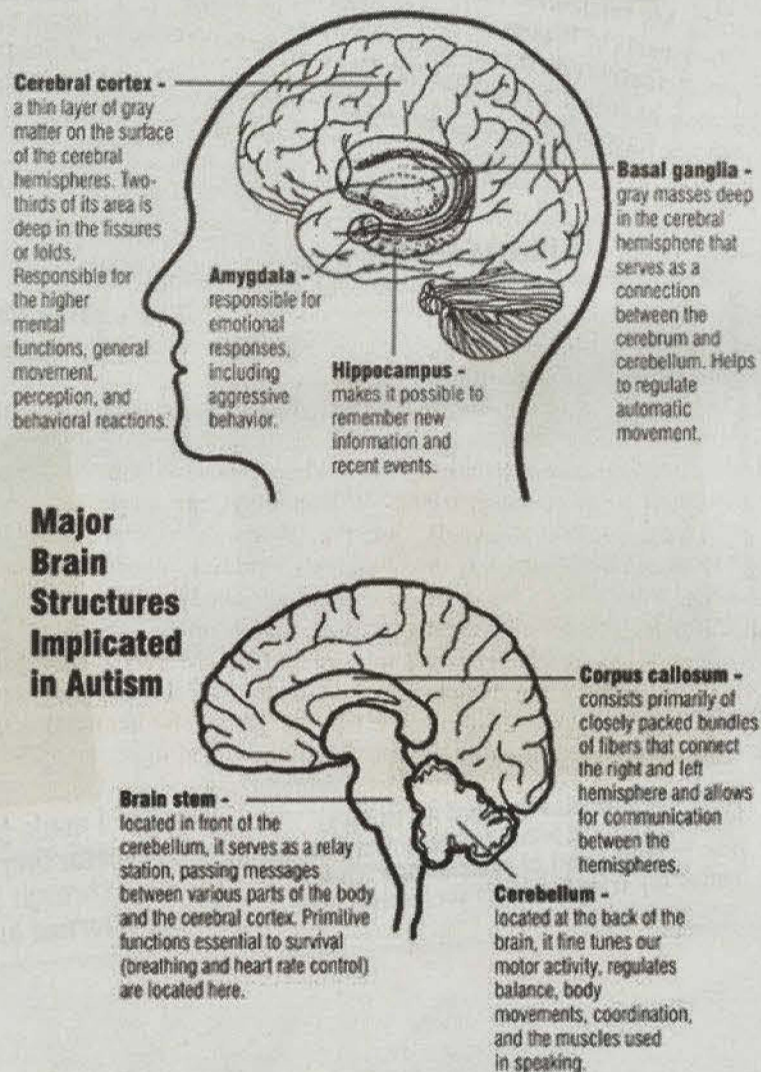


Illustration by Amanda Andreen/The Pride

Forty years later

How the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. is still alive

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

It has been 14,614 days since Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stepped out of his room on the second floor at the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis. On his way to a dinner at the Rev. Samuel "Billy" Kyles' home with several of his political aides—only four of which whom are still alive—as history will never forget, it's no secret that MLK never made it to that dinner.

Shot by James Earl Ray, MLK's assassination devastated fellow civil rights leaders, communities, and the nation as a whole as it embarked upon a very fragile and controversial time in U.S. History.

Forty years later, MLK's

legacy and dream still lives on. From his infamous words delivered to a Memphis congregation on April 3, 1968, the night before his murder: "We've got some difficult days ahead, but it doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the mountaintop..." MLK's ideals and hopes for America inspired generations.

In 1963, MLK's March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom was a milestone for all Americans and the pursuit of civil liberties, as it was a turning point in U.S. History. It was during this march in which MLK delivered his famous "I have a dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to more than 200,000 civil rights supporters.

MLK not only fathered the

birth of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, but also rallied the 1965 Voting Rights Act, both of which Lyndon B. Johnson made sure passed when he took over the role as President after the assassination of JFK.

For more information about the legacy of MLK, or to read TIME Magazine's in depth feature and interview with the surviving four political aides who were with MLK at his death, please visit "MLK: 40 Years Later" at time.com.

Additionally, to learn more about MLK, please visit theking-center.org, a center established by Coretta Scott King in 1968 to carry on the legacy of her husband and educate the future generations of civil rights leaders about MLK's dream.

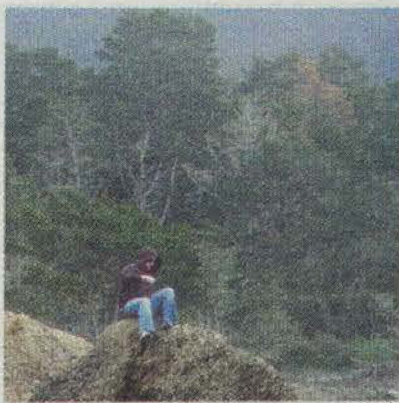
The Pride Goes on Spring Break

Toria Savey



My turtle went partying in the less desirable parts of Tijuana so I had to clean him off with a toothbrush. It took the entire week. Next time he does it, he's getting Oxy Clean-ed. Or maybe Kaboomled.

