

Police hold forum on practices

Students and community members come forward to voice concerns

BY ALFRED CHU AND RYAN JAMES
Pride Staff Writer

Amid concerns about policing practices on campus two open forums were held by the CSUSM police department where students, faculty, and other members of the community could get information, address issues and ask questions.

On Wednesday December 1 at 11 a.m. the first forum was held at the Clarke Field House in the Grand Salon.

A panel from the CSUSM police department consisting of Police Chief Tom Schultheis, Assistant Police Chief Aaron Woodard and Police Officer Monika Forest were present.

The forum began with Schultheis giving a Power-

See FORUM, page 4

Benefit for injured CSUSM student

BY ELIZABETH BALDWIN
Pride Staff Writer

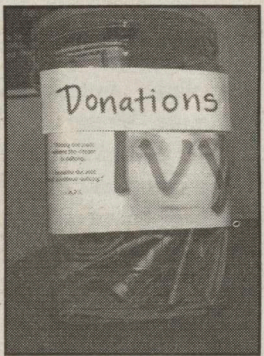


Photo by Elizabeth Baldwin
/ The Pride

Local artists from CSUSM and the surrounding community performed Friday, December 3 for a benefit to support Ivy Kensing.

Ivy is a literature and writing major, who was in a car accident on her way to school last year and has been in Palomar Hospital's critical care unit ever since. The event was videotaped so Ivy could watch the show at the hospital.

See IVY, page 2



Photo by Alfred Chu / The Pride

CSUSM Police Chief Tom Schultheis (right) fields questions with Assistant Chief Woodard (center) and Officer Forest (left).

Off-limits at the Library

BY DANIEL LOWE
Pride Staff Writer

The Kellogg Library is a place for study and research, however, not the entire library is accessible to students.

On the fifth floor there is a room called the Reading Room. On first look it is obviously different from other study rooms in that it is much larger, has a fireplace, access to a balcony and it is locked.

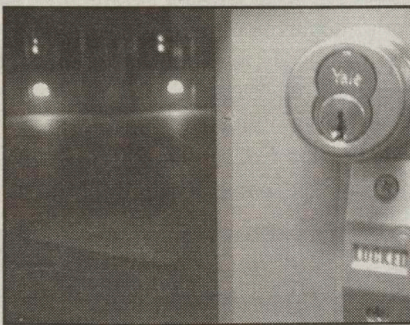


Photo by Jason Encabo / The Pride

Currently the room is bare and inaccessible to students. There is evidence of some electrical wiring and cleaning going on in the room. There is a podium, ladder and some traditional looking bookshelves in the back.

Although the room was originally slated to open this past summer, the opening has been delayed.

"The Room is currently being equipped with SMART Classroom technology and other technology to enhance its usefulness. In January the lighting and electrical systems will be upgraded," said Robert Stakes, interim dean of the library.

The University has had to wait for donors to donate the funds necessary to purchase the different lamps and tables that will make the Reading Room special.

"The hold-up has been that the university sought outside (non-state) funds to furnish the Reading Room," said Stakes

The Reading Room is intended to be more than just another study room.

"The Reading Room is considered a multi-purpose room. It is a preferred site for the hosting of meetings of strategic importance to the university and the campus community. It is also is a place for the university community to read in a quiet, welcoming environment. It is anticipated that the Reading Room will be a multi-purpose room into the foreseeable future," said Stakes.

The goal is to bring back the traditional reading rooms of great libraries of the past.

According to the Department of Planned Giving website, "The room will be furnished in traditional style with wooden tables, comfortable chairs, traditional reading lamps, a floor-to-ceiling fireplace, and beautiful wall-coverings, carpeting, and

See LIBRARY, page 3

Complaint form confusion

BY PATRICIA GUEVARRA
Pride Staff Writer

Confusion about the proper way to file a citizen complaint regarding actions of the CSUSM police has been an issue raised by many on campus in recent weeks.

"It's real simple," said Chief of Police Tom Schultheis after last Wednesday's police forum.

"To file a formal complaint, call or visit the police department," stated Director of Communications Rick Moore.

Prior to last week's police-held forums, the process required that any person wanting to file a police complaint needed to

pick up the form at the University Police Department, since the forms were only available at the station.

According to Schultheis, the forms were to be kept at the station due to the sensitive nature of the complaint process.

However, when Copwatch and San Diego community member, Janice Jordan stated that complaint forms were available at Social Service Agencies and therefore should be available on campus, Schultheis restated his words to say that the forms will also be available on campus.

Schultheis then promised to update the

See COMPLAINT, page 2

Citizen Complaint Form

July 2003

INTRODUCTION

To the students, faculty, staff, and visitors of Cal State San Marcos.

The goal of the University Police Department is to protect the academic environment by making Cal State San Marcos a safe place to work and study. In order to properly perform that task, our Police Officers have the same training, authority, and obligation as any police officer in the State of California.

In order for us to better understand the community's perception of our services, it is important that we investigate any allegation of inappropriate police action. Your criticisms and constructive suggestions for improvement are welcomed. Each complaint will be investigated thoroughly and corrective action will be taken when appropriate.

If you wish to make your complaint personally, you may come to the University Police Department office located at the University Services Building 441 La Moree Road.

We hope to improve our services with your help.

Sincerely,
Tom Schultheis
Chief of Police

Photo illustration by Jason Encabo / The Pride

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333 N Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, CA 92096-0001
Phone: (760) 750-6099
Fax: (760) 750-3345
E-mail: pride@csusm.edu
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IVY, from page 1

The benefit was orchestrated by Karen Schaffman, assistant professor for visual and performing arts, and Veronica Anover, associate professor for world languages. Both had been Ivy's professors last fall before her accident.

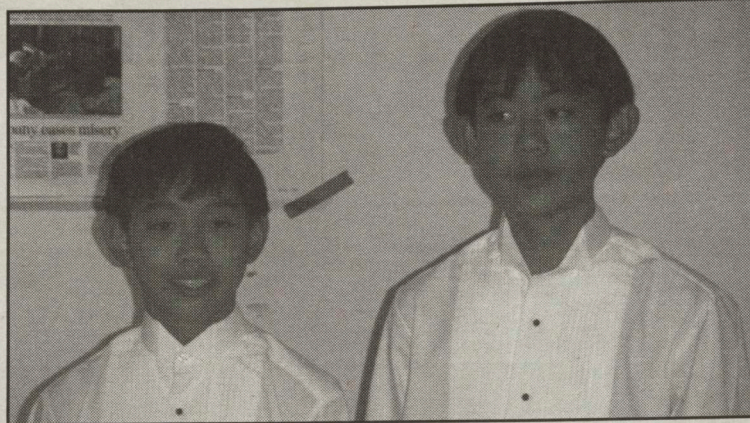
"I met Ivy when she took my GEH class. She's extremely smart, dynamic, and passionate. A person who has a real passion for life...always helping other students...she was about tolerance and teaching diversity. I hope to see her in class again," said Schaffman.

Anover, Ivy's French professor, read a letter to her in French saying, "This is a tribute to your inner and outer energy...I know you will be back soon."

Jenna Wood from Alpha Chi Omega announced that her sorority would be making a holiday basket for Ivy and presenting it to her in the hospital.

"We are so excited to see the campus community come together like this," said Wood.

Brook Booth, senior communications major, collected donations from students and guests.



Performers Andy and Kevin Leu.

Photo by Elizabeth Baldwin / The Pride

Benefit for Ivy Kensinger Performers included:

Classical violin – **Andy Leu**
Classical flute – **Kevin Leu**
Reading – **Sam Hamod**
Singer/songwriter – **Heather Frost**
Singer/songwriter – **Christian Motos**
Hawaiian Hula Dancers
Dramatic Monologue – **Deepak Andrews**
Poetry reading – **Guadalupe Canseco, Tomas H. Lucero, Zak Pugh, Sherre Myers, and JT Vernon**
Jazz Trio – **Richard Hunt and Nick Obando**

All proceeds from the event will go to a benevolent account created to help Ivy and her family.

Most of the students who came to the event did not know Ivy, but knew her story and came to support her recovery.

"I don't know Ivy. I feel for her and I'd like to know her," said Zak Pugh, literature and writing graduate student.

Pietro Grieco, faculty member, ended the event with a heartfelt message, "Ivy, I am going to send you some kisses and hugs from the audience – all the best to you – bye, bye"

For more information on Ivy Kensinger, please visit www.the-bookofivy.com.

COMPLAINT, from page 1

Police Department's website to contain information about the complaint form as well as guidelines to the process.

The complaint forms previously provided by the Student Affairs office were from San Diego State University, according to Dean of Students, Jonathon Poullard. Unfortunately, they were not the same as the Citizen Complaint forms provided by the Cal State San Marcos' University Police.

Located on the bottom of the citizen complaint form from University Campus Police there is a place for the complainant's signature below a warning which states, "It is against the law to make a complaint that you know to be false. If you make a complaint against an officer knowing that it is false, you can be prosecuted on a misdemeanor."

Below the area for the signature there is also a summary of California Civil Code 47.5 that states, "You should also be aware that if you knowingly and mali-

ciously make a false complaint of misconduct against an officer that officer may seek monetary damages from you in a civil lawsuit."

The form from SDSU does not ask for the complainant's signature, however, this was the form provided to Jonathon Poullard for complainants' usage during the November 4 community led forum about policing practices on campus.

"Each university has their own complaint form," said Clara Potes-Fellow, public affairs spokeswoman for the CSU system.

As stated in Article 9 of 2001-2004 Statewide University Police Association Contract, "a 'complaint' is an allegation by a citizen about the actions of a member."

According to Article 9, actions that can be included in a complaint are, "commission of a criminal offense; neglect of duty; violation of university or department policies, rules or procedures; (and/or) conduct which may tend to reflect unfavorably upon the employee, the department or the CSU." To avoid anonymity, the complaint

also requires a signature.

Information regarding the citizen complaint process was placed on the University Police Department's website on Thursday December 9.

Persons needing to file a Citizen's Complaint can now pick up forms from the Student Affairs office in CRA 5306, the Associated Students Inc. office in Commons 207, as well as the University Police Department. If the individual does not want to personally pick the form up, they can have another party obtain the form for them or ask to have the form mailed to them. The form will need to be as thorough as possible to ensure a meaningful investigation.

Upon completion of the form, the complainant should make at least 3 copies of the form, 2 for their personal record and 1 for Jonathon Poullard, dean of students. The complainant can then mail the form to or drop it off at the University Police Department.

According to the Police Department's website, "an inves-

President Haynes to teach class

BY ELIZABETH BALDWIN
Pride Staff Writer

Cal State San Marcos President Dr. Karen S. Haynes, along with Dr. Regina Eisenbach and Dr. Patricia Worden, will be teaching a class next fall focused on women in leadership.

"A Woman's Path to Leadership," is a new course for the women's studies department, but is designed to benefit students from all majors and career goals.

The WMST 300 level class will feature guest speakers, allowing students the opportunity to learn from prominent women in the community.

Dr. Haynes, who co-authored the book "A Dream and a Plan: Women's Paths to Leadership in Human Services," said she is excited about teaching the course.

"My background is in sociology, so this seems like a good place to be and hopefully I can bring my own expertise to the class," Haynes said.

Dr. Regina Eisenbach is associate dean of college of business administration and Dr. Patricia Worden is associate vice president for research and graduate studies.

The class will be held Thursday 4:00 – 6:45 p.m.

To register for the class use CRN 20822.

tigation will then take place which includes interviews with the complainant, witnesses and the officer(s) involved, as well examination of any pertinent evidence."

