

Breast and testicular cancer awareness

Women's Center hosts first cancer workshop on campus

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

On Monday, ASI's Women's Center and the Student Health Services offered a free workshop to students during University Hour on the importance of breast

and testicular cancer prevention. Opening the doors to a fun and secure environment, students and others in attendance listened to Cathy Nguyen from the Women's Center, as well as an informed doctor and nurse practitioner about the safest and most effective ways to self-exam for breast or testicular cancerous growths. All those conducting the workshop strongly emphasized how important it is to self-exam oneself on a monthly basis.

Morgan Hoodenpyle, Programming

and Events Coordinator for ASI's Women Center and coordinator for the workshop hoped that the workshop would be an opportunity to teach other students in a relaxed environment about how to detect cancerous growths. "I just really want to raise awareness," Hoodenpyle said, "it's really easy to learn how to do it, and to learn what a cancerous growth feels like."

According to the American Cancer Society, testicular cancer is most prevalent among males ages 15-34, making it more

important for men in college to take the necessary steps to check themselves and help prevent testicular cancer through early detection. The ACS also states that "testicular cancer is one of the most curable forms of cancer," making prevention and monthly exams imperative. It is estimated that by the end of 2006, 8,250 new cases of testicular cancer will have been diagnosed and of those men diagnosed, 370 of them

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Photo by Kelly Corrigan / The Pride

Three girls select white pumpkins from Bate's Nut Farm on a sunny Sunday morning in Escondido.

All about pumpkins

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Multicultural Center relocates

Move benefits LGBTQA club

BY JONATHAN THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer

Come November, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Ally club will move their Multicultural Center to the third floor of Craven Hall. The move will benefit LGBTQA, a club made up of 25 students.

Alexis Montevirgen, the Associate Director for Multicultural Programs in the Office of Student Life and Leadership says, "The move will provide for the opening of the Cross Cultural Center which will be

[a] dedicated space that will provide a lounge area for students to meet and congregate, a multicultural library, a computer workstation with internet access, and student staff workspace. In addition, the center will serve as a centralized location for the posting and dissemination of information on upcoming campus cultural events, community resources, and publications related to cross-cultural and multicultural issues."

LGBTQA President Jay Franklin believes the move will provide "fresh air" for

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Students from Tijuana to visit CSUSM

BY KELLY CORRIGAN
Pride Staff Writer

On October 26, college students from Universidad Autonoma De Baja California in Tijuana will visit our campus. Interestingly enough, it was only eight months ago that 50 CSUSM students visited UABC in Tijuana, where they were generously greeted by UABC students

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Cable on campus

TV available on all campus computers

BY LOUIS MAYO
Pride Staff Writer

Do you commute to school and find yourself with nothing to do in between classes? Well, why not watch television! The IT staff of CSUSM has now enabled television viewing on every computer on campus and now students have the option to watch television, whether it be for educational purposes or for pure pleasure. How this works is that the selected channels are being streamed over the Internet to a server that can be accessed by CSUSM students. The process

is quite simple. First, students must enter <http://mcs.csusm.edu> in the address bar of the web browser to get to the log in screen.

Once the webpage has finished loading, students must enter their school user name and password to log into the server. After students have successfully logged into MCS, they are given the ability to choose between two options: "Watch Live Broadcast" or "Browse Video Library." Clicking on "Watch Live Broadcast" will allow students to view a wide assortment of television stations, ranging

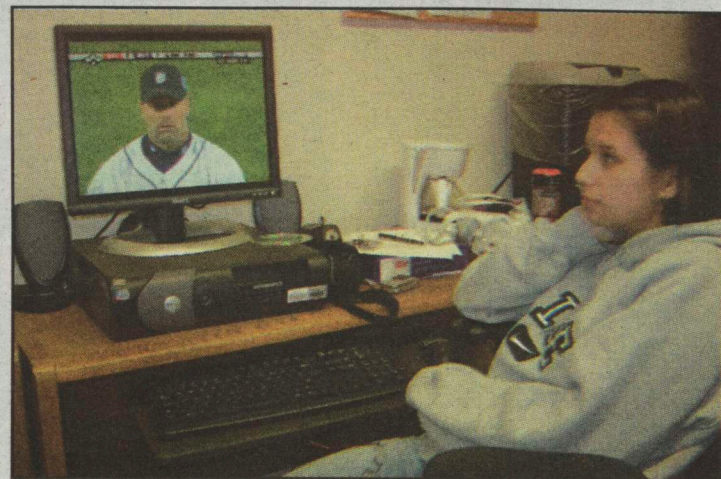


Photo by David Gatley / The Pride

from CNN to MTV.