Adam Lowe



Went down to a little Mexican beach town called La Mission south of Rosarito. We have been renting a house there for the past 4 years.

Lance Cartelli



Had the time of my life on a three day, four night trip to a mansion in La Mission, Mexico. You should all be jealous!

Amanda Andreen



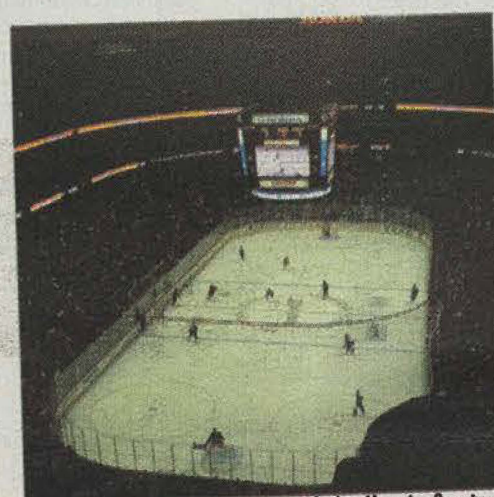
Sickness conveniently found me as I was relaxing over the break so I taught my cat Taz how to chug a pint of Jagermeister...then I invited my friends over to see his mad skills.

Ben Roffee



I made the world's longest U turn starting in San Marcos, passing through SF and Seattle and getting turned around at the Canadian border.

Jackie Carbajal



I had seats at the very top of the Honda Center sports arena in Anaheim to watch the Ducks face off against the Phoenix Coyotes in their final game of the season. It was first hockey game I've sat through if you don't count the Mighty Duck movies. The Ducks won 3-2 in a final shoot out.

Viri Pacheco-Isaac



Even in late March, Viridiana Pacheco-Isaac was able to find snow in Wrightwood, CA. This small town located in Los Angeles County is the closest ski resort town to San Diego, about an hour and a half from campus.

Tim Moore



I marveled over modern vending-machine technology this Spring Break. Paying \$1 for a can of soda is an injustice, but this helped soften the blow.

Nick Strizver



I bought a new CRF450R on Friday. This is my old CR125 near my house.



hulu and Linked in

BY [REDACTED]
Pride Staff Writer

What is LinkedIn all about? LinkedIn is an online networking system consisting of more than 20 million professionals from all around the world. It is free to join and in addition to free accounts there is the option of paid accounts that offer more tools to connect with people that may not be in your network. Within the member's network, one can find potential business contacts, be found by professionals, search for jobs and careers, discover "inside connections," send out job listings, find "high-quality passive candidates," and become introduced to other people through people the user knows.

LinkedIn could be equated as the career-world's FaceBook. Members create profiles with their professional achievements and it is optional to put up pictures for further identification. From that, one can find business contacts, former and current colleagues, and classmates, and it works the other way around too. LinkedIn's simple philosophy is the following: "Relationships matter," and it exemplifies this with its manageable way to stay in touch with people, uncover career opportunities, and receive business advice.

The mission statement is to help members be more efficient in past, current, and future professional relationships and to present new professional possibilities—LinkedIn is a great utility to literally "network." LinkedIn allows one to reconnect

with colleagues and classmates and stay in contact. Another great feature of LinkedIn is how it can help users discover new "inside" connections when looking for a job or career opportunity.

There is also a helpful feature of receiving expert advice from those in the same network. For those career and internet savvy professionals, LinkedIn is an appreciable way to benefit your career with the bonus of modern internet technology.

BY ELBERT ESGUERRA
Pride Staff Writer

Hulu.com is not just a video—rather videos. And if anyone else is tired of missing their favorite TV because a 15-page paper on sea otters was due the following day, then it's time to visit Hulu.

Ever since last year, the much-anticipated mega-site that combines the collection of television and movies from Fox, NBC, and subsequent affiliates offers all kinds of spe-

cials. People can now watch or relive some of their favorites anytime and anywhere, from the spectacle that was the 2007 Fiesta Bowl between Oklahoma and Boise State or full seasons of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

Video is in widescreen mostly and the quality is better than that found on YouTube or Veoh. The view screen itself is large and is adjustable to better viewing experiences. Feel like turning the lights down or switching to full screen mode? Click the "lower lights" button for a more intimate viewing or "full screen" for a large view. Sharing videos and embedding them are also easy options that give people more features to play with.

Advertisement is ample, but people Hulu gets creative and offers choices in the kind of advertisements people prefer. The given two options: regular commercial intermissions or a one-time 2-minute trailer of an upcoming film or show. It isn't overbearing in anyway and it isn't anymore or less than one would find in another site.