The investigation will be completed within 30 days after receiving the complaint, unless an extension is granted by the Chief of Police. After completing the investigation, a complaint disposition will be made based on each alleged act of misconduct.

Additional information can be obtained on the University Police Department's website, www.csusm.edu/police.



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LIBRARY, from page 1

art. In addition to being the most coveted study space on campus, the room will host special readings, important library and university gatherings, and performances by string quartets and other artists."

Students had mixed reactions when asked about the Reading room.

"It'd be nice to have a place with couches to study," said freshman Francisco Quiroz.

Upcoming Whiteness forum

BY PHOENIX LINDGREN
Pride Staff Writer

"What is Whiteness?" is the potentially provocative topic of an interactive forum being held in Commons 206 on Thursday, December 9, from 11:30am-1pm.

Dr. Dreama Moon and students from her Comm. 450D class will stimulate thinking about white culture and what it means to be white through interactive activities designed to encourage attendee participation.

"We want to provide an educational opportunity for people to think critically about whiteness and white identity in the U.S. context. In most discussions of race and racism, the notion of whiteness is noticeably absent. We believe that if we as a society are to eliminate racism and achieve social justice, then whites must join the conversation on race. This forum is designed to spark ideas about how one might do so," said Moon.

"I haven't noticed the reading room," said Ryan Russell, a sophomore who often studies in the library.

Adjacent to the Reading Room is a large outdoor balcony which is also currently off-limits.

When asked if the balcony next to the Reading Room would be open for students, Stakes said, "I doubt that the balcony will be open during the day, it would probably be open during special events in the room."

The balcony will also be furnished with donations.

In addition to the balcony on the fifth floor there is a balcony on the second floor next to the open computer lab. Students are prevented from going out into that balcony by a sign that says "No Public Access."

When asked, some students voiced concerns about not being able to use the balconies.

"It's better to be outside," Quiroz said.

"Students should be able to use the balconies. It'd be kinda cool to look out over stuff," said Russell.

Stakes stated that the balcony will not be opened to students

"Due to security concerns and risk management issues there are no plans to open the second floor balcony to the public at this time. Smoking on the balcony would be prohibited anyway under CSU regulations," replied Stakes when asked why students are not permitted to use the balcony to get fresh air or to smoke.

CSU regulations state that smoking is not permitted within 15 feet of any building. The security reasons cited pertain to book theft and other similar concerns.

There are also three instructional labs in the library which are unavailable for general use by students. Like the other instructional computing labs on campus,

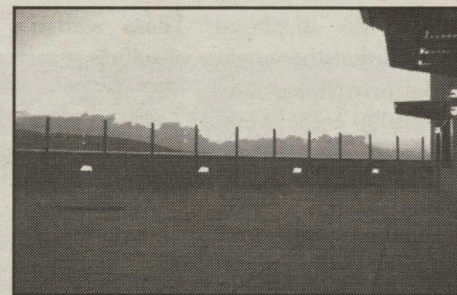


Photo by Jason Encabo / The Pride

The balcony (above) and Reading Room (left) on the library fifth floor.

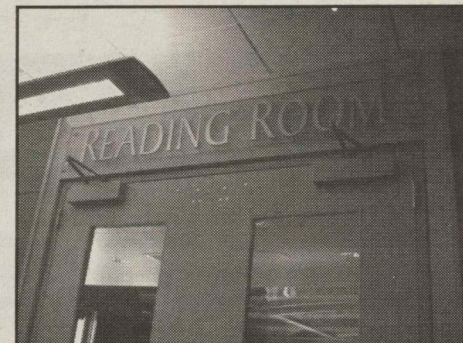


Photo by Daniel Lowe / The Pride

these labs are to be used by instructors for classroom teaching and library research instruction. They can be reserved for use by instructors.

"The labs are used for both instruction of students in how to use the library, and

for conducting workshops for library faculty and staff. In the future they could be used for other university training," said Stakes.

More information about the library can be found at <http://library.csusm.edu/about/>.

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FORUM, from page 1

Point presentation about the police department.

Information was presented about current projects the university police are implementing including Rape Aggression Defense (RAD), Automated Regional Justice Information System (ARJIS), Homeland Security Projects, the Emergency Operations Center and the California State University Critical Response Unit.

The presentation included the department's many policies and procedures for filing a complaint against an officer and requesting information on certain events and citations.

Facts about the four types of crime, crime prevention, safety and emergency tips were also given.

Data about campus police reports and the number of arrests made by campus

police was displayed. These statistics showed that the number of police reports had nearly tripled since 1999.

In 1999 there were 157 police reports filed and this number jumped to 467 in the current incomplete year of 2004.

After the presentation sociology Professor Eduardo Portillos moderated a question and answer session where the main issue raised was racial profiling.

Many in the audience, which included students and faculty, expressed their concern about the subject, due to recent events.

"When I approach the driver I just pulled over for a traffic violation, my concern is my safety and my officer's safety, because you don't know who the person is, if they're stable or not and/or what they have in their car. I had a partner who pulled over a driver at two in the morning and he got shot," said Woodard.

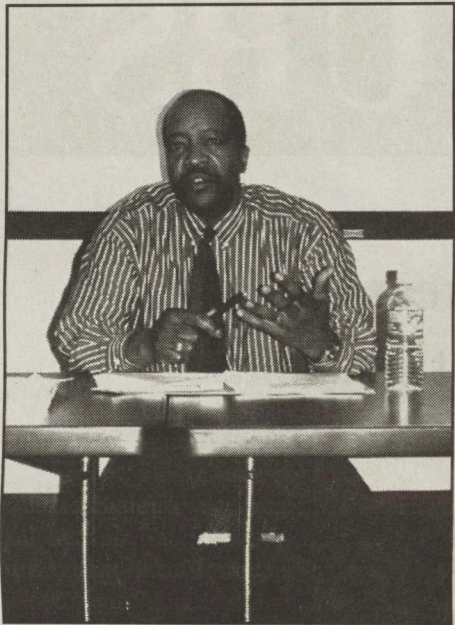
"I absolutely do not tolerate racial profiling. I discourage the practice among my staff," said Schultheis.

"Once an arrest has been made, what is the university's role in deciding to charge a crime?" asked Professor Anne Lombard.

"It's the police officer at the scene's decision whether to charge the case as a felony if it can be proved. However the DA can then decide whether to drop the felony to a misdemeanor," responded Schultheis.

After the forum had concluded, Lombard said she felt surprised that university officials would not become more actively involved after the arrest of a residential student in deciding whether to charge him/her with a felony.

"If I were a parent of a child at a residential college, I would probably expect a dean or some comparable person, other than an inexperienced campus security officer, to



Assistant Chief of Police Aaron Woodard



Photos by Alfred Chu / The Pride

December 1 police forum.

get involved before such a serious decision was made about my child," said Lombard.

On Thursday December, 2 at 3 p.m. the second forum was held at the Clarke Field House in the Grand Salon.

The same three members of the CSUSM Police Force attended the forum.

Schultheis said the primary goal of the forums was to produce "awareness of who we are and what we do."

After the introduction of the officers, Chief Schultheis led an approximately 25 minute PowerPoint presentation discussing the CSUSM Campus Police which closely followed the presentation given at the previous forum.

In this presentation he supplied information regarding the perimeter of the department's jurisdiction, the demographics of the CSUSM Campus Police Force and the training that police officers must undergo to obtain position on the CSUSM Campus Police Force.

To end his presentation Schultheis displayed statistics about police reports and arrests from years 1999-2004.

Woodard referred to the statistics as "skewed" due to the fact that the statistics also displayed arrests and reports that had occurred outside of campus.

After the presentation another question and answer forum was mediated by Professor Portillos.

The discussion was opened up by Fil Knoff, President and CEO of a San Diego marketing company.

Mr. Knoff and his wife reside two blocks from CSUSM, on Rush Drive.

The couple told the story of how their mid-30's, lawyer son was pulled over by Campus police on Twin Oaks Valley Road.

They said the officer's reason for the stop was the placement of Mr. Knoff's son's temporary registration permit on his vehicle. They said the officer who made the stop proceeded to take Mr. Knoff's son's wallet, questioned him, patted him

down, and made him take a sobriety test.

The pair claimed that Mr. Knoff ended up coming down to the scene before the officer released their son, but without returning his wallet.

Mr. and Mrs. Knoff were thanked for coming forward and then invited to file a formal complaint.

Several students and other San Marcos residents came forward to express similar instances they felt constituted a pattern of police harassment.

One San Marcos resident told a story of how he was arrested and his car was impounded for an expired registration.

"Give me a call and I'd like to look into it," responded Schultheis.

Sociology Professor Sharon Elise and a female dorm resident expressed their concern for the scrutiny that dorm residents were feeling from Campus Police.

Elise also expressed concern over citations given to drivers at the crosswalks of CSUSM.

These concerns were responded to with what appeared to be the popular response for the session, "we'll look into it."

Once again audience members voiced concerns about racial profiling.

Assistant Chief of Police Aaron Woodard expressed his interest in this question and passionately assured the audience that he himself, an African-American, would not allow racial profiling on his police force.

"I've been black a lot longer than I have been blue and I am sensitive to discrimination issues," said Woodard.

The event concluded by all three officers expressing interest in having annual police forums in the future, and encouraging the community to participate in upcoming forums.

Information presented by the police department at the forum can also be found at the newly updated CSUSM Police Department website at <http://www.csusm.edu/police>.