Currently, there are a total of 16 streamed television channels, including the Cougar informational channel. "Browse Video Library" is an option for students to view saved or recorded

video from an earlier date, as if it were "On-Demand Television." For further assistance, students can contact the campus technology help desk located in

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INSIDE

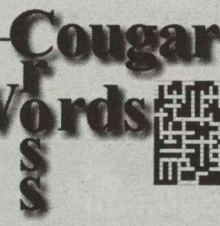


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The CSU system vs. pick-a-prof.com

BY KELLY CORRIGAN
Pride Staff Writer

Pickaprof.com, a student-friendly website that allows students to access the grade history of their professors, recently battled the California State University system in a controversial lawsuit. Founded in 2000, Pickaprof.com began at The University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University. Continuing to spawn interest in undergraduate students since its launch, pickaprof.com currently maintains access to more than 240 schools in the nation, including CSUSM.

Through the free online service our own professors' official grade histories are posted on pickaprof.com. Grade distribution bar graphs show the percentage of each letter grade for the listed professors. Not only can students access their professors' percentages, but students can also read peer reviews submitted by other students and write reviews of their own, much like ratemyprofessor.com. Much of the written reviews posted on these websites contain information regarding the attendance, exams, and teaching styles of professors.

Karen Bragg, the Director of University Relations for pickaprof.com, says: "With so many

valuable tools available in one place, Pick-A-Prof has become a one-stop academic shop for students. Not everyone is happy with this service, however. Some professors worry that students will only focus on professors who give the most A's."

With registration deadlines for the spring semester approaching in November, some CSUSM students may find pickaprof.com a valuable asset in obtaining any information regarding specific professors or courses that might be of interest. When asked about

using the website, senior Brittany Smith says, "It's good in a way because students find out about horrible teachers who don't teach. But it's bad in a way because students choose easier teachers [and] then slip and slide through the system. It's not a level playing field, but when is it ever a level playing field?"

Pickaprof.com also has a new service available on their website. Now, students who access the website can see what classes' friends and peers are taking by clicking on the title of a particu-

lar course. Upon clicking on a particular course, pictures of the friends and peers enrolled will appear on the screen. Generally, the majority of courses offered at most universities are posted on the website.

The founder of pickaprof.com says, "We find that students are underestimated and are using the grades as a way to gauge how to prepare for the class. In general, students are at [a] university for an education and are looking for the professors they'll learn the best from."