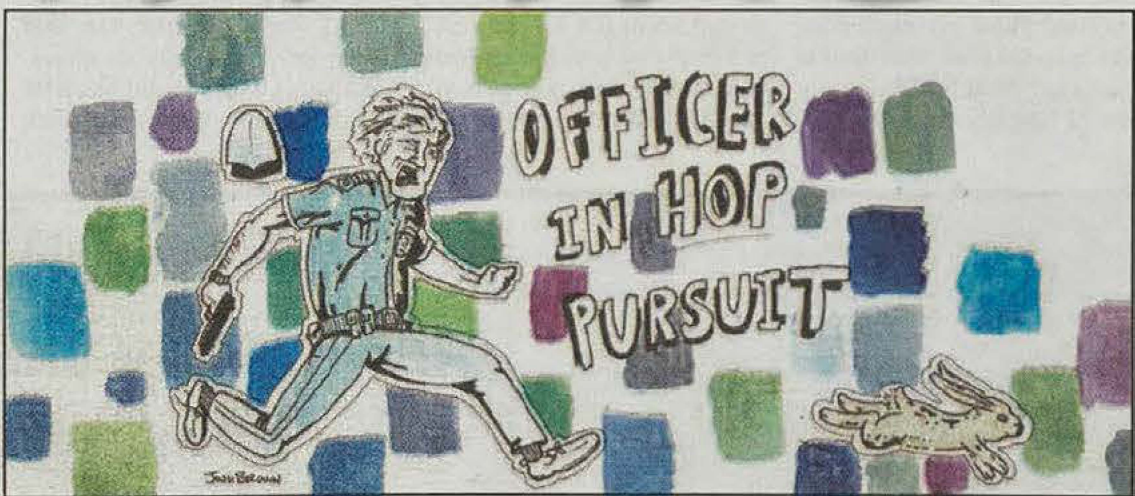
Hulu is fluid in design and dynamic for repeated viewings and multiple sharing. Anyone can find almost anything, but not everything as the site still needs to flatten some of the wrinkles. It may not be the end-all answer for all the content one would find, but users can appreciate the user-friendly model that the site provides and the strong passion for viewer oriented video at his or her convenience.

According to a Nielsen online video census, Hulu debuted strongly with 1.7 million viewers and 13 million video streams. Perhaps with this much video and a vast collection that will be growing in the near future, that 15-page sea otter paper will never get finished.

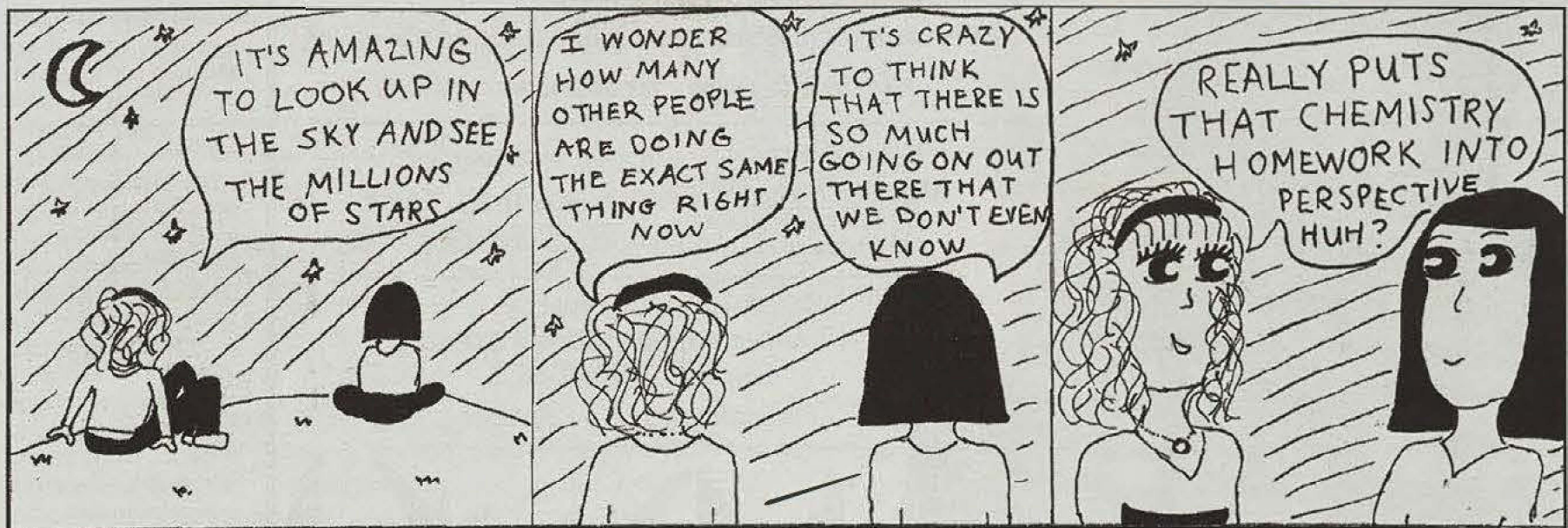


Pride Comics

By Josh Brown



Just for Shiggles by Jenny Bigpond



Open Skies travel agreement

BY ALEX HAND
Pride Staff Writer

Traveling to Europe may have just gotten easier. As of March 30th 2008, the EU-US so-called Open Skies agreement officially goes into effect. The agreement opens up the transatlantic market to more free-market competition. More competition among airlines will allow for more business opportunities for airline companies and more choices for travelers.

