

The Pride

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS



www.csusm.edu/pride

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

VOL.XI NO.3

SUVs at CSUSM Greeted with Opposition



Photo taken by Sarah Carlin/The Pride

Protesters rallied against a SUV display last Wednesday in front of the Arts building.

By SARAH CARLIN
Pride News Editor

Protesters carrying cardboard signs rallied across from an SUV showcase on campus last Wednesday.

The College Republicans sponsored the showcase of trucks and SUVs, while the Progressive Activist Network (PAN) organized the protest.

Nine brand-new SUVs and trucks from three dealerships lined the edge of the grass. The protesters stood along the path connecting Cesar Chavez Plaza and the Plaza in front of University Hall.

Retired president of the College Republicans Sean Mattingly said, "This is a fun on-campus event. Students get to look at cars and ask dealers ques-

tions. Everyone likes to look at cars."

Mattingly recently retired from the presidency, however, he is now a representative for the state board of College Republicans. He then added, "They can do what they want. They are entitled to do it. They feel the right to do it; come and ruin our event when no

See STUDENTS PROTEST, page 4

RIAA Cracks Down on File Sharers

By MELISSA RODRIGUEZ
Pride Staff Writer

261 lawsuits have been brought by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) against people involved in peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing of copyrighted music on the internet. Charges faced by file sharers range from \$200 to \$150,000 per song.

"I think the amounts the lawsuits are for are excessive, but I see their reasoning," said Jacob Mathis, a CSUSM student who quit file sharing when he heard of the lawsuits.

RIAA statistics show they have experienced a 14.6 percent loss of revenue and a 26 percent decrease in shipped units from 1999 to 2002. The purpose of the lawsuits is to impede the ever-increasing fiscal losses the record industry is experiencing.

The RIAA explains that cases filed are being brought under the U.S. Copyright Law, Title 17. The law provides penalties for the unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or digital transmission of copyrighted sound recordings.

Title 17 in conjunction with The Digital

See FILE SHARERS, page 4

Oct. 7 Recall Election Is On

By SARAH CARLIN
Pride News Editor

For the first time in California's history a recall election will occur. Set for Oct. 7 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Californians will head to the poles and decide whether or not to recall Governor Gray Davis, and if recalled, who will be the man or woman to succeed his position.

Among some of the 135 certified candidates are: the lieutenant governor, Cruz Bustamante, D-, an action film star, Arnold Schwarzenegger, R-, a publisher, Larry Flynt, D-, a couple of adult film stars, a watermelon throwing comedian, and actor Gary Coleman, In-.

Other issues on the ballot are Propositions 53 and 54. The California Twenty-First Century Infrastructure Investment Fund Resolution known as Proposition 53 states that it will,

See RECALL, page 2

Students Honor Jewish Holiday

By DiDi LUND
Pride Staff Writer

In an effort to promote cultural awareness students created an event to celebrate the Jewish holiday, Rosh Hashanah, last Thursday.

In celebration of the Jewish New Year, the Programming Board worked in conjunction with Danielle Mor, a freshman active in the Jewish community, to put on this event.

Along with offering students and faculty apples, sweet bread and honey, various members of the religious community were available to answer questions students may have regarding their religion. Rabbi Chalom Boujnah, from the Chabad temple in San Diego, attended the event

to promote awareness for the holiday.

Laurence Bolotin, Coordinator of Student Programs and Services for Associated Students, Inc. expressed his interest in seeing students educated in cultural diversity. According to Bolotin, the Programming Board put this event on in an effort to help educate students about one of the many religious cultures we have represented on campus.

The Jewish New Year, known as Rosh Hashanah, takes place in the months of September and October, commemorating the anniversary of creation. According to Jews, it is on this day that God opens the Book of Life and observes his creatures, decid-



Photo taken by Didi Lund/The Pride

Students handed out food as the Rabbi spoke about the Rosh Hashanah holiday.

ing their fate for the coming self-reflection to strengthen one's relationship with God.

The book is sealed ten days later in another Jewish festival called Yom Kippur. Observance begins on night-fall the day before Rosh Hashanah. Celebrants prepare Between these two celebrations exists a period of

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS

The Pride

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Letters to the editors should include an address, telephone number, e-mail and identification. Letters may be edited for grammar and length. Letters should be under 500 words and submitted via electronic mail to pride@csusm.edu, rather than the individual editors. It is the policy of *The Pride* not to print anonymous letters.

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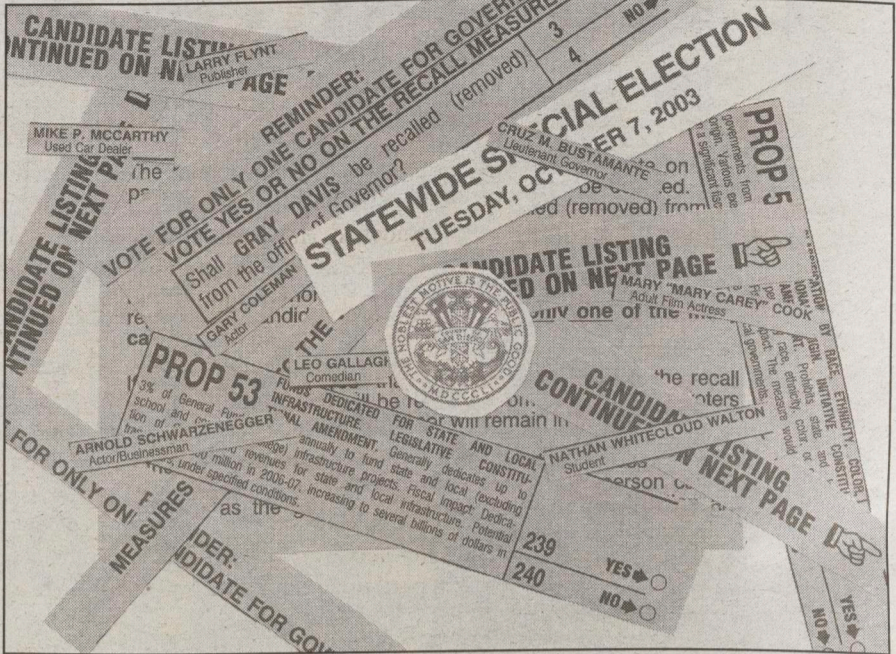
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“Generally dedicate up to 3 percent of General Fund revenues annually to fund state and local, excluding school and community college, infrastructure projects.”