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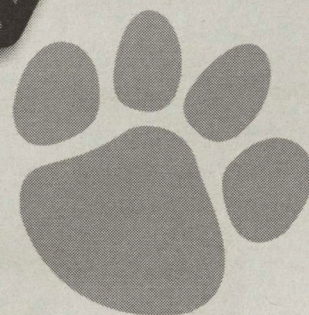
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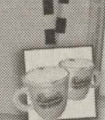
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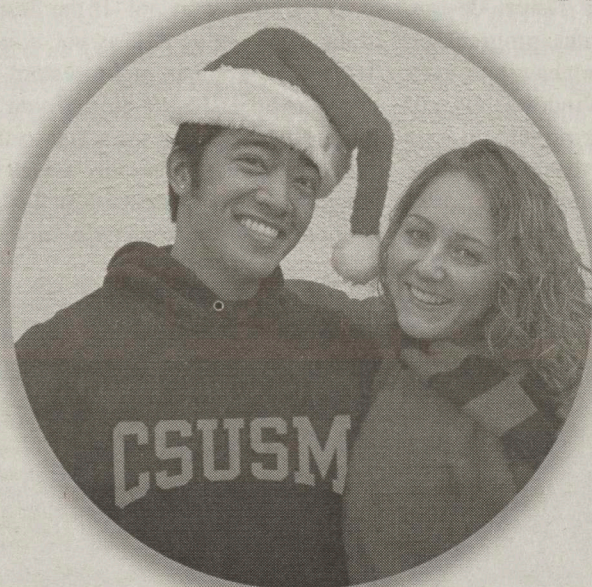
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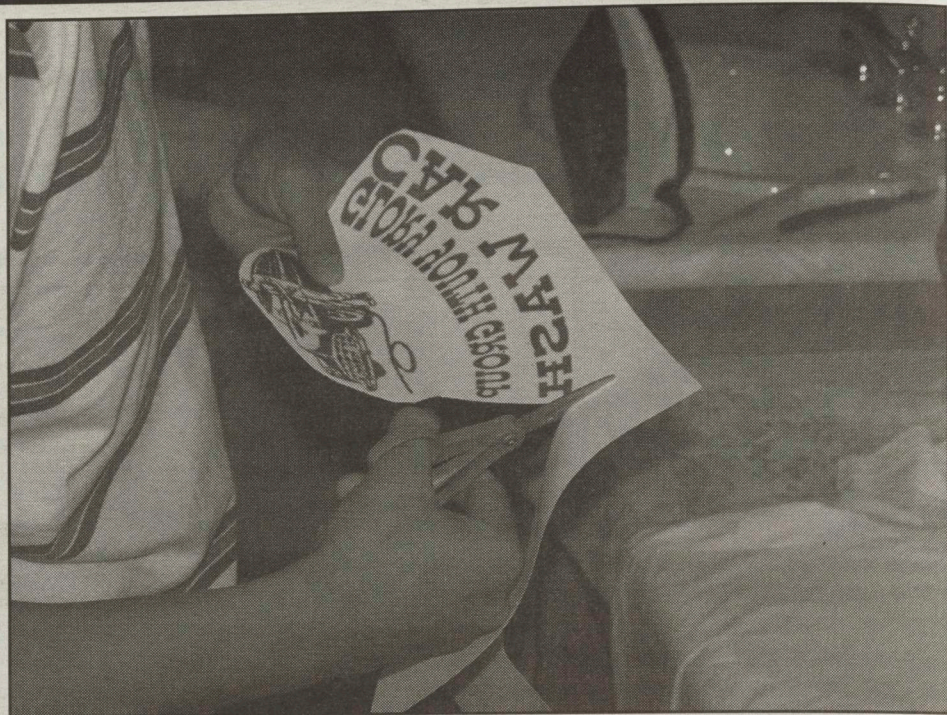
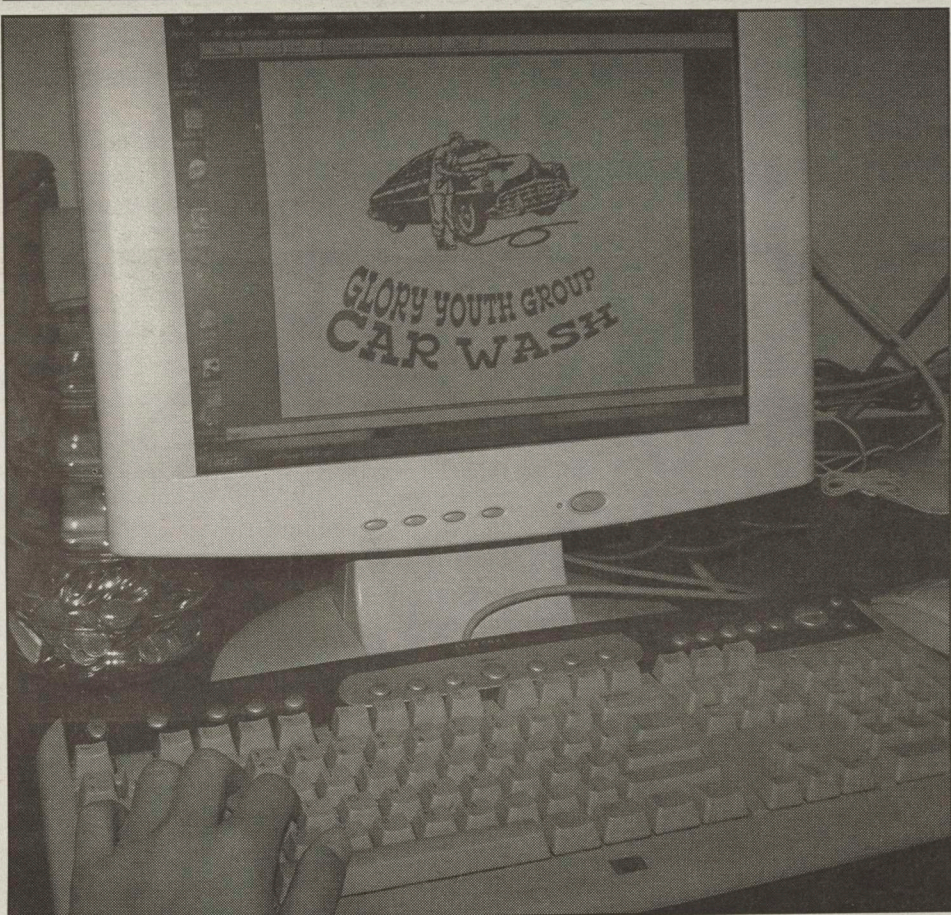
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Make your own T-shirt

STORY AND PHOTOS BY DANIEL LOWE
Pride Staff Writer

Make your own Vintage T-shirt

Retro is cool. Vintage T-shirts are in. Statement tees are all over the place. They indicate a rich personal history and a spirit of authenticity. But really, how authentic are they? How many of you are wearing that "Beaver Lake Lacrosse" T-shirt, but have never played lacrosse and never even heard of Beaver Lake? How many of you have seen that "Relish Today, Ketchup Tomorrow" T-shirt and thought you could make up something funnier?

Rather than pay \$15-\$25 for a T-shirt

that you could probably make yourself, try and go for it. Make it yourself. With an ink jet printer, a plain T-shirt and a sheet of T-shirt transfer paper, you can make your own vintage looking T-shirt for a lot less than the ones found in stores. When someone asks you, "Where did you get that T-shirt," you can tell him or her, "I made it myself." Here's how to do it.

Materials:

The first thing you need to do is get the right materials. Locate an ink jet printer. If you don't own one yourself, ask a friend

to borrow theirs. Next you'll need a T-shirt. Depending on what style you like, you can get them in a number of places. Ringer tees look the best for vintage T-shirts but plain T-shirts can look good also. Footlocker sells 5 plain T-shirts for \$20. Go to Staples or any office supply store in the paper section for T-shirt heat transfer paper. If you want to print on a light colored T-shirt, you can purchase the normal paper. They usually sell for approximately a dollar a sheet. If you are printing on a dark colored fabric, you will need to buy the opaque transfer paper. Dark fabric transfer sheets cost more, but you'll need them if you're making a dark colored T-shirt.

T-shirt Design:

Now that you have your materials, you will need to make your T-shirt design. Use any standard graphics program on your computer. If you don't have one, even Paint that comes with Windows XP will work. Locate a retro looking font on your computer. If you don't have one, there are plenty of free font sites on the Internet. You'll also need some sort of graphic. If you can't draw your own, there are also

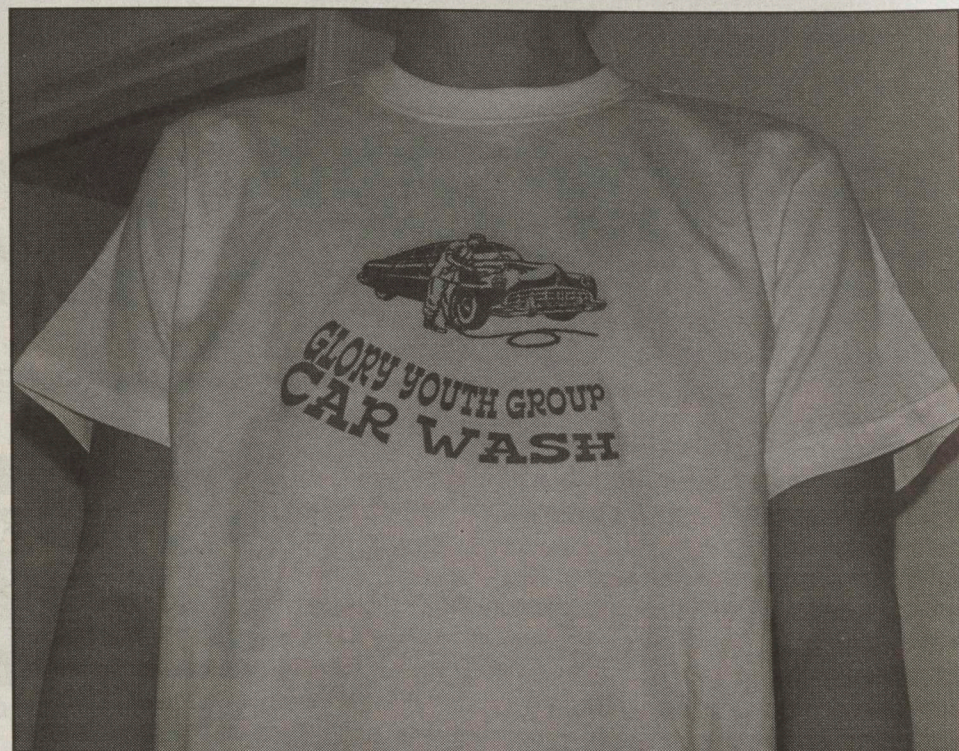
retro clip art sites on the Internet where you can find a good graphic. Use only one or two colors for your t-shirt. Make them match your T-shirt. Dark red on a pink T-shirt looks good.

Put your Design on the T-shirt:

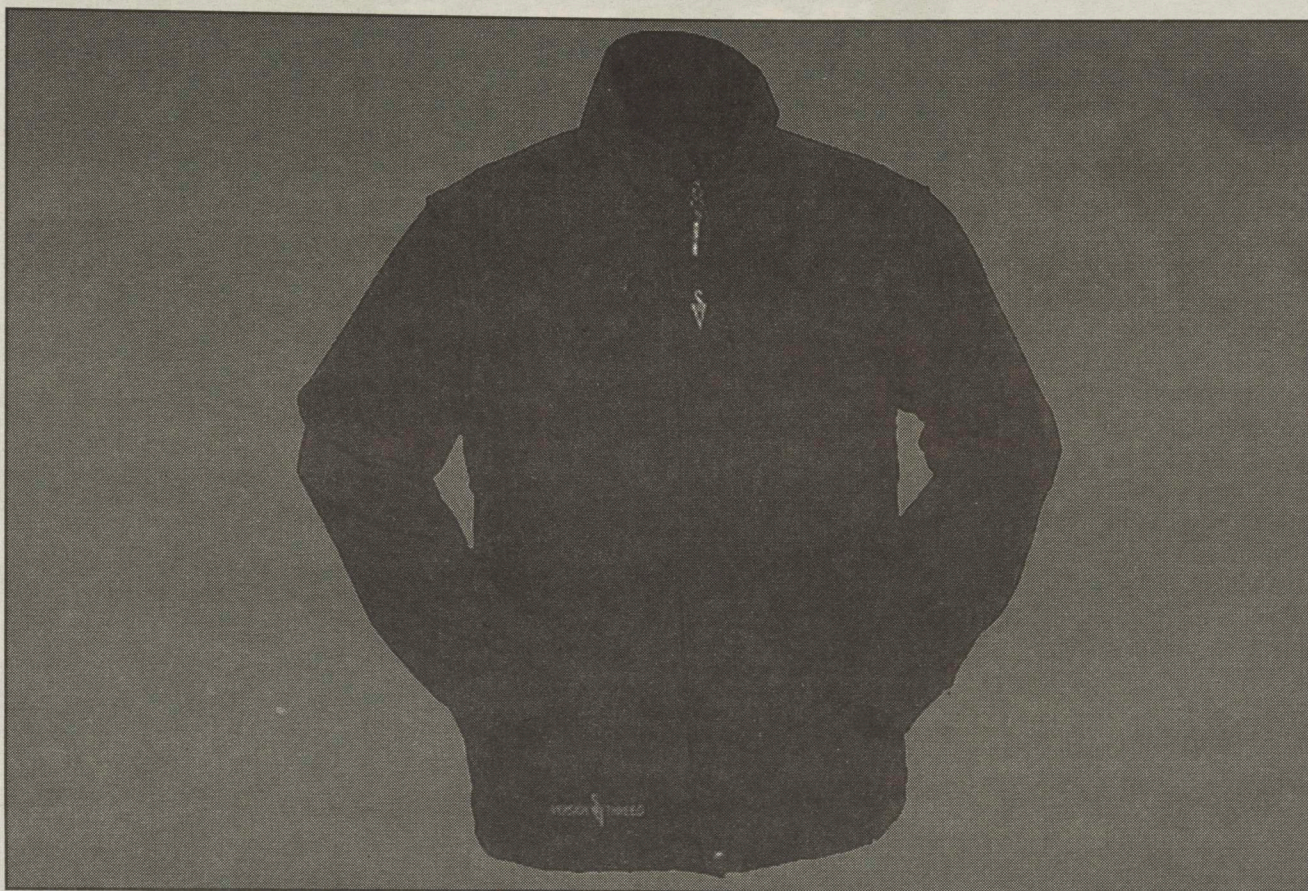
Now that you have a design, you need to print it out. Be sure to set your printer on reverse or "mirror" image. Print a test on a normal sheet of paper before you print out your design on the transfer paper. Cut out your design carefully. Follow the instructions that came with the heat transfer sheets. A few tips:

- 1) Iron over the design with as much downward pressure as possible.
- 2) Go over the design multiple times.
- 3) Use a flat table; do not use an ironing board.