Before the Open Skies agreement, flights between the U.S. and Europe were governed by separate, individual agreements made between the United States and certain European nations. The previous pacts made it mandatory for airlines to take off or land in their native countries, and also limited which airlines could provide service to certain airports. Now, with the new agreement in effect, it allows for a much more level playing field among all the companies serving the trans-Atlantic market.

With this new level playing field comes many benefits. For instance, British Airways will be launching a new airline called OpenSkies that will provide nonstop service from JFK to Paris, Brussels, and Amsterdam. Many other airlines such as Air France, Continental, Delta and Northwest will be opening up new flight options and begin serving many new ports according to the New York Times.

With many new players in the mix, airlines will begin an all out skirmish that will create many more travel options and possibly lower prices for customers. With the freedom to provide service to new locations, airlines will begin to schedule flights to all new locations. Heathrow, one of Europe's most popular may be the location with the biggest increase of usage with new service from airlines such as Continental, Delta, and Northwest for the first time. Later this year, many airlines plan to add daily service to Heathrow from many U.S. cities such

as Detroit, Minneapolis, and Seattle.

As previously mentioned in the New York Times, according to Jerry Chandler, author of cheapflights.com's travel blog "We don't even begin to get a glimmer of the possibilities of an open-market competition yet," Chandler has been tracking the open-skies agree-

ment from the beginning and says "there could be a lot of flourishing of routes in markets that currently don't exist, especially from smaller U.S. cities to European hubs."

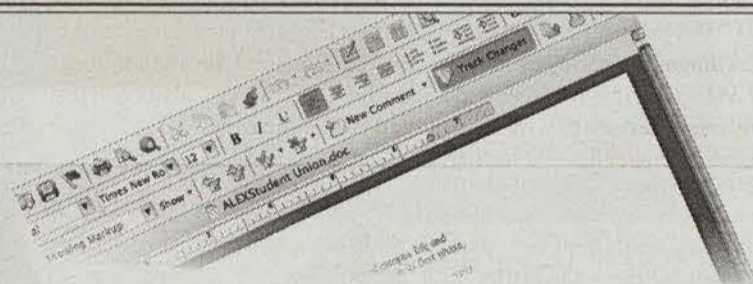
So it seems that the new Open Skies agreement will benefit everyone involved but the burning question still remains. Will it really lower airfare prices for

trans-Atlantic travel? Although it is unclear at this point, a study done by a consulting firm called Battle Group revealed that the new agreement should put pressure on airlines to reduce fares by 4 to 10 percent. As for the rest, it will be interesting to see how the new open market plays out of companies and travelers alike.



Illustration by Amanda Andreen / The Pride

THE CCR



What you need to know before it's too late

BY IVAN GARCIA
Pride Staff Writer

Just finished taking your ELM, EPT, and Alcohol Awareness Test? Think you're all done and ready for your second year of college? Well, unfortunately there is just one more require-

ment that all first-year students must finish before they return to Cal State San Marcos for their second-year, and that is the Computer Competency Requirement (CCR). The CCR is a four-part test that evaluates students on their proficiency in varying computer related pro-

grams and ethics.

This test is geared toward testing the proficiency levels students in the use of basic word processing, spreadsheet concepts, basic internet use, and knowledge in virus & ethics. Although it may sound like a lot of information to the not-so tech

savvy, rest assured that Instructional & Information Technology Services provides all the necessary study materials and tutorials to help with preparation.

All this study material can be found on their website found in the "Technology" link in the

CSUSM homepage. And with the pending end of this spring semester, there is not much time left to take this test, although the library provides adequate hours to help students find the time that best suits their schedule.

Until May 9th, students are able to take the exam on Friday, 10 AM to 2 PM and Saturday, 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM in Academic Hall 202. The CCR may also be taken at the Cal State San Marcos Southwest Riverside campus if it so conveniences students in that area.

As well as study guides, Cal State San Marcos also provides a course (CS 100) that may be taken throughout the semester to help those that prefer to take a class as opposed to the test, and upon successful completion of the course, the student satisfies their Computer Competency Requirement.

Not to mention that the four parts that make up the test may be taken separately and at the will of the student. Each part takes about 30 minutes to complete, which means that students don't have to sit for long periods of time to finish this test. With all the services to help students fulfill this requirement, the only thing hindering the completion of this test is the student's level of procrastination.

Will Global Warming Destroy the Earth?

What does the Bible say?

Can the human race turn back the clock?

Why are world problems multiplying & so difficult to solve?

Is there any hope...for us and our earth?

Presentation by:
Martin Owen, P.E.,
Geotechnical Engineer
and Bible student

TUESDAY
April 15, 2008
NOON

Cal State San Marcos
University Hall Room 337
More Info: 800-465-5855

Free admission ~ Free literature
Sponsored by the Christadelphian Bible Students

Sign-ups still open for powder puff football

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

Boys in skimpy cheerleader outfits with makeup and pom-poms and girls in football gear with face paint and matching shirts are usually the images that come to mind whenever the term "Powder Puff" is mentioned. Sure, there are probably plenty of Facebook and Myspace pictures out there of just that too—but now all CSUSM students can participate in and witness such a spectacle firsthand.