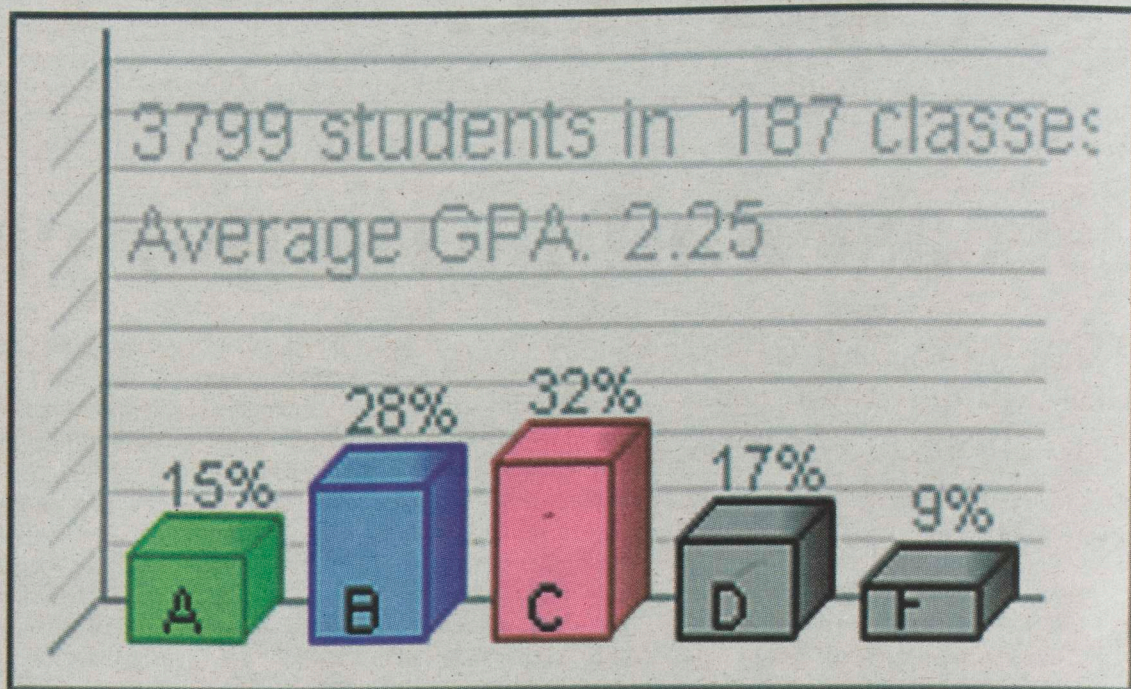


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Domestic violence discussion to be held Wednesday

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

Lori Walsh, a representative from the Center of Community Solutions in Escondido will present an open discussion to CSUSM students on domestic violence on Wednesday. Scheduled to take place during University Hour in Academic Hall, Room 111, the discussion is open to all students and a free lunch will be available to those who attend.

The purpose for the domestic violence forum is to heighten alertness about the impact violence can have in everyone's lives, not just in women's lives. Morgan Hoodenpyle, Programming and Events Coordinator for ASI's Women Center and coordinator of the forum says, "People

don't realize how hard it can be for [victims]—who are in a situation of domestic violence—to speak out. There are so many factors that can tie a person down into a violent situation, like financial restrictions, children, and prior history. Abusers can also isolate a victim, by gaining control of the victim's life and cut them off from other people."

The intention of the discussion is to inform people about the psychological, emotional, and financial barriers that can handicap the victims of domestic violence. Another important point to keep in mind too, is that domestic violence doesn't always translate into physical abuse that results in bruises, cuts, or other visible ramifications. Stalking, harassment, emotional abuse,

and intimidation are also forms of domestic violence. "Around the world, at least one in every three women has been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused during her lifetime," is the statistic printed on the flyer for the domestic violence discussion. "It's a global statistic," Hoodenpyle explains, "and when you think about it, what does that say about our own cultural and global perspective of women? What does it mean? How do we address it? Where do we start to get national efforts to combat violence? Those are all things we hope to address."

For more information about domestic violence or other events sponsored by ASI's Women's Center, visit: <http://www.csusm.edu/asi/womens/>

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Library 2013.

When referring to the MCS program, student John Sang says, "Being able to watch television on campus proves that we are a technologically-based college, and I think

it is a wonderful way to kill time."

Giving students the option to watch television as they wait for their classes to begin can be beneficial for those students who commute to school and have long breaks in between their classes. Watching programs such as the Discovery

channel can simultaneously educate students as it entertains them. Now, the next time students feel lonely with nothing to do, grab a friend and give MCS a try. With MCS readily available to students, this could be a new way to pass time during University Hour.

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offering their time and hospitality.

Arriving by bus this upcoming Thursday around 8:30 a.m., the UABC students will enter campus just in time to attend scheduled 9:00 a.m. classes. Each UABC student will have the opportunity to select and attend a lecture after having chosen from an array of courses currently in session. Professors who teach classes from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. and from 10:30 to 11:45 were asked by administrative personnel and UABC correspondents if they had available seats and would be willing to have visiting students in their classroom. An estimated 34 professors responded to the request,

giving UABC students a wide variety of classes to choose from. Nearly 15 CSUSM students have already signed up to join the UABC students throughout the day's events that include classes, lunch, and community service. There are currently five more spaces open for CSUSM students to volunteer to work alongside the UABC students.

Along with participating students, President Haynes, Dr. Peter Zwick (Director of University Global Affairs), and Dr. Vivienne Bennett (Interim Director of the Center for Border and Regional Affairs) will welcome UABC students as they join for lunch in front of Kellogg Library during University Hour.

After lunch, UABC students and

volunteer CSUSM students will then caravan to Escondido where they will work together with Escondido Interfaith to refurbish low-income housing.