The potential fiscal impact of dedicating General Fund revenues for state and local infrastructure could mean potential transfers of \$850 million in 2006-2007. Under specified conditions, there could be an increase of several billion dollars in future years.

The latter issue on the ballot is Proposition 54, the Classification By Race, Ethnicity, Color, or National Origin Initiative Constitutional Amendment. Proposition 54: “Prohibits state and local governments from classifying any person by race, ethnicity, color, or national origin.” Unlike proposition 53, the measure would not result in a significant fiscal impact on state and local governments.

California will financially feel the



Courtesy of Sarah Carlin/The Pride

impact of the election. The estimated cost of this election is between \$42 and \$55 million, plus another \$11 million to provide 15.3 registered voters with state voter information guides.

Sept. 22 was the last day to register

to vote in the Oct. 7 election, and absentee ballot voting began Sept. 8. More information on the issues facing California is available at www.ss.ca.gov/elections/recall.htm or www.calvoter.org/recall/.

PRIDE BALLOT

PRIDE ELECTION

The Pride Goes Forward With Nameplate Recall

The Pride is issuing its own recall election this semester. The student newspaper needs a new look, and through the power of democracy CSUSM students can have a voice in choosing the new face of their *Pride*.

Please vote for only one *Pride* nameplate. Ballots must be returned to *The Pride* office (Commons 201A) by Sunday, October 5th by 4pm. Votes can also be cast online at www.csusm.edu/pride.

Thank you for your participation in helping *The Pride* reflect the student voice here at CSUSM.

The Pride

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☐ I vote for heading #1.

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☐ I vote for heading #2.

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☐ I vote for heading #3.

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☐ I like the original.

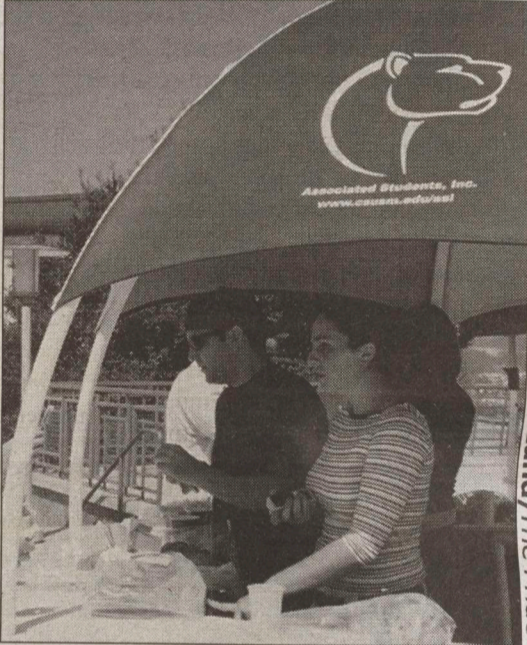


Photo taken by Didi Lund/The Pride

Students hand out food during the Rosh Hashanah celebration on campus last Thursday.

HASHANA

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by bathing, wearing special clothes, cutting their hair, and giving treats to children. Intense and lengthy prayers are voiced during the proceedings.

The New Year includes many time-honored rituals such as tossing bread into water to symbolize the casting of sins into the sea. Another important tradition is the sounding of a ram's horn, also called the shofar, which reminds Jews to enter repentance.

In an effort to inform students about various traditions, the Programming Board created the cultural programming director position. Bolotin states, “Part of the goal of the cultural programming position is to educate students of the multitude of diversity on campus... throughout the year. We will work hard to highlight as many cultural and religious backgrounds as possible.”

Due to the absence of a cultural programming director, other Programming Board staff worked together to create this event.

John Livingston, co-director of Intramural Sports, felt it important to help design a celebration in honor of the Jewish New Year. “On a campus that prides itself on diversity, it's important that we students broaden our educational experience through these types of cultural awareness events,” he said.

Members of the Jewish community hoped that this celebration would encourage other Jews to come together to celebrate. Danielle Mor, a student active in the religious community, expressed her interest to start Hillel, a Jewish organization that promotes cultural awareness and celebration of holidays.

Bustamante vs. Schwarzenegger



Courtesy of Lorena Bradford

involved the Trustees votes to increase graduate and undergraduate fees by 30 percent at all CSU campuses. The passing of the initiative was a decision that had a considerable affect on CSU students. However, as a Trustee, Cruz Bustamante was not present for the vote which passed in July.

The California Faculty Association (CFA), which strives to fight for issues regarding faculty rights and support for CSU funding, has taken a firm "No on recall" stance. According to the CFA website (www.calfac.org) they have yet to make an official endorsement for a particular candidate.

According to the Lieutenant Governor's website, Bustamante has been credited with launching the College Opportunity Outreach Program (COOP) aimed at promoting the new \$1.2 billion Cal Grant opportunities to prospective college students.

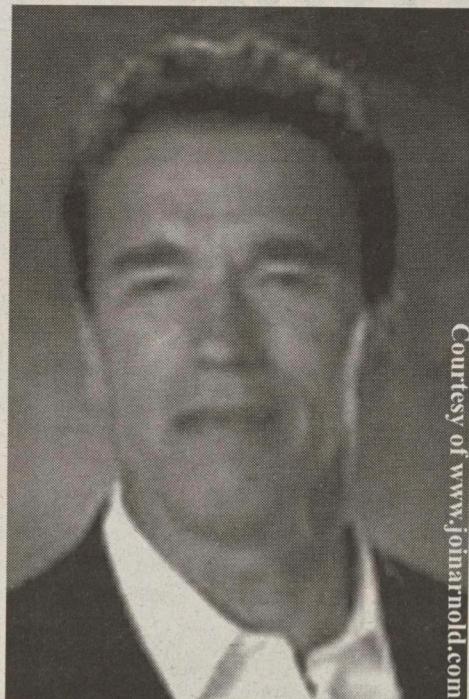
By CHAD SPINKS
Pride Staff Writer

With the future of Democrats in Sacramento under scrutiny with the recall of Governor Gray Davis, Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante is campaigning with a "No on recall, yes on Bustamante" approach. As the top running candidate for the Democratic Party, students speculate how Bustamante will affect education.