The time is now CSUSM, when all the females on campus have the opportunity to kick some Powder Puff butt. Sponsored by ASI Campus Recreation, this month the annual Powder Puff Football event and tournament begins Friday, April 11, and continues the next Friday, April 18 from noon to 4 p.m. The event and the games will take place on two

designated fields at the lower field located on the corner of Twin Oaks Valley Rd. and Craven Rd.

Signups are open at the Clarke Field House in FH 119 through Friday the 11th at 12 p.m. However, space is limited as only the first 12 teams to register can participate, so for those interested, don't wait too long, or the only available spots will be the ones at the sidelines watching.

To register a team, at least three people from a team need to be present, and one of those three present needs to be the team leader. There can be eight people on a team plus a coach. Teams are encouraged to have coaches, so feel free to invite a boyfriend, brother, friend, husband, or classmate to coach a team.

Once a team is registered, the rest of the individuals on the team can stop by the Clarke anytime to add herself to the roster. Registration for the tournament costs \$5/person, but if

a registrant has participated in any intramural activity previously this year and already paid the \$10 fee for the year, then registration is free. There will also be a "Free Agent" team with an open roster for anyone who does not have a team but wishes to play. Teams are also encouraged to matching uniforms—though not required—however, there may be a reward for the "Best Uniform."

Saul Garcia of Campus Recreation said, "The winning team will all receive

Intramural Champion shirts and have a plaque with their team name and picture on it in our trophy case which is located in the hallway of the field house."

All teams will play in the tournament both days. On the 11th, teams will play two games and then on the 18th teams will be ranked and participate in the single elimination tournament.

CSUSM Baseball Way helps continue Cougars' streak

BY TIM MOORE
Pride Staff Writer

Senior designated hitter, Austin Way led the charge in a pair high-scoring wins prior to spring break. Way hit his thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth home runs of the season in a span of only two days.

The Cougars faced Bethany University on Friday, March 28 in a closely contested 16-13 win. Way

homered in the second inning, fourth inning and finally again in the fifth, going 4-6 from the plate with four RBIs.

Way's hot streak was not over as the team faced Bethany yet again the following day. The Cougars won the game 17-7, and Way's presence was felt, going 4-4 with three RBIs and homering in the fourth inning and the sixth inning. Senior, Terry Moritz also contributed two home runs.

After a week off, The Cougars faced Occidental on Saturday and continued their impressive run, winning the game by a score of 16-2. Senior, Tristan Gale homered twice on 2-3 from the plate with four RBIs.

The win on Saturday brought the Cougars to a record of 16-14-1 and was their sixth straight. The Cougars travel to Cal State Dominguez Hills today, to face the 17-24 Toros.

CSUSM Softball staying strong down the stretch

BY TIM MOORE
Pride Staff Writer

The Cougars left the field on March 27 with their most impressive win of the season. By a score of 2-1, the Cougars beat USD—their first victory over an NCAA Division I school in the two-year history of the program.

USD jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first, but CSUSM pitcher, Brenna Sandberg was lights-out from there. CSUSM captured the lead on a Holly Russell triple in the top of the fourth inning that scored Lauren Nelson and Erica Coelho.

Sandberg held USD scoreless from the mound for the remainder of the game, only giving up three hits and striking out three in the complete-game effort.

Coming off of the big win, the Cougars split a doubleheader Hope International the following Saturday (3/21).

In game one, the Cougars got the win by a score of 9-3 thanks to another terrific outing by pitcher, Melissa Lerno. Lerno carried a no-hitter through the fifth inning, en route to a 12 strikeout complete game performance.

In game two, the Cougars lost momentum, losing a close one by a score of 5-4. Hope

International got on the board early, scoring three runs in the top of the first inning. The Cougars answered, scoring two runs in the bottom half of the first inning and one run in the second. The 3-3 tie persisted until Hope International scored two in the top of the fifth inning. CSUSM attempted a comeback in the bottom of the sixth after a Melissa Lerno triple lead to a Lauren Nelson RBI. The Cougars only managed one run in the sixth, and failed to score in the seventh, leading to their 10th loss of the season.

The Cougars took the field again the following Saturday at Biola University. The Cougars, again, split the doubleheader.

In game one, Melissa Lerno would hold Biola to two runs on three hits in an eight strikeout performance, as the Cougars went on to win by a score of 4-2.

The Cougars would face trouble in game two, losing by a score of 4-0.

The Cougars' record on the season now stands at 23-11 with 12 games left on the regular season schedule. The Cougars face the Concordia Eagles on Saturday at noon at Mission Hills HS.

The Cougars are climbing their way up the NAIA Region II rankings. As of April 7, the Cougars are ranked #4 in the region, up two spots from the March 30 rankings.