According to Darci Strother, the Director of the Office of Community Service Learning, "Both the UABC and CSUSM share a commitment to community service as part of our institutions' missions." Through the kind efforts offered by UABC and CSUSM students, our university will fulfill that goal, as well as UABC, as every UABC student in Tijuana must fulfill a community service requirement in order to graduate. This will be a wonderful opportunity for students to work together for the wellbeing of others.

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will die from it. In a man's lifetime, the odds of getting testicular cancer are about 1/300, and the survival rate after treatment is currently at 96%, states the ACS.

According to the National Cancer Association, men are not only at risk for testicular cancer, but as most people aren't aware, men can also be at risk for breast cancer. Women, however, are largely at a much higher risk for breast cancer; 211,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer last year, and over 43,000 women died from breast cancer last year as well. Comparatively, roughly 1,600 men were diagnosed with breast cancer in the U.S. in 2005, and 400 of those diagnosed lost their lives to it.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer found in women and currently makes up 1/3 of the cancers diagnosed in U.S. women. In contrast, whereas testicular cancer is more common in younger men,

the risk for breast cancer in women increases with age. The NCA declares that one in eight women will be affected by breast cancer in their lifetime. On the NCA website, ages and corresponding percentages of breast cancer incidence within the subsequent ten years of a woman's life are listed. For example, a woman who is 20 years old has a 1/1,985 chance; a 30-year-old woman has a 1/229 chance; a 40-year-old woman has a 1/68 chance; a 50-year-old woman has a 1/37 chance; a 60 year old woman has a 1/26 chance; and a 70-year-old woman has a 1/24 chance.

Hoodenpyle later added, "For both breast and testicular cancer self-examinations, there are easy steps and easy things everyone can do to help protect themselves, empower themselves and empower others by making information and knowledge available."

For more information on breast and testicular cancer, visit: <http://www.cancer.org>

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the Multicultural Center. "The new space will be significantly larger than the current space in Craven Hall 4110," Montevirgen adds. Yesterday during University Hour, LGBTA presented the "What is an Ally?" workshop which aimed to inform students of what an "ally" is and what an "ally" is not. Franklin says that the event "define[d] what an ally is and what an ally is not. Other than learning what an ally is, [students are] challenged to follow through with this knowledge and lend support [and] assist minimal power-powerless individuals, groups or organizations."

"Joining the LGBTA is easy," Franklin says. "Coming to a meeting or joining our list are the first steps. How involved with LGBTA [one wants to get] is totally dependent on that individual."

Police Beat

POLICE BEAT

Domestic Violence:

On October 1, in the Starbucks on campus, a male student grabbed his former girlfriend's hair and head and forced a kiss. The suspect was not arrested because there wasn't an officer at the scene. Campus Police filed a complaint with the district attorney.

On October 16, a female student living in the UVA assaulted her boyfriend. She was called in for an interview and was then arrested by Campus Police for battery, and booked into county jail.

Alcohol Poisoning:

On September 30, a student was transferred by South San Marcos Paramedics from the UVA parking lot to Palomar hospital for alcohol poisoning.

Drunk In Public:

On October 6 at 10 p.m., two male students living in UVA were found to be drunk in public. When questioned, the students who were covered in fire hydrant powder denied having played with any such fire hydrant. Campus Police booked the two in Vista Detention Center.

Driving Under the Influence:

On October 7 at about 1:30 a.m., a female student received a DUI for drunk driving on the 300 block of Twin Oaks Valley Road and for driving South on Barham Road in the North bound lane.

Vandalism:

On October 19 in parking lots O and N, one or more persons defaced parking lot signs and other objects with spray paint. Defaced signs included a no skateboarding sign and a stop sign. Trash cans and a parking ticket distributor were also spray painted. The initials in spray paint read PWK. Campus Police encourages students to come forward if they have any information regarding this issue.

Burglary:

On September 28 in parking lot B, a student damaged a door to a car in his attempt to steal a parking permit.

Any information on any of the ongoing investigations should be reported to campus police at 760-750-4567 or by emailing Lt. Miller at dmiller@csusm.edu

Mastering Graduate school admission

BY DAVID BAUER
Pride Staff Writer

Graduate school sounds intimidating...a complicated form of higher education with the goal of a Masters Degree or Doctorate; full of theses, GRE scores, and various classifications of students. However, in sifting through the mass of information on CSUSM's website, prospective graduate students will be able to successfully navigate this demanding course of education.