Bustamante is currently a member of the University of California board of regents and is acting chairman for the Trustees of the California State University (CSU) system. An important issue which affected CSU students

Cruz supported the AB 16, K-12 & Higher Education Bond, which passed on the November 2002 ballot. The \$12 billion bond focuses on the building and repairs of schools from high school to universities.

The California-Mexico Scholars program, another college program established by Bustamante, offers postgraduate students opportunities to study at Mexican universities and opportunities for Mexican graduate students to study at California universities.



Courtesy of www.joinarnold.com

By TIM JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

He's been on the big screen starring in many action packed movies such as all three "Terminator's" and "True Lies." He is also known for his bulging muscles giving him the look of a tough guy. Now Arnold Schwarzenegger is flexing his muscles through politics running for Governor of California.

Schwarzenegger was born in Graz, Austria and came to the United States at the age of 21 with only \$20. He became a successful businessman before becoming an actor as an action-hero. He helped children through the Special Olympics

and his Inner-City Games Foundation and lead the campaign to pass California's Proposition 49 to increase funding for after school programs.

In 1991, Schwarzenegger served as executive commissioner of the Hollenbeck Youth Center Inner-City Games in Los Angeles. This gave kids education, opportunities and encouragement. He was given the Muhammad Ali Award by Ali himself in 2002.

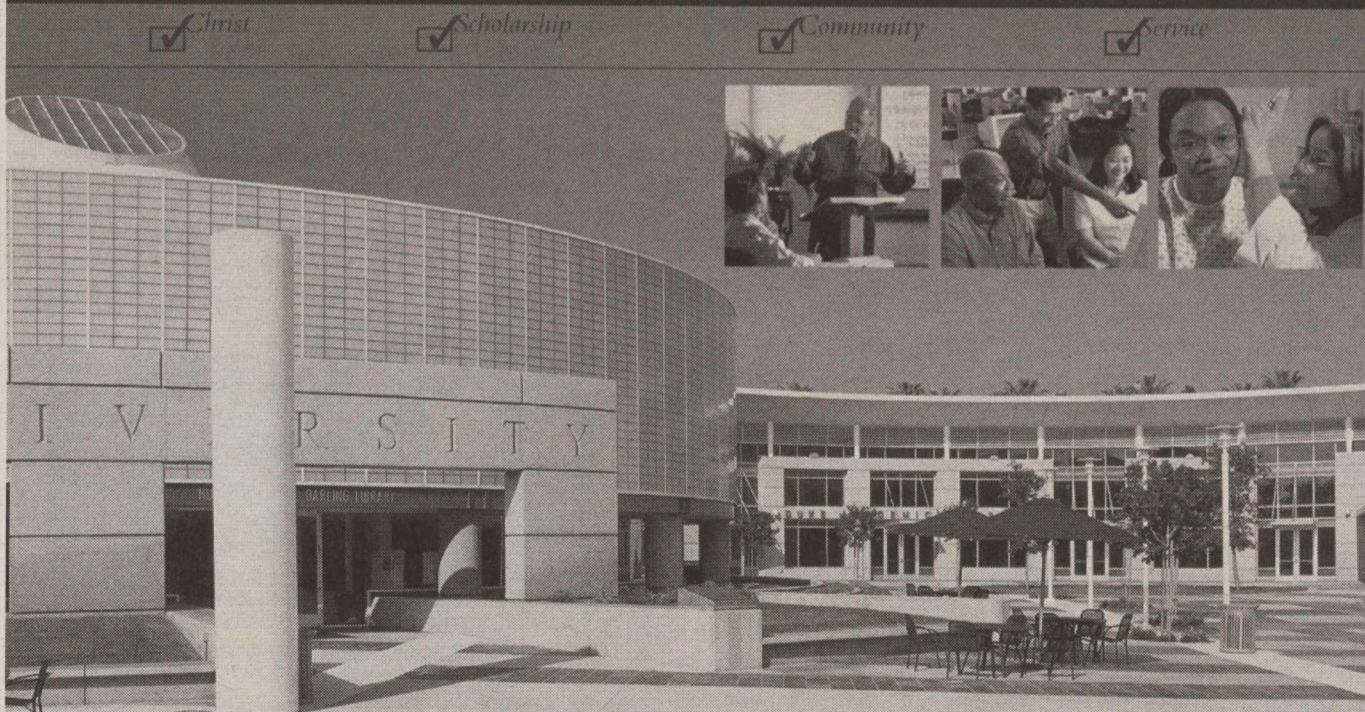
Now, running for the Governor of California, Schwarzenegger has some plans with education in the state. Though not yet specified, Schwarzenegger's campaign website,

<http://www.joinarnold.com/en/>, said he will promote opportunities for students and work to make California's educational system stronger. He will make sure California schools contain the tools necessary to serve the students. He wants to invest more in teachers, the website said.

Schwarzenegger supports Proposition 98 and his website said that he will protect California's commitment to education funding. He plans on letting schools make the decisions and building more of them. The website said he will send more funding into education for teachers, materials, and better schools.

In his campaign website it said Schwarzenegger has big plans for the future of California and will work to make this state better. He thrives on the importance of education to give students a better opportunity in their lives.

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Coffee Hour: Worldly Students Embrace Cultural Diversity



CSUSM Int'l Students. (right to left) Carolina Plata(Columbia), Lisa Nakanouchi(Japan), Kenta Sasaki(Japan), Rezene Michael(Eritrea), Samson Manickaras(India), Hidetomo Kawamata(Japan), Danielle McMartin(USA), Junko Miyoshi(Japan), Emily Ng(China), Yoko Suzuki(Japan)

Photo by Nicole Sullivan/The Pride

By NICOLE SULLIVAN
Pride Staff Writer

Free coffee, anyone? The International Club hosted a free coffee hour last Tuesday. It was open to anyone to come grab a cup of coffee and learn a greeting in another language.

The office of Global Affairs sponsored this event. The coffee hour provided free refreshments and drinks. The president of

the club, Kenta Sasaki, said, "We want to do something nice for the students and it's open to everyone."

They have two more coffee hours planned this semester, Oct. 21 and Nov. 11 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Commons 206. Sasaki said the October date will have a guest speaker from the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA).