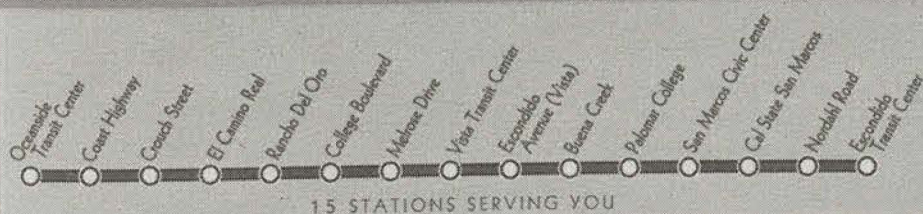
SPRINTER
service begins
March 9, 2008



Leave the Sprinting to us.

North County's new **SPRINTER** light rail train has arrived. With service every half hour on weekdays and every hour on the weekends, it's easy to hop aboard the **SPRINTER**. Catch the train at any one of the new 15 stations. **BREEZE** buses are conveniently coordinated to connect you to major destinations along the Highway 78 corridor. Your ticket to North County's new short cut begins at only \$2 per trip.

SPRINTER
GoNCTD.com • Call 511
WE MOVE PEOPLE



Disney
college program

IS COMING TO YOUR CAMPUS!

**California State University -
San Marcos**

Thursday • April 10 • 4:00PM

Monday • April 14 • 12:00PM & 3:00PM

CRA 1st Floor

Come discover why the Disney College Program is an opportunity you just can't miss!

Are you a college student who is looking for:

- ♥ A chance to build your résumé and gain real-world experience with a world-renowned company?
- ♥ A custom-designed learning curriculum that could earn you college credit?
- ♥ An opportunity to meet people from around the world, make lifelong friends, and have fun?

Limited Housing is now available for Disney College Program Cast Members at the **Disneyland® Resort**

Can't make our presentation? View our online E-presentation disneycollegeprogram.com/epresentation

Dream it. Do it. **Disney.**

©Disney. All Rights Reserved.

Making Spring Break last

BY ADAM LOWE
Pride Staff Writer

Oh! Spring Break, how I love thee! Let me count the ways! You are the best time of year because you bring about some of the greatest things this world has to offer: Hot girls and, of course, wet t-shirts! Well, no. Okay, yes, but that is neither here nor there. Don't get me wrong, I love a chick in a wet t-shirt, but that is not how to make Spring Break last. So what does make Spring Break what it is? What are some of the greatest things about Spring Break that make it so wonderful and so seemingly long?

Spring Break for me is sitting in a hammock, sipping an ice cold beer, getting a little drunk and enjoying the fact that I get to spend some well deserved time relaxing. For me, a graduating senior, I am just counting the days until I get to bid this school farewell for my undergrad work. But this last semester before I decide that I am done, I'm taking this last Spring Break to cherish the time I have left.

I think back to my childhood of listening to the relaxing tunes of movies like "Endless Summer" back in the 70s. Those surf tunes are absolutely soothing and relaxing. I just want to crank that while allowing the alcohol to permeate within me, creating the perfect feeling of a complete lack

of care. But what is the greatest way to make *this* Spring Break last as long as it possibly can? This is how.

Grab a good drink, turn on some good music and relax. Whether you are going on a trip or just staying at home this Spring Break, there is nothing more relaxing and naturally soothing than just letting life pass you by as you relax. Whether you enjoy the classic surf tunes from "Endless Summer" or something like the ever-amazing Bob Marley, just throw some of that on and have yourself a relaxing time. Maybe even take a few hours to hang out with friends and watch a good old classic 80s film like "The Goonies" or perhaps even "The Adventures in Babysitting" – don't lie, you know you love that one!

For me, I took this Spring Break to get a variety of relaxing goodness. I went camping in Big Sur and enjoyed some amazing beer as well as a swig or two of my favorite rum – all while spending time with my family. I went to Disneyland and spent some time with our most beloved rodent – but what did you do? However you spent your Spring Break, I hope that you were able to enjoy a good time that was just as relaxing as mine – I know it was needed and deserved – so, with that, I say, "Cheers to you! Now back to the grinding stone."

Locals shine at the Orange County Music Awards

BY ADAM LOWE
Pride Staff Writer

Amid the glitz and glamour of Orange County are many bands that deserve some recognition. This year at the Orange County Music Awards, there were a few surprises but also some expected wins.

A few of the bands that I have seen on a regular basis here in Orange County were up for some of the awards at this show. Of the many nominations, among the sea of names were some that I recognized easily. Of these known names, I actually was quite hoping the best for a few of them. Hollowell, for example, was up for Best Live Electric Band. Though they did not win, they still get to enjoy their time overseas with the troops in Iraq, starting on April 3, 2008. Last year's winner of the Best Alternative Band, Sleepless Me, had to step down as the title-holder of that award this year. This year, the Best Alternative Band award went to a band called Bayadera (<http://bayadera.ning.com/>). Personally, I've never heard of them, but they won the award so they must have something good to offer. Give them a listen. Perhaps they actually are as good as their award would suggest.

Sleepless Me is not the only former

winner to have to step down. Deccatree, last years Best Indie Band, no longer holds that title because of this year's winner, Chris Paul Overall (www.myspace.com/chrispauloverall), snagging the title. Overall is one of the most talented musicians in the Orange County area with a 5-octave vocal ability. If you want to hear true talent, you need to check out this guy.