Try your T-shirt on! If the first T-shirt didn't turn out as well as you would like, try again. You can make custom T-shirts for as little as \$5 a T-shirt if you're good at it. Next time you see a T-shirt that says "South Dakota: Where my dawgs at," feel good that you're wearing a T-shirt that truly reflects your own individual style.



Gift-giving guidance



Photos courtesy of ScotteVest

Batteries not included

Solar powered jacket

BY CHRIS KING
Pride Staff Writer

It's time to break the glass that surrounds that lit up red button that reads "Christmas shopping mode". Creativity and originality are traits that people tend to hone in on during the rigorous shopping season. Some gifts succeed and others get that "maybe you'll get it right next year" grin on Christmas Day. For some, avoiding that response could push prudence right out the door.

If you're willing to drop about \$500 this season on a friend or family member who is a gadget junky, look no further than the SCOTTeVEST 3.0. The 30-pocket solar power jacket is the first of its kind and it can house and power just about any gadget as long as it's Universal Serial Bus (USB) compatible—on the market including

PDA's, MP3 players, Game Boys, cell phones and many other devices.

Removable Solar panels on the back of the jacket convert sun light into energy which in turn allows a small central battery about the size of a deck of cards to power your gadgets. Direct sunlight is not required as the battery is fully charged within two to three hours.

The pockets are arranged so that you may run headphones and headsets without exposing any wires. Pockets can be found all over the torso, shoulders and arms. It even has storage for bottles and hats.

From wet to extremely dry, the SCOTTeVEST 3.0 can function in all weather conditions. Externally, it consists of a lightweight, water-proof and breathable material. Internally, there is mesh lining for cooling and an avail-



able 12 pocket fleece vest for sustaining warmth. It comes in red, black and stealth and is available in virtually any size.

SCOTTeVEST 3.0 can be purchased at scottvest.com or retailers such as Sports Authority, Mobile Planet, Spy Museum and Neiman Marcus.

H²O compatible

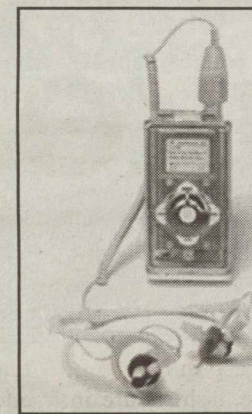
Waterproof mp3 player case

BY RYAN JAMES
Pride Staff Writer

Alright, so you're searching for the ultimate Christmas gift. What are you going to buy your friend, boyfriend, girlfriend, or relative that'll make their holiday that much brighter?

Well I have the answer; h2o Audio has produced water proof housing for both iPods and iPod minis. The water proof housing for the iPod and the iPod minis go under the titles of Sv-iPod, and Sv-imini.

On ipodlounge.com they describe the Sv-imini as being "the first fully waterproof and submersible housing for Apple's iPod mini." If you're a surfer or a swimmer, you could not ask for a better Christmas gift then an iPod accompanied by a Sv-iPod, or an iPod mini accompanied by the Sv-imini.



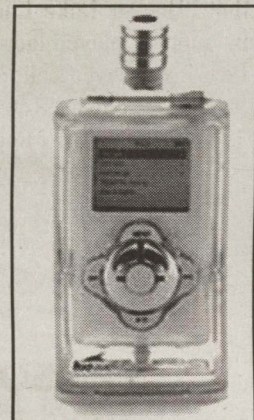
Photos courtesy of Anders Steele

Imagine sitting out in the ocean, waiting for a good wave, and listening to your favorite band, or how about swimming laps and rocking out while doing so, I really don't think life could get much better. There is a catch though, the Sv-iPod is back

ordered until March 14, 2005, but the Sv-imini is available now.

Both the Sv-imini and the Sv-iPod run for the price of \$149.95. Both products come with waterproof MP3 player housing, a waterproof headset and silicon earplug, secure latching and the products allow easy access to control the MP3's functions and are submersible up to 10ft/3m.

So if you pretty much want to buy someone the best gift ever the answers is Sv-iPod and the Sv-imini, trust me it'll be worth the wait.



The year-long gift

Magazine subscriptions

BY KATIE POWERS
Pride Staff Writer

Easy Christmas Gifts

The gift that keeps on giving all year long--a magazine subscription is the answer to any holiday gift giving hang-ups.

Magazine subscriptions are cheap, easy to find and will delight friends and family members. A subscription to most popular magazines run anywhere from \$12 to \$30. A few magazines offer a two-for-one deal, thus you buy your mom a subscription to "Organic Styles" and you get one for free.

Signing up for a subscription is easy. Many times non-

profit organizations will sell subscriptions as a form of fundraising. However, if this not available to you, check the inserts of magazines at the drugstore for subscription information. With so many special interest magazines available you're sure to find the perfect subscription for whomever you're shopping for.

Also, if you subscribe to a magazine as a gift for someone, the following year the magazine will send you a reminder to renew their subscription for another year, and voila, your Christmas shopping is completed for life.



Photo illustration by Eric Mercado / The Pride

The man behind the cart

Tim Sabatini offers quality coffee and service

BY AMANDA JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

When it's cold outside, or you're cramming for an exam, coffee is a popular answer and Tim Sabatini, San Marcos' newest coffee man on campus, can help.

Prior to working on campus, Sabatini

"I love it here," Sabatini said, "everyone is so nice."

owned and operated the coffee shop, It's Coffee Time, in Carlsbad. But after 12 years he was ready for a change, looking for a smaller place to sell coffee with less overhead costs. He searched the papers for a while before finally coming across the ad for the kiosk on campus. He knew that the kiosk was what he wanted and purchased it two weeks before the fall semester started.

"In Carlsbad not everyone was nice," he said. But at San Marcos he has only encountered friendly people and a friendly atmosphere. These are the reasons why he enjoys working on campus.

"I love it here," Sabatini said, "everyone is so nice."

When he purchased the kiosk he decided to make some changes. He changed the coffee to Fair Trade and every week offers different flavors of decaf and regular to try. For an authentic feel he decorated with bamboo and bought a new sign. He also acquired a credit card machine about a month ago.

"It was difficult to get the credit card machine because there are no phone cords that run to the kiosk," Sabatini said. He had to get a wireless machine and it took a while to find it on ebay and set it up.

"The credit card machine was a huge hit," Sabatini said.

One that will probably be even bigger is espresso. Before purchasing the kiosk, Sabatini made sure he could sell espresso. He plans on being able to start selling mochas and lattes in the spring semester.

Until then Sabatini is pleased with business on campus. He is always looking for ways to improve, and said he "likes to take suggestions." Sabatini also said that he has a "ton of regulars."

Although he doesn't want to step on anyone's toes, he isn't worried about competition with Starbucks. "There is enough business for the both of us," Sabatini said.

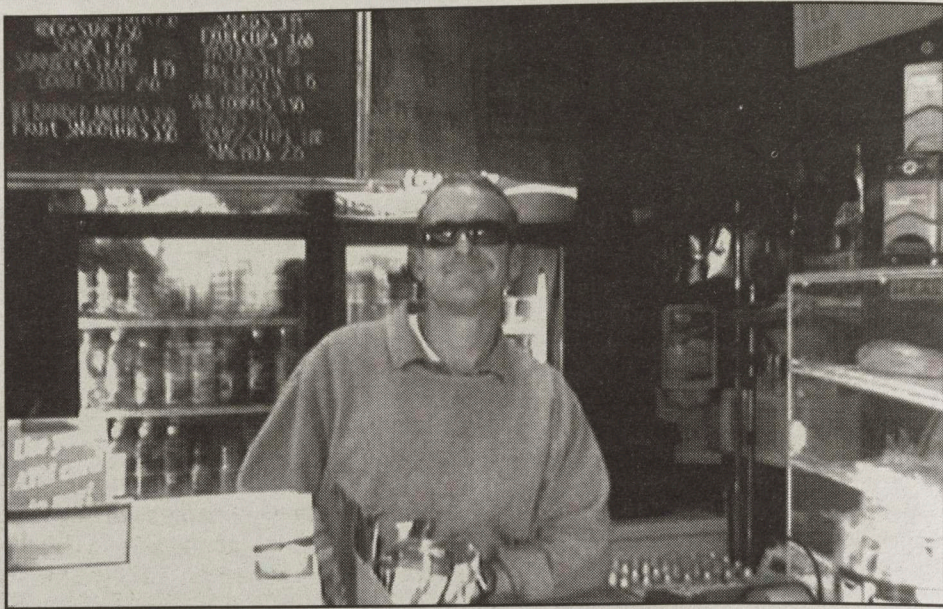


Photo by Amanda Johnson / The Pride

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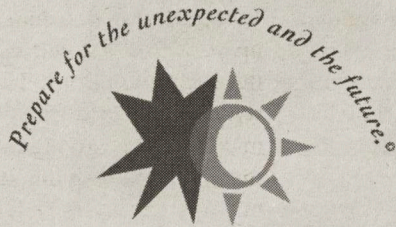
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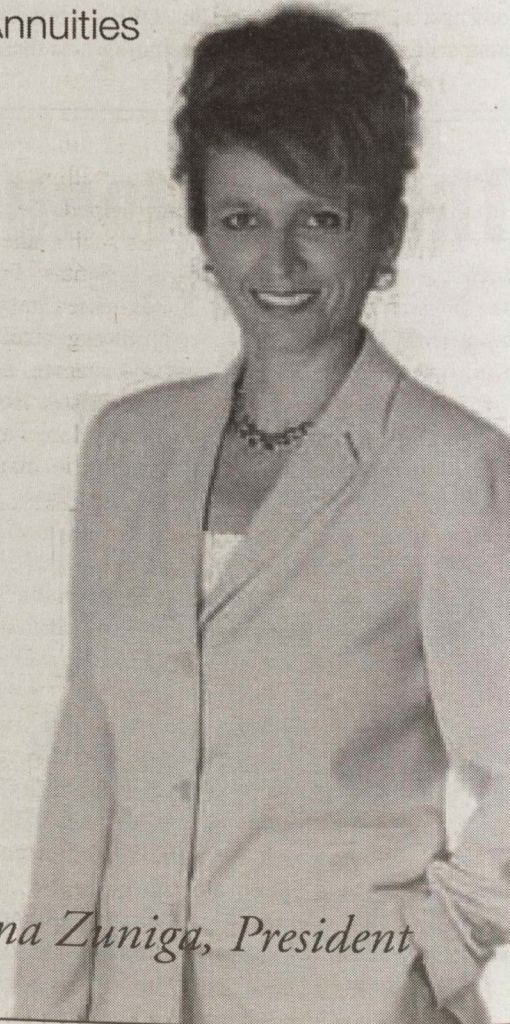
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Diana Zuniga, President



Bump, set, spike

The ladies of ASI volleyball prepare for the season

BY KARLENE WIEGAND
Pride Staff Writer

Bump, set, spike...Women's ASI club volleyball starts their inaugural season.