The International Student Advisor and

club advisor, Danielle McMartin, said, "The November date we are hoping for some former study abroad students to come and share their experience overseas."

McMartin said, "We always want an international learning component incorporated in these events."

The International Club is open to all students. Club member, Mavis So extends the invitation to everyone and wants American students to attend as well. She said, "I want more students to get involved and people to bring their friends. It's a time for socializing and learning about new cultures."

The first week of school the club held a BBQ and bonfire to welcome the new International students. Pictures are available on the website at www.csusm.edu/International-Club. McMartin encourages all students to check out the website for pictures and updates.

Sasaki and McMartin said they were involved in 'Preview Day' on Saturday. It was geared towards the community and prospective CSUSM students. They sold drinks imported from several countries. The money they earned will go to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.

Last semester the former International Club president interned with UNA-USA and donated money to the children of Iraq.

UNA-USA sponsors the rebuilding of Iraq. More information can be found at the website www.una-usa.org.

Last spring the University of Global Affairs held an International Fair on campus. McMartin said "The International Club took a lead role in this event. We helped with organization. We had a booth with Vietnamese food and a poster of the current international students."

Eight different clubs were involved with the fair. International club members, Mavis So and Carolina Plata belly danced at the event. So said it was her favorite event the club has been involved in so far. Plata said, "We received recognition from the fair and the 'Outstanding Initiative to Promote Community Award.'"

The International Club "encourages, supports and celebrates international diversity on campus." CSUSM currently holds 100 International students.

The club also held several other events last semester, one being an international movie night. Sasaki is looking to have more of these in the future.

The International Club meets weekly on Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Dome to discuss future events, plans and fundraising. Students can come if interested in participating in the club or can stop by the Global Affairs office in Craven 5211.

RIAA

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Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) gives copyright holders the grounds and the means to pursue retribution in these cases. The DMCA, passed by Congress in 1998, forces Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to provide copyright holders with names and addresses of P2P users if copyright infringement is suspected.

Despite possible consequences people continue sharing music files. Compact Disk (CD) prices are simply more than people want to pay and downloading a song here and there seems hardly criminal. CSUSM student Lissa Lim said, "I don't worry about getting in trouble because I only downloaded about one song a day."

Is file sharing morally wrong? A poll done by the New York Times/ CBS News showed only 36 percent of responders thought file sharing was unacceptable. File sharing may technically be stealing, but it seems this is not a sufficient deterrent to P2P users.

One student, who preferred to remain anonymous, said, "20 bucks a CD is ridiculous... (file sharing) is stealing but I feel it's justified."

Presently, there are some legal alternatives to P2P sharing. Websites like Apple Computer's "iTunes" and BuyMusic.com charge up to 99 cents per song. Student Kelly Frazee said, "I would use the pay-per-song sites if it would save me money. If not I'll buy the CD. I like to support Independent labels but I could care less if Madonna makes anymore money."

CSUSM policy on this issue is clear. Bill Ward, Director of Telecommunications and Network Operations and Interim Dean said "we don't allow anyone, faculty or students, to download music because it's illegal and because of the Chancellor's Office Directive." The State officially ruled that Universities cannot allow file sharing on campus.

In order to avoid possible litigation Universities in California have adopted internet systems that prevent the downloading of shared music files. Students living in the University Village Apartments sign contracts alerting them to this fact. The free internet service they receive has been manipulated so as to make it impossible to share music.

The complete cessation of P2P file sharing by the public seems unlikely, but the lawsuits have definitely increased awareness of the possible consequences of this type of copyright infringement.

Students Protest

continued from page 1

one ruins their events."

Among some of the vehicles being showcased was a lifted blue GMC2500 4x4 truck. Estimated gas mileage is 15 mpg city and 20 mpg highway. This truck is able to run on Bio-Diesel fuel, which is sold for approximately \$3 per gallon.

Mark Lemieux of North County GMC, Kia, Jeep said, "India and Pakistan don't have the option of buying a gas-guzzling SUV like this one. (A) man needs a piece of meat."

The showcase started at noon and shortly after the hour a group of 15 student protesters walked down the path coming from the direction of the University building.

Most of the protestors carried cardboard signs with statements written in black felt pen. Cheyenne Barr, president of PAN, said, "I want to make it clear that we aren't protesting against the organization, club or any individuals, but against SUVs in general."



Photo taken by Sarah Carlin/The Pride

(Julie Bennington) holds signs protesting the SUV display last Wednesday in front of the University Plaza.

Jeff Schwarz, a Sales and Leasing Representative for Jack Powell Chrysler & Dodge, said, "I love it. Everyone has their right to free speech." Schwarz also said, "They should protest more relevant things: Korea, Iraq (and) Kosovo. Why are we in Iraq? Why are we (USA) the world's police force?"

"People need to get their priorities straight," he added. "Besides, you don't have to buy a truck or SUV."

Erik Roper was among the protesters. Roper is a resident of the University Village Apartments as well as a member of PAN. "I don't want to see this on my campus. What are we telling people about promoting these things; that it's all right to pollute and harm the environment?"

As Senior Dave Staley passed the festivities, he said, "I think it is good to see this at CSUSM. This is a pretty conservative campus. People are being given a choice."

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ROCK THE VOTE -- Oct. 7

By DIDI LUND

Pride Staff Writer

As the gubernatorial candidates name-call one another, voter registration drives increase, candidate signs hang listlessly along intersections and cynicism and bitterness toward government has reached an unprecedented high point. Yet it is essential in this election that the student voice is heard.

Policies handed down to us by Sacramento influence all of us, from classroom size to tuition bills, from grants to the number of tenured faculty. We must hold the government accountable by exercising our right to vote this October.

Young people, especially students, are too often given the run-around by corporate-controlled politicians who care more about which lobbyists are taking them out to lunch than about our universities. Student programs were the first to be cut in the midst of the 35 billion dollar budget crisis last March.

Access, a California State University (CSU) high school outreach program, decreases with fee hikes that close the doors to higher education for high school graduates and existing CSU students who are unable to afford swollen tuition bills.

Politicians don't realize that an educated popula-

tion provides the foundation of a productive economy and the consequences of increasing our tuition while decreasing programs will trouble California's economy long after the budget crisis is over.