This upper echelon of education is only available to those who have completed a four-year education and received an appropriate Bachelor's Degree. Prospective students must also have a grade point average of at least 2.5 and be in good academic standing with the last university they attended. Some programs require GRE

scores. The GRE could be considered the SAT for graduating college students, if you will. The requirements are in the student's best interest, ensuring that they are prepared for the rigors of a graduate program.

Students who are admitted to CSUSM's graduate program would be placed in one of four different graduate student classifications. Graduate Classified students are those who have met all requirements. A student who has not met all requirements may still be admitted as a Graduate Conditionally Accepted. Those seeking to enroll in a credential or certificate program would be admitted as a Post-baccalaureate Classified student. Individuals who wish to take classes for professional or personal growth would be classified as Post-baccalaureate Unclassified, and these

students would be last priority in regards to class enrollment.

CSUSM offers a variety of graduate programs. In the College of Arts and Sciences, students can earn a Masters of Science in biology, computer science and mathematics, and a Master of Arts in Literature and Writing Studies, Psychology, Sociological Practice, and Spanish. In the College of Business Administration, scholars can earn a Masters of Business Administration (MBA). CSUSM's College of Education offers a Master of Arts in Education, and a Doctorate in Education in Educational Leadership. As stated on the graduate studies website, "A master's degree from CSU San Marcos prepares students for academic careers in higher education, including continued study at the doctoral level; or for

advanced positions in business, industry, and the public sector"

Every student, upon completion of their graduate studies, is required to complete a thesis, project, or a comprehensive examination. After approval, a thesis is bound and made available to other students in Kellogg Library. The process of this final project is extremely intense, and must adhere to strict guidelines in order to be approved.

Graduate studies, a course of action so rigorous and intense, is best for those who are incredibly dedicated to their education, and wish to reach the highest levels of education. These programs aim to offer a well rounded education in one subject that will provide students with the knowledge and experience they need to successfully utilize their well-earned degree.

Tips for a caffeinated and secluded study session

BY JONATHAN THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer

Midterms have taken hold of the CSUSM campus this semester, capturing unsuspecting students with their mighty grip and demanding ways. If midterms have you in their grasp, do not fret my fellow Cougars, The Pride is here to rescue you from those sleepless nights filled with notes, reading, gallons of coffee, and cases of soda.

First off, it's important for students to know that there are other fuel options for optimal studying that are located off-

campus. Directly across the street from campus is Ralph's and Long's Drug Store. Both of these retail stores offer plenty of tasty snacks and thirst-quenching drinks.

However, for those who need 24-hour access to snacks on campus, there are a variety of vending machines located all over. For about \$2.50 you can get a slice of warm pizza, an egg and sausage sandwich, or Buffalo wings through the Kraft Carry Out vending machine located next to the University Store. If you have food that requires warming up, there are three microwaves located inside the Dome that

are freely available day or night.

Next to the Kraft vending is also a Pepsi vending machine that offers potent caffeine liquids such as the 9.5 fluid ounce Starbucks Frappacino for \$2 and the 16 ounce Amp energy drinks for \$1.25. If it's hot coffee that's calling your name and Starbucks just won't do, stop by the Java Port vending machine across from the ASI office. There, you'll have many flavorful coffee options, ranging from Swiss Chocolate to French Vanilla, for just \$1.25. Close by are also two Red Bull vending machines. One is located to the north of the main entrance to Markstein Hall, and the second is located inside the Dome. The 8.3 ounce can of Red Bull available at the vending machine, however, goes for \$3. Consequently, Red Bull's steep price often sends me to the Coke vending machine inside the Dome that has 16 ounce Rockstar energy drinks for only \$2. A small army of Coke vending machines guard the campus at almost every turn. They offer sodas or sports drinks like PowerAde that are only \$1. You can not beat this price anywhere, so I often pick up two before a study session.

Additionally, there are numerous locations on campus to pick up food and beverages to keep your stomach satisfied and your brain focused for those dreaded study sessions. The number one location on campus to help you stay awake is Starbucks. Starbucks closes at 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 2 p.m. on Friday.