The women's team held tryouts last month and since then, they've had an excellent turn out. The ASI club team will start their official season this spring. The women will play club teams from schools that are part of the San Diego league which include San Diego State University (SDSU), Pt. Loma Nazarene, University San Diego (USD) and University California San Diego (UCSD).

The team will eventually join golf, cross-country, and track and field in participation with the NAIA. The NAIA is a national league which many private and

smaller populated schools take part in.

Jennie Glassey officially started the club team. Glassey is a liberal studies transfer student from Union University in Tennessee; however, she was born and raised in Carlsbad, California.

"I started the team because I was done playing collegiate volleyball but I still wanted to keep playing and meet new girls and people on campus," Glassey said. "I've been on school teams since I can remember so I wanted that to be a part of CSUSM for me as well and for other girls who like to play volleyball and get involved with sports teams".

Glassey has done just that and is now the team captain. The club team consists of many girls who, like Glassey, have played

at the collegiate level.

Co-captain Mary Trueblood played on a junior college team, the setter played on a Division II team for North Michigan, and another player played on a Division II team for Cal State Bakersfield.

The girls will be busy this spring semester. The spring season schedule will consist of one practice a week, one game a week and various tournaments on the weekends. However the busy women seem enthusiastic about their up-coming season.

The team went to a tournament last weekend and while they were organizing the event at practice, shouts of, "I'll bring the cooler for snacks and I'll bring water" could be heard. Much gratitude was also shown: the women were thanking their



Photo by Karlene Wiegand / The Pride
Jennie Glassey and Mary Trueblood, captain and co-captain of women's volleyball team.

captain for getting this all together.

The women practice in the gym at the Clark Field House. The women say it's hard to balance school with sports but like Glassey said, "I've always known school is my first priority."

For a schedule, contact Lawrence Boltin at the Field House, or head on down to the Field House.

Jock Talk With Josh

BY JOSH SANDOVAL
Pride Staff Writer



I've written 28 "Jock Talks" since I joined "The Pride". This is my last column for the semester and it could possibly

be my last column with "The Pride". It hasn't been very easy to pump out a sports column every week since sports isn't the biggest of concerns on this campus.

Since many here don't know the difference between a first down and a touchdown I have tried to throw in a lot of variety into my columns. I related sports to real life problems such as people trying to be something they aren't; I tried to be somewhat comedic when I wondered which athlete would make a good President; I shared a very personal story when I wrote about Ken Caminiti; I even wrote entertainment reviews when I saw "Friday Night Lights" and read "The Last Season". One thing I have tried to stay away from is just completely focusing on sports because a lot of elements in sports can easily be related to real life.

This semester has been very different from the previous semester. I have been criticized by our Ombudsman because Jason feels that I don't write enough about sports. "...are we

ever going to read about sports... I turn to the sports page to get your spin on things that are actually happening in sports." came from his column on October 12, 2004.

Basically my response to that was if you want to get my "spin on things that are actually happening in sports" then go open up the "San Diego Union-Tribune" on a given day and read articles I write for them. In other words, I wanted to make "Jock Talk" my own.

Several weeks ago Jason learned the struggles of having a weekly column when he resorted to writing his column in limericks. He would later empathize with me the struggles of trying to appeal to our readership in a weekly column. So, if you think its easy filling a column each week for one semester, let alone two like I have, it certainly is not. I am glad to hear that Jason is coming back next semester because I think the feathers that he has ruffled need to be ruffled a little more. That leads me into thanking a few people who have helped improve "Jock Talk".

Many times this semester I reached a point where I had no topic in mind. Thankfully Scott Phillips joined the staff and helped me come up with topics such as the Del Mar Race Track, Fantasy Football, and if I thought the Chargers could keep on winning. Jason Encabo added a new element to "Jock Talk" this semester as he is the one that found a picture or created an illustration to accompany my

words. Finally, Eric Mercado, the Features editor who edited my column did a great job not cutting my column, allowing me to say everything I wanted to say on a weekly basis.

The reason for the uncertainty around my return next semester is that I don't plan on taking the class due to an already full schedule. I would like to continue my column even though I am not enrolled in the class, but that decision is entirely up to the two returning editors-in-chief who are unsure about how the paper will change.

Now to appease Jason and the rest of you who read this for sports I better actually throw some sports into this column.

This semester I can compare "The Pride" staff to the 1997-1998 Chicago Bulls. Our Ombudsman Jason is kind of like Dennis Rodman as he is probably the most controversial writer. Elizabeth Baldwin and Michael Dolan are the Jerry Krause of "The Pride" because they run the show around here as the editors-in-chief. Our advisor Jenifer Woodring is like Phil Jackson because she coaches us when it's needed. The writers who don't have a weekly column are kind of like Steve Kerr, Luc Longley, and all the other role players on that Bulls team. Just like the Bulls, The Pride would not be a success without them. I don't know where I fit into that team. I would like to think I am Michael Jordan because MJ did what he had to do to win and no matter what I find a way to do what I have to do to get a weekly column out there. Also, MJ retired on two different occasions only to return and dominate and like MJ I don't know if I will return. So, who knows if this column is Michael Jordan's final game as a Washington Wizard or if it's my shot over Bryon Russell in the NBA finals to send "Jock Talk" into a short break and then return next semester?

Send an E-mail to Sando026@csusm.edu if there's something itching you.



Photo by Nicholas Tyerman

CSUSM 8th in the nation

Cross-country team goes beyond expectations

BY NICHOLAS TYERMAN
For the Pride

Nine members of the men and women Cougar cross-country team were in action at the NAIA National Championships in Louisville, Kentucky November 20. Kicking off the morning at 8:30 a.m., were the Cougar studs Jenni Johnson and Anne-Marie Byrne. On the muddy grass course these ladies showed amazing composure under tremendous pressure. Johnson ran 17:48 for the 5k (3.1mile) race placing her in fifth place, giving her All-American honors while improving on her 8th place 18:06 performance from last year; giving Johnson the perfect ending to a senior season. Anne-Marie ran 18:41 for the 5k race placing her in 37th which improved tremendously on her 47th 18:55 performance from the year before. This was no easy task for a junior who has made it her tradition to qualify to Nationals every year she has competed in college, which is a great accomplishment itself. An hour later the men started their journey on the 8k (5mile) race that turned into a muddy adventure for championship glory. Going in as underdogs since their ranking headed into the race was 17 out of 28 teams competing, the top 7 Cougar men toed the line not as individuals but as one unit, shall we say a family. Their pulses racing with excitement as the final seconds before the gun to fires seems to take minutes. Crack. With that single sound all the nerves disappear as business as usual begins for the Cougar men who make their way through the competition of 252 other runners.

As the clock clicks over to read the time of 25:12 the first Cougar, Daniel Lyon, crosses the finish line in 12th place giving him his first All-American honor only in his sophomore season of collegiate competition. Coming in 24th place Jesse Armijo claims the last All-American honor of the day for the cougars finishing in a time of 25:30, giving this senior captain a moment that he shall cherish forever.

Chris O'Neal finished in an impressive 65th place in a time of 26:19 finishing out his senior year with a flash by out kicking the 66th and 67th runner in the finishing chute by less than one second.

Coming in next was the tremendous Cougar pack attack of Jace Getskow, Polo Mariscal, Phil Hoffman, and Tim Irwin. Jace finished in 138th place with a time of 27:07 giving this freshman a fantastic season to build on for the next three years.

Mariscal, only a junior, moved up great from the halfway point of the race giving him 162nd place with a time of 27:24. Phil Hoffman ran 27:35 giving him a placing of 176th leaving this freshman cougar hungrier for the next season to improve on his performance. Tim finished in 180th place with a time of 27:37 leaving this junior satisfied with his first trip to Cross-Country Nationals. The courageous performance by this Men's squad showed the nation that their 17th rank was far off by placing as a team 8th place in the nation. For such a young and inexperienced team the future looks bright for the years to come under the tutelage of Coach Steve Scott.

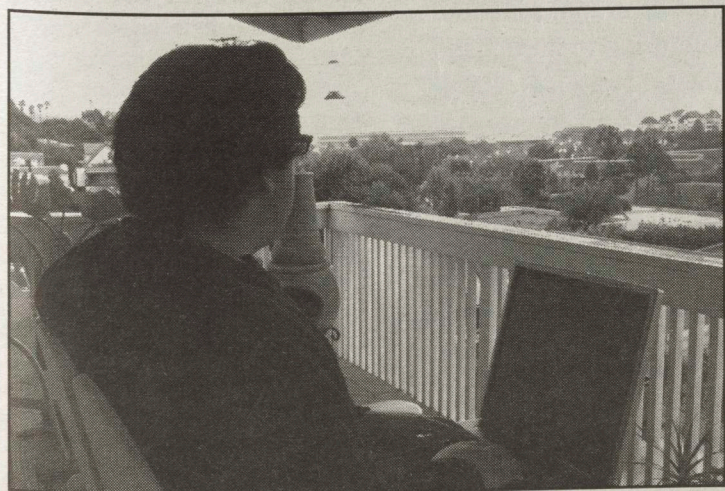
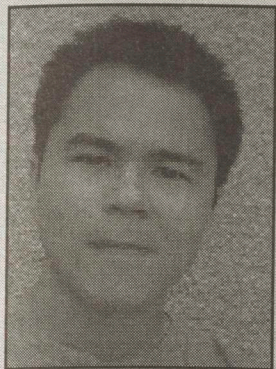


Photo courtesy of Josh Sandoval / The Pride

Farewell from The Pride



OMBUDSMAN'S Notes



By JASON NICHOLS
Pride Ombudsman

I was going to do some sorta holiday theme, or 'the semester is over,' or 'finals are here,' or perhaps a 'stroll down memory lane' column. But, that sorta thing tends to be a Chinese water-torture of cliché that I'll not submit you to. No need to make you wet while your areolas are stiff as boards from the cold. (Biology majors are the only ones that'll get that joke.)

Better to think of this last little grey puppy as a season finale. Three weeks ago, I left this column with a cliffhanger. Would I receive 'Hellos' and stay on the job for next semester, or would I get a 'U-Haul' and be told to take a hike? I know it's not up to par with an X-file bite-your-nails, can't wait for the next episode enticement, but it's not like I've got alien conspiracies to work with here.

TRUST NO ONE!

Sure 'nough, I got a stream of emails that all said 'Hello,' so I'm on the job. You com-

plete me, and I'll be your Renee Zellweger. Just know, I'm not as cute and definitely can't shed the pounds like her. Either way, I was whip-id happy ya'll dig my tunes so I'm here to stay. (If you listen hard enough, you can just make out the cringes of the Pride staff.)