Tell Sacramento we are appalled by this blatant disregard to our educational needs. Inform them of our disgust of the lip service given to us by politicians who tell students how they promote access to higher education and affordability in the public school system all the while turning their backs to us and signing bills that cut program funding and inflate our tuition costs.

And as for the main contenders in this upcoming election, student advocates are just as worried as ever. Gray Davis, who claims on his website to have made education more affordable and more accessible than ever, cut \$59.6 million from Cal State universities, \$141 million from community colleges, and another \$60.9 million from the UC system just last year.

Schwarzenegger proves his inexperience by refusing to detail his proposals for change while rallying behind a platform of vague ideals about leading a movement for change and giving California back its future. However, he maintains that cuts to education are off the table and he portrays himself as a pro-education

candidate. Not that we haven't been dodged by plenty of those types of gubernatorial contenders before.

Cruz Bustamante, the Lieutenant Governor and member of the CSU Board of Trustees, spoke out aggressively against the cuts to higher education last spring and remains the strongest advocate for students, but also continues to base his ideas on how to manage the budget crisis on Davis'. And we all know how that turned out.

But as much as I despise our governor, the recall election itself will contribute millions to the deficit, contributing to the cuts in programs and classrooms on campus and the increase in the next tuition bill I'll pay.

We have the obligation as citizens of this democracy to fight for student rights and access to higher education. Students are notorious for disregarding politics and refusing to visit the polls. But it is for those reasons that we get the short end of the stick when there's a budget crisis and we're the only group that doesn't give money during campaign season.

It is essential that we warn Sacramento that we will not stand for this injustice. Go to the polls, vote for your candidate. Tell Sacramento that our age demographics need to be taken seriously.



Would you rather...

A.) Purchase a lottery ticket and win 5 million dollars?

OR

B.) Submit art and/or writing samples to *The Pride's Literary Supplement*?

Wouldn't we all love to win the lottery? What are the chances of this actually happening? Slim to none. What if you were to submit art and/or writing samples to the next *Pride Literary Supplement (PLS)*? What would be your chances of publication? A lot more likely than winning the lottery.

Here's the best part—submission is free and everyone is a winner. *The Pride* is accepting essays, poetry, short stories, artwork, and any other creative expressions from students. The deadline for submission of work is April 1, 2004. E-mail all text submissions as an attachment in Microsoft Word Format (should automatically save as ".doc" for you) to pride@csusm.edu. Art (photo/drawings) need to be saved in ".tiff" format, and if prompted with a choice of IBM or Mac configuration select "Mac". The message box needs to contain your name, major, and the title of the submission.

Parking at the Dorms

"It's Unfair", students continue to complain.

By NICOLE SULLIVAN

Pride Staff Writer

Students who live on campus CSUSM pay \$252 a year for parking, but what about their guests? Guests pay \$2 for one hour, \$4 for three hours, \$5 for five hours, and \$10 just to spend one night at the University dorms.

This can get very expensive, especially for boyfriends, girlfriends, or other significant others, who would regularly visit residents. I know because I have this problem myself.

My boyfriend visits me at least 3-5 days a week. Should he have to pay so much just to visit me?

We've tried another alternative - parking off campus - but there have been problems with that. Others guests have had the same idea and off-campus overnight parking has become a problem. Too many visitors are parking in off-campus locations and businesses are beginning to complain.

According to "In the Loop for Students," off-campus parking on Redel Road has become so much of a problem that the owner has threatened to have the vehicles that park there towed. Businesses in the Marketplace shopping center have already threatened to tow as well.

"Students who park off campus in areas designated as private property run the risk of having their cars towed. And, the average impound fee for a towed car is \$200 (\$42 more than purchasing a parking permit). Recently, students have been parking on Redel Road (off Barham Drive, across from University Village).

"This is a private road, and signs are posted stating that parking is not allowed. So far, the owner has not had vehicles towed, but he has let the University Police know that he is going to have to start towing because the cars are barring entrance by large vehicles that must enter the property.

"Also, no student parking is allowed across campus at the Marketplace. A secu-

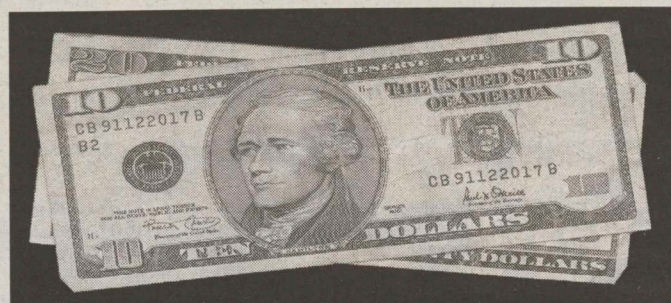
rity guard is on duty there, and they will tow student vehicles. You can park there while shopping or eating, but if you leave the property to go to class, your car could be towed." (In The Loop: sent to all students via email on 09/12/03, and 09/19/03)

So what can be done? I visited parking websites and called parking services at several other colleges. I wanted to know what other colleges were charging their residents' guests. UCSD charges \$6 a day to all guests and overnight parking is only \$3. UCI charges \$5, but that covers all day, and all night. SDSU charges \$3 on weekdays for day or night parking and \$2 for day or night parking on weekends.

This is so much better than what our school charges! Something needs to be done about the high prices at this college. Residents already pay so much in fees, why should their guests have to pay too? I understand that this is a new college and parking is limited, but overnight guests should not have to pay such a heavy fee. My suggestion is that the parking fees be lowered, especially for overnight parking. Resident's guests should not have to pay so much money just to visit their friends and loved ones.



Photo by Nicole Sullivan/The Pride



Courtesy of Jon Rodley/The Pride

Ombudsman's Comments

By MICHAEL DOLAN
Pride Ombudsman

After a couple of issues, there seems to be a positive reception for "The Pride" on campus. Unfortunately, my email address was cut off my column in our first issue, thus making the feedback received somewhat limited to observations I have made on campus.