As for the last honorable mention from me, we have the winner of the Best Live Acoustic Male: AJ DeGrasse (www.myspace.com/ajdegrasse). AJ plays every Tuesday at the Gypsy Lounge (www.thegypsyloounge.com) in Lake Forest, CA with Chris Paul Overall, as well as many other great Orange County artists. The only real way to explain AJ's voice is – it is big. His voice really takes the whole stage.

If you are interested in any of the other information regarding who was nominated and who won some of the other awards, check out www.orangecounty-musicawards.com and you will get every bit of information you could ever want – including pictures from the event that was held at The Grove of Anaheim. I think I'd say that all who won – won big!

Finally, a reason to buy a Wii Super Smash Brothers Brawl

BY BILL RHEIN
Pride Staff Writer

After weeks of product testing, the consensus of gamers is that "Super Smash Brothers Brawl" is the first game that makes owning a Nintendo Wii necessary. While the system is unique with its motion sensitive

con-

trollers, there was not enough support to justify investing in the system. However, "Brawl" has changed that. It is a fun, addicting game that takes minutes to learn, and countless hours to master.

Released March 9 in North America, this is the third game in the SSB series. The game play is simple. It is a third person side-scrolling fighting game, featuring characters from classic Nintendo games present and past. These include Mario, Link from "The Legend of Zelda," Samus Aran from "Metroid" and several new characters. Both others games were excellent, and this is no different. The graphics are stunning and the interface is well done.

Where this game stands out is the new storyline. Several villains, including Wario, Bowser, and King DeDeDe from the "Kirby" series, have kidnapped other characters and it is the gamer's responsibility to track them down. Starting with only a few playable heroes, players find more allies as the game progresses across the Nintendo world. Though it involves multiple storylines, the game is engrossing and

appeals to people who have not even played previous installments in the series.

The definitive best part about "Brawl" is the new features for multiplayer. Snake from the "Metal Gear Solid" series and Sonic from the "Sonic the Hedgehog" series are two of the most notable additions. Each has intense moves to bring to the battlefield, and they are not the only new faces. There are also new maps to battle on, as well as the mapmaker feature. Finally, new to the game is the final smash attack. Occasionally on the map, the SSB logo will appear and when acquired, it grants the player a special power ranging from more potent punches and blasts to access to allies and super-powered weapons. Each time the option to obtain this occurs, gamers may temporarily forget about the battle to get hold of this power.

The idea of the game is simple, but Sora Ltd., the developers of this game, but not the previous two, has included several facets to make the game more enjoyable. Even if the financial situation may be tight, this game is five stars and justifies buying a Wii.



Image courtesy Nintendo

SELF REGISTER FOR CAMPUS EMERGENCY ALERTS!!!

In order to receive Campus Emergency Alerts you must self register into the system!!

To further strengthen campus emergency preparedness Cal State San Marcos has implemented a mass notification system to communicate with the campus community during times of emergency. This system allows students, faculty and staff to determine how they would like to be notified if the campus should experience an emergency.

Choices include one or more of the following:

- SMS text message (standard text messaging fees apply)
- Cell phone
- Campus e-mail
- Personal e-mail
- Home phone
- Work phone

To register go to: www.csusm.edu/ep and follow the prompts to enter your personal information

Ready for parenthood this year?

Every contraception method has a failure rate.
Make informed, healthy, confident choices.

Call **BIRTHCHOICE**
real answers. real help.

760.744.1313
birthchoice.net

277 S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd. San Marcos 92078

- pregnancy tests
- pregnancy options and abortion counseling
- STD education and prevention
- support services

The world is ending... again...in "Doomsday"

BY JON THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer

"Doomsday" is the latest outbreak apocalypse movie to tap into the public's ongoing fascination with the end of the world. The plot line is one most of us will recognize: a 20th century plague virus breaks out; the government tries to put up walls to quarantine the population; and in turn, society declines into anarchy. The walls can't hold the virus as it spreads to the rest of the world, so writer-director Neil Marshall throws a few twists into an otherwise all too familiar scenario. The film's trailer boasts, "it was an epidemic unlike any other," but after about

Movie Review

30 seconds of watching "Doomsday," one could quickly conclude that this is an epidemic in cinema like far too many others.

With ground zero for chaos set in Glasgow, Scotland, this time it's the "dreaded virus Reaper" infecting the populous. The English waste no time in locking and barricading Scots behind a wall, following the Roman frontier's boundaries and surrounding Scotland. In a scenario moviegoers have seen before, the society collapses into anarchy. Left to die behind the wall, waiting for help that never came, the weak

are killed and eaten, and soon all signs of life are gone from the quarantine zone.

The first of a very few original twists in this plot line comes three decades later in the plot with the return of the Reaper virus, and this time it's in London. As the virus suddenly returns on the opposite side of the wall, government officials see signs of life on streets of Scotland's cities. With the world's population in jeopardy, British officials assemble a team to go back into the initial quarantine zone and find the cure.

Enter British hottie Rhona Mitra's character: the anti-hero for the post-apocalyptic world, a refugee who escaped the initial outbreak three decades earlier as a child. Mitra leads the British

insurgent team sent into Scotland.