I was so friggin' st(r)oked in fact, my head grew in size from your votes of approval and feeling empowered by the el/rection, I turned my 'aggressive criticism' on the Editors. You don't know what I mean cause that particular column, submitted for last week's issue, went the way of Mulder in the 8th season. Since I can't repeat the words in that column without facing another 'editing decision,' I've emailed that article and correspondence on the matter to those readers that had sent me 'hellos.' If you'd like a copy, just tap my shoulder at nicho028@csusm.edu.

Now, I hate to go on in this grey box about my little world, seems that's all most columns in this collection of tree-skins ever do. But, I'm running on faith here that you care enough 'bout this little grey box, to care what happened to it last week.

After submitting my article, I had a fun-filled meeting with Elizabeth Baldwin and Michael Dolan, the Editors-in-chief, and they informed me in no-uncertain terms (my gluteus maximus is now a gluteus minimus) that they felt my article 'grossly misrepresented' the Editorial staff.

As such, they decided my 'opinion' was misleading and that I was not acting in the best interests of the readers. In fact, I was told that particular portions of my criticism of the editorial staff "has nothing to do with the readers."

Obviously, I disagreed.

I don't doubt they believed they were being loyal to the readers, or doing what was in the best interests of the Pride. The funny thing was, that's exactly how I felt.

I was given the option to "revise" my column or have it axed.

Don't get me wrong, it's not like I'm suggesting I had to compromise my principles or anything. I mean, I was given an 'option.'

Now, it's their right to decide not to publish my column, since it's their butts on the line if this paper is ever sued for libel. I'm still wondering how my 'opinion' would have led to a suit, but I thought it fair you know the pressure they're under. In the end, I 'chose' to have the column axed. I'd rather not print, than print what others feel I should. What some might refer to as "bureaucratic manipulation?" Perhaps, in a hand-written issue of the Pride some time back?

In advance of the question, "how does this relate to you the reader?" I'm gonna throw out the "C" word that rhymes with censorship.

As the Ombudsman, the lamest title I've had since

Seaman (man-juice) and Petty (small) Officer, my job has been more than just getting you to giggle. Though, I'm tickled I make you laugh (with me, not at me!)

I'm the reader's advocate, or so I'm told. The person that holds the newspaper to a standard of journalism that has wild notions of trust and integrity, as well as pertinence and quality. You'd think some autonomy goes along with that notion. How else to trust that the Ombudsman isn't just taking the side of the newspaper?

Perhaps, I was just being the miscreant that I've always tended to be when I conceived of a crazy little notion to 'aggressively criticize' those in charge of the Pride, after readers submitted the following throughout this semester:

"I realize that I am not the only person that thinks some of the articles are asinine in their content." "you [the Ombudsman] are not afraid to call it [the Pride] what it is...crap."

-Morgan McCorkle, email to Ombudsman.

"ASI should reconsider student fund support for a newspaper that has major problems with its headlines."

-Bob Dickey, editorial letter.

(ASI doesn't fund the Pride by the way.)

"Students deserve better from the Editors of the Pride."

-Jonathan Poullard, email to Ombudsman.

"I strongly urge you [the

Pride] to research your facts before printing them [articles]. Beyond misleading students it makes the Pride look unreliable."

-Bryan J. Watkins, editorial letter.

"For the last weeks it seems that all you [the Pride] write about is Michael Moore. I want to know who makes the decision on what to write."

-Carmelino Cruz, editorial letter.

"Why is it that our school is like Saved by the Bell? What I mean is that it is the same 10 cast our [sic] members in every aspect of our campus life (ASI, PAN, Pride, Etc...). I even heard that Zack Morris (Erik Roper) was gone yet he still gets the number one spot on the editorial page."

-Weston Rogers, editorial letter.

"Not even one article in the Pride was devoted to the Veteran's Day ceremony. What was the Pride afraid of?"

-Nathan Loomis, editorial letter.

Damn, and I was trying to avoid a stroll down memory lane.

Well, finals are here. The semester is pretty much over. Have good times on your Holidays. (Drip. Drip. Drip.)

The End. ...Or is it? (DUNH, DUNH, DUNNNNH)

The joys of registration...

BY LINDSAY RIEDEL
Pride Staff Writer

It's that time of year again, a time that while some people feel excited and anxious, others feel frustrated and annoyed; no I'm not referring to the holiday time, I'm talking about the time to register for classes.

I received my set registration day and time in an email from the registration office about a month ago. Something that I've learned is that this little time and date notification has the power to either make or break your mood about the coming semester, meaning that if you get stuck with a late registration date, it is pretty much guaranteed that you won't be able to get any of the classes you want. Being that I am a freshman and quite new to this whole process, I thought nothing of the registration date in relation to the rest of the students' registration; I made a list of 7 classes I need to take, figuring in a few extra for worst case scenario, and waited for November 30 to come

around.

As it turns out, from my list of 7 classes, only two were available. I sat in front of my computer for more than an hour and

It seems logical that CSUSM students shouldn't have too many problems getting the classes that we need simply because we only have about 7,400 students that are competing for seats. Compare that to SDSU's headcount of more than 30,000. But regardless of total enrollment, the reason we continue to have a hard time finding classes is due in large part to the well-known budget cuts.

a half trying to figure out what my options are, which classes I could try to crash, and which ones I could just take in a different semester. It got to the point that when I found a class that

fulfilled a portion of the general education requirements and that was available, I registered for it, regardless of day or time, or really even what the class was about. Another thing that I've learned is that when you are done registering for classes, 9 times out of 10 you aren't done. There will be a class to crash or a class to drop in the first week of the semester, which has the potential to completely change the entire schematic of the semester for someone else, if the right classes become available.

It seems logical that CSUSM students shouldn't have too many problems getting the classes that we need simply because we only have about 7,400 students that are competing for seats. Compare that to SDSU's headcount of more than 30,000. But regardless of total enrollment, the reason we continue to have a hard time finding classes is due in large part to the well-known budget cuts.

Because I am a freshman, I don't have the pressures to fulfill credits like seniors do, but it

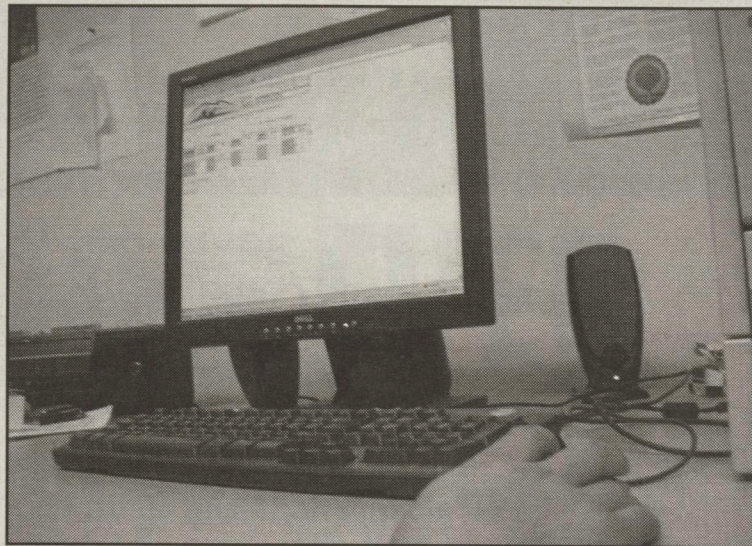


Photo by Jason Encabo / The Pride

Student registers conveniently online.

won't be long before I'm in those shoes and I fear that class availability will only get worse. Fortunately for seniors, they are privileged with priority registration above the other classes; unfortunately for sophomores, because there is a first in line, there must also be a last in line. Some freshmen are preparing for this transition simply by dragging out their freshman status. By taking four classes instead of five in the spring of 2005, they are guaran-

teed registration before many of their peers, at least for fall 2005.

According to the CSUSM website, the projected enrollment at our campus is 11,000 students in the fall of 2012. In case you're wondering, no, I don't plan to be an eighth year senior, but if the faculty does not start making some adjustments to accommodate the annual increase of enrollment, registering for classes will become more and more of a headache.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor,

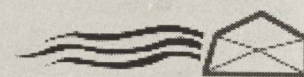
Congratulations are in order to those of us to graduate this fall even if our own university is incapable of doing so properly. The Fall Grad Reception held November 30th at the Escondido Center for the Performing Arts was more like a Christmas party than a celebration for fall graduates. Five speakers were slotted to take the stage, one of which was our very own ASI president and non-graduate, Manal

Yamout. Manal not only failed at her attempt to give the graduates some parting advice, but she did so by prefacing her speech with an admission; she had no idea what the graduates were feeling. Unfortunately, she was not alone; nobody administering the reception appeared to know what the graduates were feeling. FYI: it was boredom with a touch of disdain. After the diminutive speeches, all that was left for the graduates to do was mingle with fellow graduates, family, friends, and faculty. Wait; make that just fellow graduates, family, and friends. It appears that the Fall

Grad Reception was a secret, only mentioned to a select few - and the graduates of course. Most professors I've spoken to failed to receive any information about the reception. How many professors would have appreciated the opportunity to congratulate some of their students on a job well done? Furthermore, how many graduates would have wanted their professors present at what might be their only graduation event? Apparently that's just another thing the administration overlooked. In the end, even if you could look past the lackluster PowerPoint presentation that

scrolled through the names of the graduates and the horribly tacky centerpieces you still would not be capable of finding an inspiring moment during the whole 45 minute reception. That might be because the only real celebration our university has to offer graduates occurs in the spring. So, for those who finish in the fall, we are asked to keep May 15th open. Our administration requests that we simply look at the spring semester as a break and return in May to receive the congratulations we rightfully deserve. I might consider it after they apologize to all of the parents who attended the

reception expecting to see a shortened version of an actual graduation ceremony. Then again, I think most of us would just like an apology in general because to some, that was our graduation. I wonder if the administration gave that a second thought. Then again, they might have been more worried about whom to sucker into attending the event.
Christina Polowsky
2004, Psychology



Students,

Bush won, Bush won... What can I say... 4 more years of George W Bush? Here is a Preview of coming attractions: war, tax cuts, inflation, declining value of the US dollar, rising tuition, rising gas prices, rising constitutional amendments, systematic elimination of our civil liberties and continued oppression on groups like the LGBT and Feminist community. But, at least we will be "safe." Is that all

you Americans care about is safety? You have been scammed in to thinking that the terrorists are every where and they can decimate this country. This is America. We are the most powerful country in the world. We will not be killed by a few terrorists. You all seem to buy in to this fear. Don't you know that more than 15 times more people die from car accidents than terrorism every year? [Assuming we lost 3000 people every year] Do you realize we lose 60 times more people a year from smoking deaths? Do you realize you have a better chance of killing yourself than being killed by a terrorist? The lax envi-

ronmental policies on air pollution make the air we breathe more dangerous than the suicidal terrorists themselves.

Where is our War on Suicides, the War on Cancer, and the War on Alcoholism? Domestically these problems are a far grater than the threat of terrorism. Do you realize our current policy spends more money & time killing people rather than saving people? ~1,200 Americans soldiers dead in Iraq; 15,000 Iraqi civilians dead. Wake up America! We need to question how we conduct our foreign policy. Although I agree we should keep an eye on terrorism, think about how much we could achieve if we invested 200 billion or a fraction of that on safety for cars, smoking prevention, or on renewable energy. We would be saving a lot more lives. These corporations are ripping off the government by overcharging for their services and the money is coming right out of your pocket. It is because of the powerful corporations lobbying politicians with millions of dollars, that we keep fighting the war. If there is no war to fight, there will not be any demand for the bombs, computers systems and tactical weapons. In this capitalistic society an industry will do everything they can do to stop others from cutting into their profits. This includes peace. My republican friends, I and most of us don't have a several billion dollar capital to invest to create solutions; we need the help of the government. I think it would be nice if "pro-life" people supported money spent to save lives not destroy them. I'm not talking about abortion or stem cell

research. Like you people say "as much as you talk, you are still killing a human life." Take a moment to think how much we value human life in war time.