I am encouraged by these observations. I see "The Pride" in the hands of students in the classroom or walking around campus. This tells me that you are interested in what we are writing which subsequently means we are meeting our goal to be the voice of the Cal State San

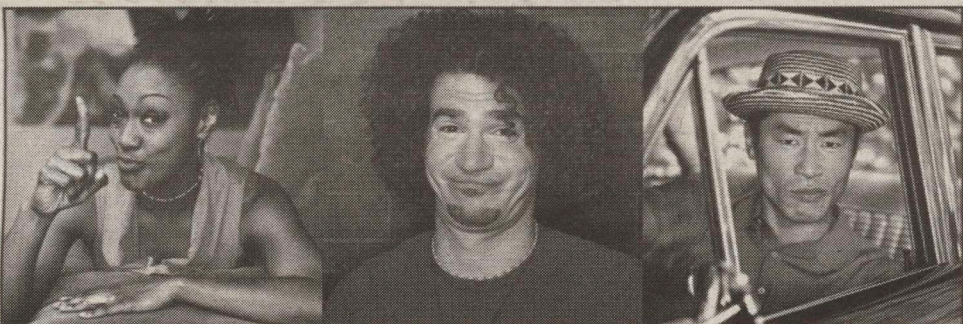
Marcos campus community.

On that note, please do not think twice about sending comments or criticisms to me about the paper or the articles contained within. If there is something you think we need to cover that we are currently missing, let me know. My email address will be at the end of this column for your consideration.

I am sure you enjoyed this week's edition of "The Pride." Whether you did or not, please do not hesitate to email me and share your opinions. I look forward to hearing from you. Please send your emails to dolan005@csusm.edu.

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OPINIONS

The Race Information Ban

By JAMES NGUYEN
Pride Staff Writer

Race matters. Those who support Proposition 54 tell you it shouldn't and doesn't. They claim, that if passed, Prop. 54 will move us toward being a colorblind society.

The Coalition for an Informed California, comprised of hundreds of health, educational and civil rights groups, argues that Prop. 54 would undermine educational accountability, effectively block the collection of vital information needed to identify, track and address health disparities and cripple the state's ability to protect civil rights.

Though often cited as a response to the health criticisms of the initiative, the health exemption on "medical research and patients" would still ban the collection of data needed to identify and critically analyze disease and illnesses in specific ethnic and racial groups.

In short, the scope of the exemption is highly limited. Researchers at the University of California have spoken out against the initiative and stressed the exemption as largely symbolic as it would still ban a significant portion of the data needed to identify health disparities in specific groups such as high rates of breast cancer in white women, diabetes in Latinos or stomach cancer in Korean Americans.

Educators in the state, including the California Teachers Association, argue that accountability in schools would be undermined due to the inability to collect data such as graduation and high school drop out rates. Programs designated to help improve schools would be significantly at risk if Proposition 54 passes.

Another major criticism of Proposition 54 deals with the protection of civil rights. Although data identifying race and ethnicity would no longer be collected, we understand that discrimination would undoubtedly still exist. Without racial and ethnic data, however, cases involving racial discrimination and racial profiling would be nearly impossible to successfully prosecute.

The arguments in favor of Proposition 54 are deceptive, misleading and do not take into account the negative implications affecting health, education and civil rights. Prop. 54 will cripple California's ability to identify and address racial inequality and health disparities, as well as its ability to combat racial profiling, discrimination and other types of hate crimes.

Prop. 54 will not bring us to a "colorblind society" but would rather force our state to turn a blind eye to the many problems and inequalities that still exist. As the chairman of the California Medical Association, Dr. Michael Sexton, puts it, "Proposition 54 is bad medicine for all Californians."

The Corporatization of CSUSM

By LEILA GRANAHAAN
CSUSM Graduate Student

As many students know already, Starbucks is moving into the new library. What many students may not know is that Starbucks struck a deal with the University that precludes the sale of espresso by other vendors.

The coffee cart in Founder's Plaza that many of us frequent is no longer allowed to sell espresso even though it has been doing so for years. Talk about free trade.

And now I learn that the College Republicans are sponsoring a Truck and SUV Show. The press release brags "Come out and see the latest SUVs and trucks from Cadillac, Acura, Mercedes,

BMW, Ford, GMC, Jeep and Infiniti." What do SUVs and trucks have to do with higher education?

I'd like to know if these corporations are donating any money to the University in exchange for this free advertising. I'm surprised that no Hummers are slated for the event.

I'm reminded of Rick Schmidt, founder of the International Hummer Owners Group (probably a Republican himself, but this is only a guess, of course) who informed "The New York Times" that "Those who deface a Hummer in words or deed deface the American flag and what it stands for." Ahhh ... with what the die-hard, Bushonian patriotism, gas-guzzling SUVs represent, I really can't think of anything else our campus may need.

Freedom From Partisan Precedent

By John Bauer
Martinez, CA

Is a new precedent being set with this recall that will require all future non-partisan elections to include the political-party affiliations of all candidates on all ballots within California?

Money and parties will be ruling yet again if we let

the debates of the so-called "leading" candidates narrow our choice of candidates to only the displayed five or six. Voters can demonstrate a temporary-freedom from partisan bickering with this non-partisan election by voting yes on the recall, followed by a vote for one of the other 130 candidates.

Read what you can about

the other candidates in the Official Voter Information Guide (OVIG) and/or have search-discussions with friends and/or search web-sites to fine-tune your final choice. My vote went to Heather Peters a 37-year-old attorney specializing in mediation. Please see qualifications and opinions at www.peters4Gov.com and/or OVIG page 23.

Celtic Sounds Meet Modern Music



Photo taken by John Scripps/The Pride

Jean Stewart and Jeanne Reith (center) Sing to the melody of the fife, fiddle, guitar, and keys last Wednesday at the Dome.

By JOHN P. SCRIPPS
Pride Staff Writer

Raggle Taggle, a local Celtic band with a sound all their own, played its heart out in the plaza next to the dome last Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The sound of fiddle and fife, guitar and keyboard, were intertwined with a swirl of voices to create the unique sound that is Raggle Taggle, a local Celtic band with a

modern twist.

If you were at the plaza Wednesday and bought one of their CDs, then you know what I'm talking about. Holding true to their theme, several tracks lean toward the traditional style, but several also lean toward a much more modern style.

As I listened to track 9, "Colliers Bet," I was struck by the sudden shift from just fife and fiddle to fife, fiddle and electric guitar. Having gotten in the groove of fife

and fiddle, it hit me like a bucket of ice water on a hot day, it was very refreshing.