The director must have been a big fan of "Mad Max: Beyond Thunder Dome" and "Escape from New York," as the survivors and scenarios encountered in the cities have far more similarities to these films than not—escaping what can only be described as cannibalistic, mohawk clad, apocalypse punks, in the city. In "Doomsday's" second and possibly the only other original plot twist in the film, the British team encounters a literal medieval society living outside the cities, in castles, complete with medieval armor, weapons and gladiators.

Then comes the typical chase scene as the Brits try to escape Scotland with the cure. (Again flashback to "Beyond Thunder

Dome.") Although lacking Tina Turner's presence, the addition of Mitra driving a Bentley and a series of modern special effects makes the chase worth watching, if for nothing else as opposed to just going out and renting "Beyond Thunder Dome."

Doomsday's overall lack of originality plagued the film, ultimately adding up to a disappointment. The film had great visual effects throughout. Unfortunately, as moviegoers have come to see time and again, great special effects cannot save a poor, unoriginal plot, or a complete and utter lack of any dialogue of value. Aside from my personal favorite line in the film: "Hungry?" "Try a piece of your friend."

DROPPING: CD RELEASES

By Tim Moore / Pride Staff Writer



ROCK/ALTERNATIVE

When Angels and Serpents Dance

P.O.D.

P.O.D.'s seventh studio release features 13 tracks of the same sound that made them famous. The San Diego quartet's release comes nearly ten years after they saw moderate success with "The Fundamental Elements of Southtown" before launching into MTV super-stardom

with the song "Alive" off of their 2001 release "Satellite." P.O.D. hopes to make a comeback after leaving Atlantic Records in 2006 and signing with Columbia.

COUNTRY

Sunset Man

JAMES OTTO

Currently at #5 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs chart, James Otto's single "Just Got Started Lovin' You" is the first off of his upcoming release, "Sunset Man." Otto's first release in 2004, "Days of Our Lives," topped out at 61 on the US Country chart with its title-track single.



POP/R&B

Spirit

LEONA LEWIS

Hailing from Islington, London, England, Leona Lewis is taking the charts by storm. Currently at #4, her single "Bleeding Love" peaked at #1 on the Billboard Hot 100 last week. Thanks to a joint effort between legendary record executives Clive Davis and Simon Cowell, Lewis has gained

exposure on the world's stage. Lewis got her big break in 2006 after winning "The X-Factor," an American Idol-style show in the UK. Stateside, Lewis has gotten the nod from Oprah Winfrey. Leona Lewis is on the rise.



BLUES

Peace, Love, and BBQ

MARCIA BALL

Making her solo debut in 1972, Marcia Ball's newest release is her 11th studio album, and first since 2001. With a history in the progressive country genre, Ball has seen success on a smaller stage than other artists with her repertoire. Ball is recognized widely in the club scene in both New Orleans and Austin. With songs varying from coffee-shop friendly ballads to upbeat southern party jams, Ball's newest release shouldn't upset.



POP/ROCK

Antidotes

FOALS

If "snobby art school dropouts" playing dance-punk with thick British accents is your thing, then Foals is the band for you. Currently touring the world's finest indie venues, Foals is milking the early success of their first single, "Cassius," which, so far, has reached #78 on Billboard's European Hot



100 Singles chart.

Images courtesy of amazon.com

DVD RELEASES

By Bill Rhein / Pride Staff Writer



LIONS FOR LAMBS

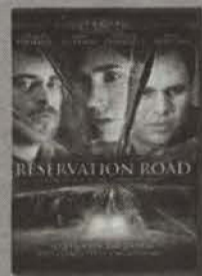
Skip It

Though it features heavy star power with Tom Cruise, Meryl Streep, and Robert Redford, this film did poorly at the box office. Factors, such as propaganda themes, drag this film down. For a better political thriller with Redford, try "All the President's Men."

RESERVATION ROAD

Rent It

This is a predictable and unoriginal story of tragedy and redemption. However, the acting makes it worthwhile, but do not expect much from this one.



THERE WILL BE BLOOD

Buy It

This was one of last year's best films and is a visual treat. No one should change anything in this perfect film. Daniel Day-Lewis deserves the Oscar for Best Actor because he gives the best performance of his career, and one of the best of the decade. This is a must-own.

WALK HARD: THE DEWEY COX STORY

Skip It

This was a hackneyed and thoughtless project. It is as if the creators watched "Walk the Line" and thought, "Would it not be funny if this happened?" Then they made a movie about it.



THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP

Skip It

This family story about a magical egg and the ensuing mayhem is not noteworthy. Though this does feature some big name actors, there are better family films that offer something to viewers of all ages.

R&B/HIP HOP

All I Feel

RAY J

Best known as R&B singer Brandy's little brother, Ray J hopes to get his big break after mediocre showings from his past three albums. His guest list on "All I Feel" boasts some high-profile names such as Snoop Dogg, Lil' Wayne and The Game. The first single off of the album, "Sexy Can I" featuring

Yung Berg, has peaked at #3 on the Billboard Hot 100.