Do we have to listen to the constant echo machine of the media? We all know "hope is [NOT] on the way." Democrats, democrats what can I say. You are just as guilty as the damn rightists. Why did we support a guy who spent the whole time fighting as if he was going to lose? Is there an opposition party any more? He conceded immediately, and now we're "looking ahead." You guys better hope that the majority that holds complete power now doesn't cancel democracy and or declare martial law because they are in a position where they can take over the country.

These are the cards we have been dealt. Now we can do one two things. We can fold and "cut our losses" like the Democrats have done. Or we can continue to stand up like the majority of Americans, who didn't vote again, and raise a FIST not a thumb! We need a revolution. I will not stand by when our civil liberties are taken, discrimination is written in constitutions, and we continue to pile our national debt (\$7,443,313,021,246.25 dollars and rising.) We can't give up now. We're too involved to just give up. If we give up, we will than continue to see more of the same in the next four years. We as students know that if we want something, we can get it by rising up. So let's do this. "We have only begun to fight." It's not over now.

"Si se dice, será oído."

Felipe Robinson-Zanartu



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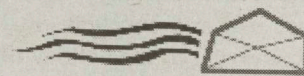
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CALENDAR *Of Events*

Tuesday 12/07

Circle K International Angel Tree Project
8 a.m. to 3 p.m. DOME

Psi Chi Meeting
9 a.m. to 10 a.m. UNIV 444

Medieval Round Table
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. ACD 303

Economics Club Weekly Meeting
12 p.m. to 1 p.m. ACD 305

LGBSTO Meeting
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. ACD 407
Alternative Spring Break Meetings
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Commons 201
Come to either meeting to find out how you can spend your spring break in San Francisco.

Jam Control Meeting
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. ACD 101

Wednesday 12/8

Circle K International Angel Tree Project
8 a.m. to 3 p.m. DOME

College Democrats
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Forum Plaza

Blood Drive
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Clarke Field House
For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact Vanessa Mathews at mathe012@csusm.edu

M.E.Ch.A Conference Meeting
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. UNIV 451

PreLaw Society Social Meeting
For more info, please visit our club website at www.csusm.edu/prelaw_society, or email zimme009@csusm.edu.
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. UNIV 449

Alternative Spring Break Meeting
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Commons 201
Come to either meeting to find out how you can spend your spring break in San Francisco.

WSSA Meeting
5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. ACD 308

College Democrats Meeting
5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. ACD 310

M.U.S.I.C Meeting
6 p.m. to 8 p.m. ARTS 117

Jam Control Meeting
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. ACD 101

Catholic Bible Study
7 p.m. University Village Building B
Info: Fabby Hernandez herna093@csusm.edu

Thursday 12/9

PreLaw Society Meeting
8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. LIB 3013

John Bell is "In the Executive's Chair"
11 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. ACD 102
Everyone is welcome to visit the "In the Executive's Chair" class.

Circle K International Angel Tree Project
8 a.m. to 3 p.m. DOME Meeting
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. UNIV 460

Panhellenic Meeting
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. ACD 301

Friday 12/10

Circle K International Angel Tree Project
8 a.m. to 3 p.m. DOME Meeting
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. UNIV 460

What is Whiteness Forum
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Commons 206
Dr. Dreama Moon's Communicating Whiteness students proudly present "What is Whiteness? A Forum"

Vagina Monologues
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Dec. 9, 10, 11, Arts 240 Pre-performance events at 6:30 p.m. each night

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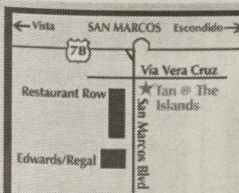
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A Christmas Carol

BY HEATHER HOFFMANN
Pride Staff Writer

"The Christmas Carol" is a classic story and is now being preformed by the San Diego Repertory Theater for the 29th year at the Lyceum Theatre in downtown San Diego. D.W. Jacobs adapted the Charles Dickens' story which is being directed by Todd Salovey. This year the cast is enthusiast, the sets are beautiful, and the music is festive.

Imagine having the power to remember things forgotten in the past, to understand the present and see your future...do you think you would change anything?

Ebenezer Scrooge (Peter Van Norden) is an angry old man who refuses to have any part of Christmas. Scrooge is rude to his family and his employees. He finds joy in money and pleasure in other's misery.

One night Scrooge sees the spirit of his old friend and business partner Marley (Douglas Roberts) who warns him that he will be visited by three ghosts that will give him the chance to revisit his past, make sense of the present, and see what his life will be like in the future. Marley's costume is the most interesting part of his visit, his face and wrist chains both glow.

When the Ghost of Christmas Past (Shana Wride) arrives she takes Scrooge on a trip back to his past. She takes him to his childhood and reminds him of things he used to love and of the people who impacted his life. This is the best part of this play. The sets are gorgeous and the music really puts you in the mood for the holidays.

This would have been the perfect place for an intermission. The show plays for 90 minutes straight through with no breaks. It is hard to pay attention and sit quietly for that long.

Next the Ghost of Christmas Present (Douglas Roberts) arrives and gives Scrooge the chance to see how he is currently affecting the lives of people. First he takes Scrooge to the home of his employee Bob Cratchit (Steve Gunderson) and shows him how his family still celebrates even though they are short on money and their youngest child is sick. Then he takes him to his nephew's house



Photo courtesy of San Diego Repertory Theatre where he sees a party going on with out him and the guests making jokes about him. Both houses toast Scrooge and include him in their celebration even though he chose not to attend. The Ghost of Christmas Present has the most amazing costume in the show and it's good because it gives you something to look at when the play loses your interest.

Finally, the Ghost of Christmas Future (Trevor Hollingsworth) shows Scrooge that his future is non-existent and no one will mourn or miss him. The Ghost of Christmas Future is huge and does nothing but point. This is the weakest point of the play, which is sad because it's trying to convey the most powerful message.

If you're still paying attention, you'll see that Scrooge's life is changed by the ghosts. He decides to redeem himself by undoing some of the wrongs he's done to change the present so the future will be different.

Although this show has great intentions, it fails to deliver. If you expect to leave in the holiday spirit you will be disappointed.

Decide for yourself, tickets can be purchased at the box office 79 Horton Plaza and students receive a 50 percent discount. You can also contact the box office by phone (619) 544-1000 or online at www.sandiegorep.com. The show is running until December 26.

Gwen Stefani: "Love. Angel. Music. Baby."



BY PATRICIA GUEVARRA
Pride Staff Writer

CAUTION: This is a DANCE ALBUM.

Gwen Stefani and Andre 3000... what?! Yep, that's right. She's no longer crawling through her spider webs.

Gwen Stefani's newly released solo album, "Love. Angel. Music. Baby", is a completely new sound for this ska chick. She really dives into some Hip-Hop, Dance, and even some Japanese Pop with techno beats making her almost like this generation's Dee-Lite. Imagine those 80s songs like J.J. Fad's "Supersonic" or some Cyndi Lauper tunes, that's what you're getting.

This album features her collaborations with hip hop artists Eve, The Neptunes, Andre 3000, and even Andre's alter ego Johnny Vulture allowing her to exhibit her musical versatility. She even samples Notorious B.I.G.'s, "Big Poppa" (also sampled from Marvin Gaye) in her song "Luxurious." I never imagined hearing such a great Biggie track with Gwen's voice singing, "We're LUXURIOUS like Egyptian cotton. We're so rich in love were rollin' in cashmere." As for the rest of the album, I gotta be honest; the lyrics are like a flashback of Madonna's nightmare rap served with lattes. "I picture you driving just like Mario Andretti. I got the Kush, Kettle One, waiting for your engine," from "Crash," which was produced by her band mate Tony Kanal. I seriously had to take a double look and



say, "what!?"

The lyrics aren't all there to make Gwen a hip hop artist. If you just listen to the songs, lyrics and beat together, it makes a good combination. I'm expecting to hear some of her songs played during College Night at the clubs.

The last track, "Long Way To Go", produced and also performed by Outkast's Andre 3000, really made me excited. Stefani sings: "It's beyond Martin Luther, upgrade computer... If all men are made equal then she/he was fine." Her message about equality reminds listeners of Martin Luther King's dream, "children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by...the color of their skin...but by the content of their character..." Like I said before, this album is not your typical vibe from No Doubt's, Gwen Stefani. This album is about Gwen, the solo artist and her dance beats. If you can get past the lyrics, then this is a CD that you can't help but move to. Just remember, don't expect to hear some punk or ska.

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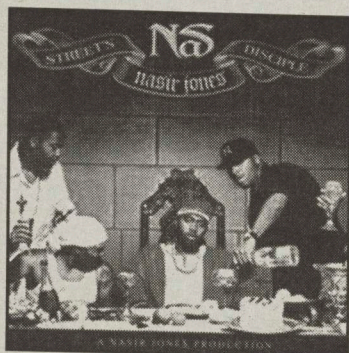
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Nas: "Street's Disciple"



BY JASON ENCABO
Pride Staff Writer



It's time to make way for the "Street's Disciple," Nasir Jones. You may know him as Nas, or you may not know of him at all, either way, it's time to get to know him better.

Nas' latest album, "Street's Disciple" is truly "new skool" hip-hop at it's finest.

For you true Nas fans this album is up there with "Illmatic." This two-disc album provides a consistent array of good songs. Nas artistically expresses his thoughts on American culture, while relating them to experiences throughout his life. He covers every aspect, from family and religion to sex and drugs. Whichever subject he covers, his lyrics convey great power and meaning. Specifically track two of disc one, "A Message To The FEDs, Sincerely, We The People," where Nas opens with a strong message and remarkable wordplay that sets the tone for the rest of the album. With lyrics like "At our enemies, may they die easily, long as they perish forever, is what freedom means to me," Nas presents the apparent

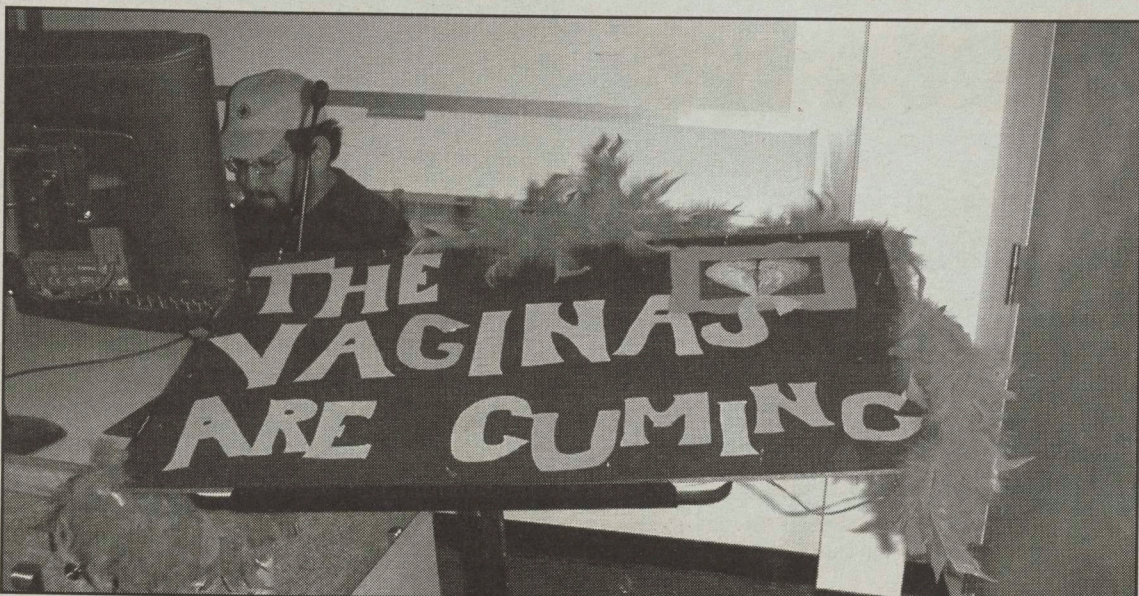
majority voice of the United States and its need to defeat assumed aggressors.