I was surprised not only by how much I liked it, but also by how much it did not seem out of place. It was a traditional vibe coming out of a totally modern instrument. Pow!

And what's most important to this band? "An environment of gypsy swing," Stewart said. "That it is a happy and relaxed environment," that there is "a feeling of goodwill," that people can walk in and just feel at home. That and that all the players are treated as equals, so much so that sometimes it's hard to tell who is leading.

The group, lead by Mike Stewart, was first put together in 1980 when most of the present players met at a renaissance fair in Balboa Park. At the time they concentrated on playing madrigals, which is a style of music that was typical of the late 14th to early 15th centuries.

They were involved with the folk scene that San Diego had to offer, but as time went on, they went their own way leaving it far behind them.

The reason for this is chiefly that the music of Raggle-Taggle, while Celtic in its origins, is more than just re-discovering era pieces. Stewart, the bands leader and guitarist, that the most important part of the band, as he sees it, is the fact that it uses traditional Celtic styles as "a palette

for more music." In other words, Raggle Taggle is something of a modern reciprocating steam engine.

For the first two years, they were in the employ of the Old Globe Theater in Balboa Park, working as Green Entertainment.

Green Entertainment, a term originating from the Renaissance era, is a form of pre-play entertainment. Audiences arriving early were treated to a small band of musicians that would play gigs or perform tiny acts.

From here, they began to pull slowly towards the Celtic style of music that they have come to embrace and then move slowly away from the purely traditional Celtic music to create a variety of their own design.

And that's not the only thing that's modern about this band. Mike, who started off as a drama major, switched to math, and ended up with a computer science degree in the end, said that one of his dreams of the future is to make Raggle-Taggle a virtual band. That's right, a modern Celtic style band surfing the net. Now that will be something.

Hopefully, you were there this Wednesday the 25th to enjoy this unique musical experience as much as I did. If you missed them, you can find them on the net at www.raggletaggle.com.

Music Fills the Streets of San Diego

By SHARON BYRON
Pride Staff Writer

San Diego Music Week is approaching, and now is the time to get out there and check out the local music scene. From October 2nd through the 14th, several venues throughout downtown San Diego will feature a diverse selection of live music, from hip-hop to alternative rock, to folk music, all performed by local bands. Then on October 14th at Humphrey's By the Bay, local favorites will be awarded at the San Diego Music Awards. The best part is that you get to decide who wins. This is your chance to make a stance on music we should all get an opportunity to take notice of.

Here's how it works. First, head downtown with a couple of friends and watch a few bands play. Next, log on to www.sandiegomusicawards.com and vote for your favorite. If you already have a local favorite, log on today, vote for them, and help them get the recognition that they deserve. Finally, get to Ticketmaster, buy a ticket to the San Diego

Music Awards and watch as the winners are announced. Or, if you can't make it to the actual ceremony, you can log on to the above mentioned website and review the results. Keep in mind however, that all proceeds from the San Diego Music Awards benefit elementary school music programs all throughout San Diego county, so the more in attendance, the better.

San Diego Music Week is a great way to support local music, and to gain exposure to different genres of music. In addition, by attending the San Diego Music Awards, you can contribute to the creative development of elementary school children in our own community.

For additional information on San Diego Music Week, or for the San Diego Music Awards, log on to www.sandiegomusicawards.com or call the 24 hour information hotline at (619) 641-5823.

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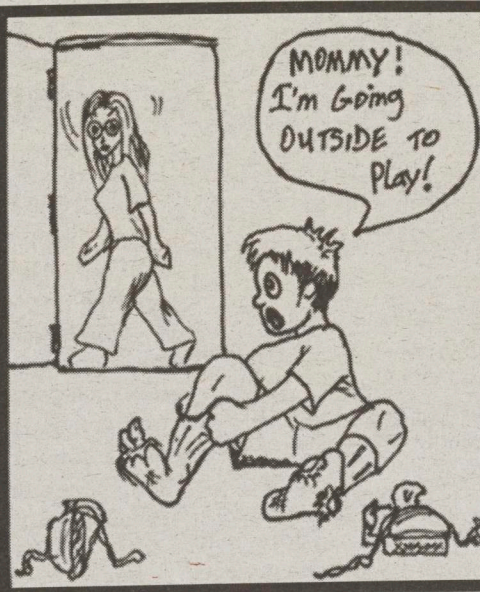
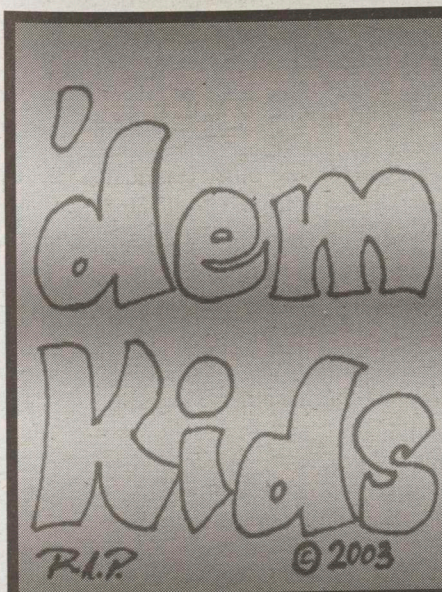
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Spent Idols Revamped and Ready to Rock

By KATIE SAMMONS
A & E Editor

Mike Spent, the lead vocalist for the group Spent Idols has been perfecting the band since 1979. Mike took the necessary breaks between the years to tweak and perfect the sound and the group. With his spiked, jet black disheveled hair and his half unbuttoned sheik collared shirt, Mike had the presence of a free spirit. His parents still wonder when is this rock "thing" going to pass? I can assure you he has found his career as an artist.

The Spent Idols have had vinyl records out in Italy, with chances to go digital. The band confesses that, "Vinyl just sounds better." Along with his four other band members: D. Nile on bass, Blane Bizzaro on lead guitar, Jake "the Worm" on rhythm guitar, and Melanie on drums, the band has started to play locally here in the North County area. "Anywhere, any time," Mike says; "it's for the love of the music." They have played everywhere, from bowling alleys to rockin' it out with P.O.D., Everclear, and Blink 182.

Their sound is old wave or otherwise known as "lousy rock." Mike says a

good way they have been classified is like a "North County Sex Pistols". Though it seems that the Spent Idols might have a different position on the sound of their music than in 1979 you can tell they still have not lost their edge. I had a chance to sneak a listen to a demo track entitled "Land of the Lost." The track possesses an aggressive sound reminiscent of the late 70's punk.

Mike was able to show his since of humor getting his inspiration for the track off the 70's show also titled "The Land of the Lost." The show had corny plots of a family sucked through a porthole in the road which lead them to a land of large authentic looking dinosaurs.

Though the band has many laughs and fun with what they are doing, there are still fears. Mike calls those fears, "self destructions." The question can then be asked, what great thing comes with out risk? On the positive side, the band seems to be eager to reach out to the community and have all ages enjoy their music. Mike says he loves interacting with the crowd and seeing new aspiring artist following in their



Courtesy of Mike Spent of The Spent Idols/Arranged by Sarah Carlin/The Pride

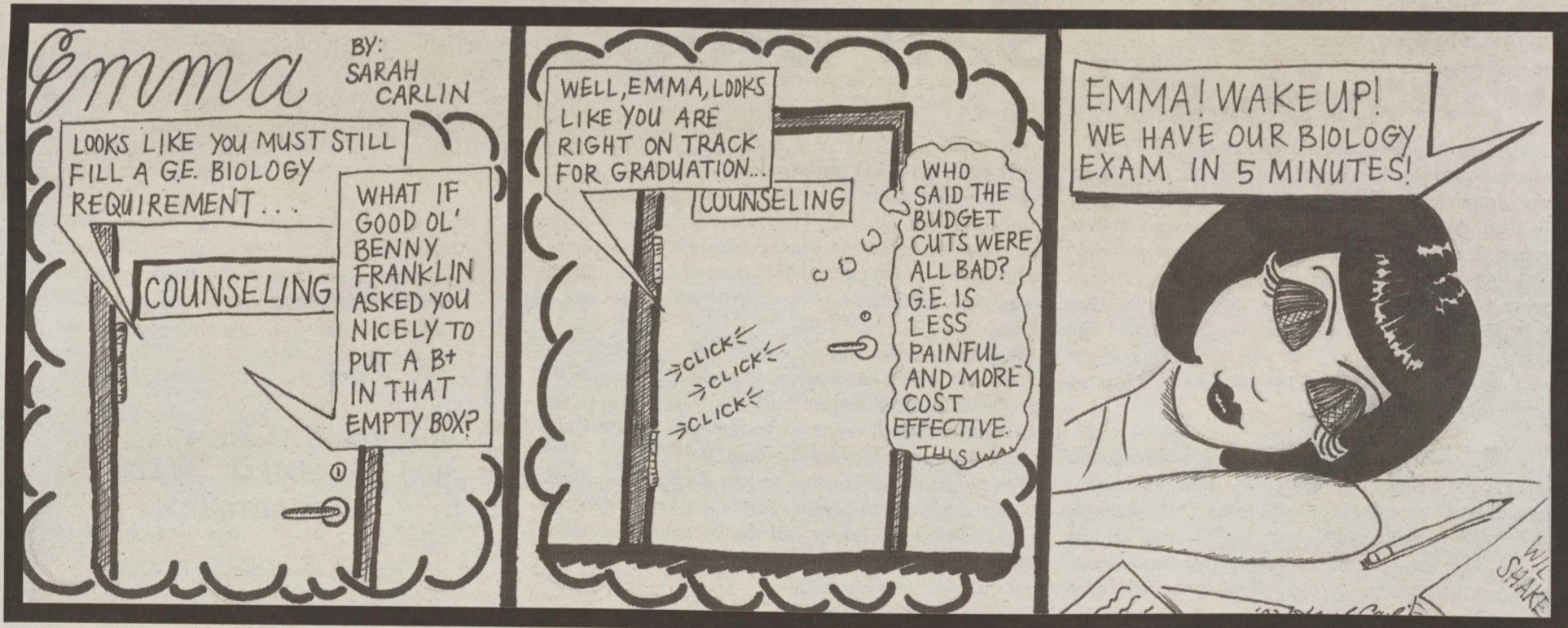
footsteps.

The Band is looking forward to playing in The San Marcos Alive Street

Faire event that is taking place October 5th from 9 till 4pm. The day will be filled of crafts, food, art, and

the best thing entertaining music. The festivities will be at the San Marcos Civic Center at the corner of San

Marcos Blvd. and Mission Road. At 1:30 pm drift on by and have a listen to the Spent Idols.



Indie Film "It's My Life" Makes Debut in Carlsbad

By Kristin Rees
Pride Staff Writer

The San Diego Independent Film Society and the San Diego Asian Film Foundation team up for success

Usually I am somewhat wary of independent films. They tend to border on the weird and usually have some deep hidden meaning that I never really manage to decipher. Fortunately for me, this wasn't the situation on Saturday night at the Dove library in Carlsbad.

As a prelude to the San Diego Asian Film Festival, which runs from Oct. 2 - 5, the Dove had an advance showing of director, Gary Chan's film "In My Life." The modest Chan answered a few questions about his film and the filming process, but really wanted to allow "In My Life" to speak

for itself and it certainly did.

Chan wrote, produced and directed "In My Life". He is 28 years old and he works part time in a doctor's office. These are humble beginnings for Chan whose name I expect to hear on the circuit soon.

Chan studied film as an undergrad in Irvine and already has one short film under his belt. "It's My Life" took him 2 weeks to write and another 2 years to complete. This film is unique because it takes a touchy topic -death- and makes it more human.

In the film, Chan's main character Wes finds out that he has terminal cancer and has very little time left. Wes wishes to tell his longtime crush and best friend Ally that

he is in love with her, but has been afraid to do so until now. The story follows Wes on his trip to San Francisco to confess his feelings to Ally.

Along the way, Wes meets up with family and friends and the audience gets to relive his past with him. It is comedic, it is sad and it makes you think, but above all it is very entertaining. Chan says that he asked himself "what would I do if I was dying?" "It's My Life" was the answer to that question with just a few fictionalized elements and some exaggeration for the script.

Chan has a jewel here. It will be shown again during the festival. Don't miss out. For more information about the Asian Film Foundation and the festival itself, check out www.SDAFF.org.