Other especially impressive songs are "Nazareth Savage," that has a RZA (Wu-Tang Clan) production sound to it, "Getting Married," "American Way," produced by Q Tip, "Street's Disciple," "War" and "Thief's theme," which all offer a unique but distinctly Nas sound.

But this album would not be what it is without the "dope" beats. Produced by Nas, Salaam Remi and LES among others, "Street's Disciples" will undoubtedly succeed based on the quality of production.

I highly recommend Nas' "Street's Disciple." This album is for the mature listener ready for a blunt interpretation of American society. When you're done listening your neck will hurt (from bobbin' your head).

CSUSM's Vagina Monologues



BY SARAH COLESON
Pride Staff Writer

Cal State San Marcos students are presenting their version of "The Vagina Monologues," an award winning play originally performed by Eve Ensler. The production is being sponsored by the department of women's studies and the Women's Studies Student Association.

The play originated when Ensler compiled interviews that she had held with over 200 women. In these interviews, the women discussed issues such as hair, scents, masturbation, sex, orgasms, secretions, periods, birth, mutilation, rape, what we call vaginas, what they would wear if they got

dressed, what they would say if they talked, etc.

The main theme that runs throughout the play is the celebration of women's sexuality and strength. Ensler performed the play with the intention of dispelling the myth that vagina is a dirty word and to raise concerns for violence against women.

The context in which the play was written was that the word "vagina" carried negative connotations. The play has been translated into over 35 languages and has been performed in theatres all over the world.

The play will be performed by CSUSM students on three separate evenings: Thursday, December 9, Friday, December 10, and

Photo by Sarah Coleson / The Pride
Saturday, December 11 in Arts 240. All showings will begin at 7:30, but patrons are encouraged to attend the pre-show reception at 6:30 to enjoy live music, snacks, informational tables by campus and community organizations, as well as vagina related gifts and artwork.

Tickets are currently on sale and can be purchased at the Associates Students business office in Commons 207, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, or by calling (760) 750-8008. More information on the play is available through the women's studies website at http://www.csusm.edu/Womens_Studies/vaginamonologues/vagina_monologues.html

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Get turned “Sideways”



BY SARAH COLESON
Pride Staff Writer

It's all about the randomness of life. Those beautifully choreographed moments where – for a split second – everything just seems to become clear and you realize that the life you are choosing to live is not as fulfilling as you had dreamed it would be.

If you had not been in that place, at that time, with that person, you know that this epiphany would have never occurred.

Miles (Paul Giamatti) and Jack (Thomas Hayden Church) decided to take a seven day trip to wine country in celebration of Jack's last week as a single man.

The pair of old college roommates could not have been more different. They were close friends, but they lived completely different lifestyles.

Miles went to Northern California to drink wine and play golf. Jack went to take advantage of his final opportunity to get laid before his upcoming wedding.

The insecure, neurotic, and introspective Miles could be compared to the grapes that produce a fine Pinot – they can only grow in certain climates, have extremely thin skin, and are temperamental when exposed to the elements of the outside world.

Jack, the womanizing, has-been Television star, is like a house Merlot – the grapes can thrive in any environment, regardless of rain or shine and the wine they produce has a distinct robust flavor that everyone recognizes, but is usually enjoyed in moderation.

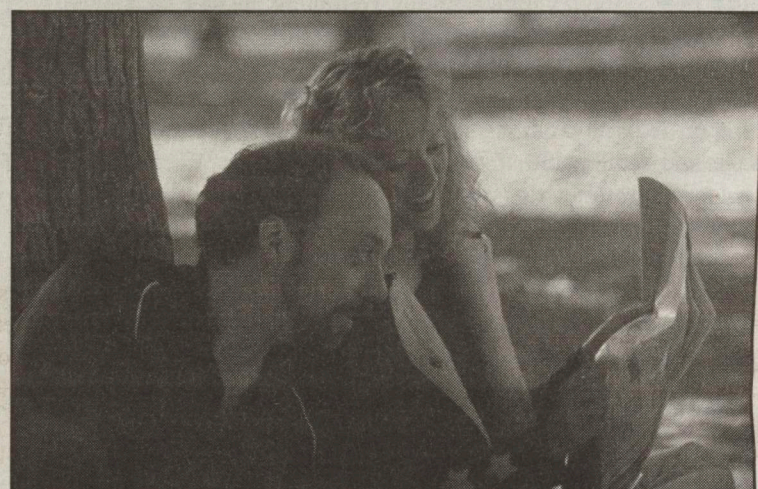
Writer-director Alexander Payne's fourth film (following “Citizen Ruth,” “Election” and “About Schmidt”) does an excellent job showing how these two men illuminate each others differences, but

by doing this – they are able to recognize and confront the shortcomings in their own lives. Payne allows the audience the unique ability to see inside the characters and provides cinematic moments that provoke uncontrollable laughter and others that produce a quiet “ah-ha!”

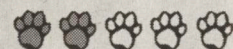
If instant gratification is what you seek in a movie, “Sideways” is probably not for you. But if you are willing to approach the movie as you would a vintage wine – cork the bottle, fill up one third of your glass, swish it around, inhale its distinct aroma – all before you take that first fulfilling sip, then you will appreciate the wit, humor, and intelligence in this film.



Photos courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures



“Alexander” the not so great



BY AMANDA JOHNSON
Pride Staff Writer

As Ptolemy (Anthony Hopkins) said, “All men will reach and fall,” and so did the movie “Alexander.”

“Alexander” chronicles the life of Alexander (Colin Farrell), from his childhood years through his short life as king. His father, King Philip (Val Kilmer), is murdered when Alexander is barely 20 years old making Alexander his predecessor. As a young king with ambition, he leads his undefeated Greek and Macedonian armies through Persia and into India. He spreads his kingdom, but after his defeat in India, he leads his army home to Babylon, where he dies at the age of 32.

Director Oliver Stone attempts to recreate Alexander's life as an interesting movie, but fails miserably. The three-hour movie is filled with mostly dialogue and little action. The few battle scenes that are in the movie have music that sometimes feels a little out of place and offbeat. The beginning jumps between past and present so much that it becomes hard to follow. Although it is hard to chronicle a man's life in only three hours, a lot more could have been done so the viewer could follow along, or at least keep from walking out of the theatre.

But to give some credit, the battle scenes were outstanding, if you could get past the music. The details of blood and

gore, with men losing legs and elephants losing trunks; was so realistic, rather disgusting to this writer, that one would have to be impressed with the people on the graphics team. The makeup of the war wounds was also very realistic, especially of a warrior and his missing eye. The details put into the movie on graphics and makeup far exceeded the plotline, which itself was very dull.

Beside the fact that Olympias (Angelina Jolie) never ages in the movie and her son does, she was mostly a believable character. Kilmer does an impressive job as the drunken father, and Farrell wasn't too bad either. There were, however, a few scenes where an unnamed character in Alexander's army would speak up with what sounded to be a Scottish accent. Although this writer's history could be inaccurate, it seems a little out of place for a Scotsman to be in Greece.

“Alexander” reaches hard to be a great movie with a quality cast, but the horrible plotline, boring dialogue and little action makes this movie fall to the bottom of the “wait for video” list.

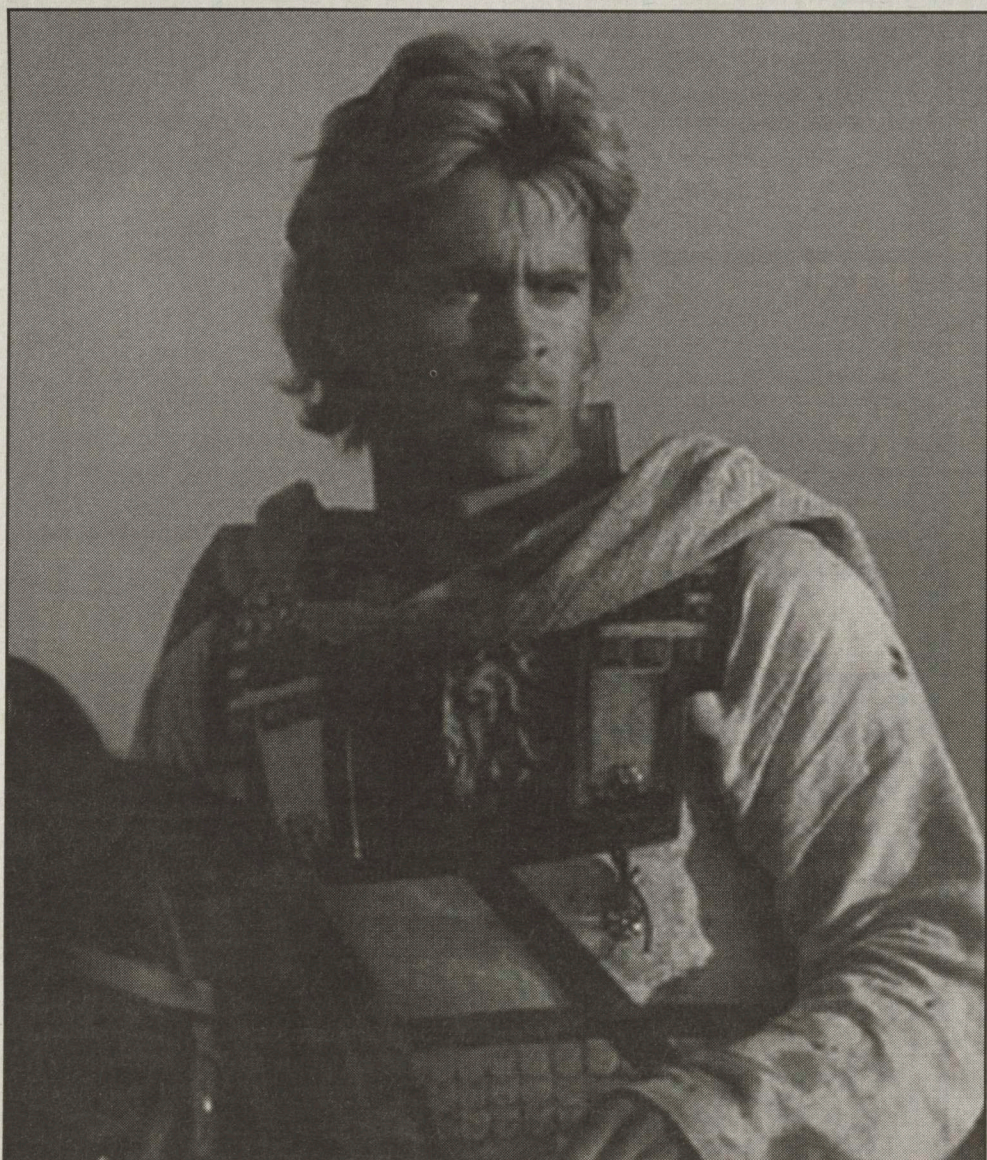


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