Other places to take up for food, beverages, and other items are The Dome, Cougar Corner, the Campus Coffee Cart, and the University Store. The Dome closes at 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 1 p.m. on Fridays. Cougar Corner closes at 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 3 p.m. on Fridays, and 1 p.m. on Saturdays. The Campus Coffee cart generally closes at 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and is open Friday as well. The University Store closes at 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 3 p.m. on Fridays.

"The Dome is my second home," says Psychology major, Jessica Haugen. The Dome itself closes early, but the area inside the Dome with several dozens chairs and tables, is open late.

Now that you know where to go for eats and drinks, you should know where to go to study the night away.

The number one location on CSUSM to study is Kellogg Library. The library contains a plethora of study locations. With couches and a fireplace, the Reading Room on the fifth floor of the library is the coziest spot on campus to snuggle up with your notes.

If you are a math or physics student and need to work out lengthy problems, then the small study rooms on the fourth and fifth floors of Kellogg are for you. Here you can find outlets to hook up your laptop and listen to your favorite music as you work through your problem on a private whiteboard. If you choose to study in these rooms, make sure to bring some white board markers and erasers since the library does not provide them.

If you find the quietness of the Reading Room or the Study Rooms oppressive, then you can find study desks dotting the second, third, forth, and fifth floors. These desks are solid and provide a large space for you to sprawl out to really get into those books.

If you are the kind of person who enjoys more comfort when studying, then there are still a few spots left for you to relax. The second and fourth floors of the library provide soft-cushioned chairs that you can use for lounging, reading, or even napping if needed.

If your study needs involve a computer, then there are more than enough spots on campus for you to connect. The second and third floors of the library provide large open computer labs with both Macintosh and PC computers. There are also copy machines and printers ready for use on stand by. Another computer lab that I find myself often going to first is the open computer lab on the second floor of Academic Hall.

If you enjoy studying outside, then there are plenty of spots around campus to soak in lengthy texts while enjoying the fresh air. There is a large open area with chairs and tables in front of Markstein Hall. Just below this area is Palm Court which is lined with wide benches for those occasional group study sessions.

Moreover, there are a few tables on the side of the Foundation Classroom Building that offers plenty of shade for a peaceful place to study in the afternoon. There are also a gathering of benches on the north side of Science Hall. This location is only good for quick study sessions due to the traffic of students near by when classes end.

Finally, on the second floor of Science Hall II lies Conference Room 208. This room has approximately 10 office style cozy chairs that roll and surround a large table. The room also contains a large white board that is generally accompanied with white board markers and erasers.

So, whether it's Biology or Film History that you're trying to cram for this week, hopefully these tips find you and your studies well-caffeinated, and well-prepared.

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Women's Golf Takes 19th at Aztec Fall Classic; Ludwig Top Finisher

Women's Golf Takes 19th at Aztec Fall Classic; Ludwig Top Finisher

Competing in a field that featured some NCAA Division-I squads, the CSUSM women's golf team struggled at the Aztec Fall Classic, finishing 19th out of 19 teams. Carly Ludwig was the top Cougar finisher, taking 86th.

Coming off a win in its first competition of the fall, Tuesday's finish was a bit of a letdown for the team. On the difficult par-72 6,259-yard course at Chula Vista Golf Club, no Cougar was able to break 80 during the two rounds of competition.

Carly Ludwig led the squad in both rounds, shooting 83 on Monday followed by an 81 on Tuesday. Jennell French followed up a first-round 88 with an 82, good for second on the Cougars and 105th overall. Behind her were Danielle Pearce (84-87), Adriana Bowman (85-86), and Ellyse Siu (91-86).

The University of Denver, whose squad posted an impressive two-day team score of 582, won the event. BYU finished seven shots back for second, and U.C. Irvine took third with a score of 596. CSUSM's final score was 675.

Women's Soccer able to hold onto lead, defeating La Sierra 3-2



Photo By Jason Encabo / Pride File Photo

Women's Soccer Able to Hold Onto Lead, Defeats La Sierra 3-2

Reversing what has become a painful trend over the last month, the CSUSM women's soccer team (4-8-1) was able to successfully close out La Sierra on Wednesday, edging out a 3-2 victory. The win snaps a two-game losing streak.

It was the Cougars' second victory over La Sierra this season, both of which have come by 3-2 scores. On the season, CSUSM has struggled in one-goal games, losing five of six of such matches before Wednesday.

But the team has persevered, and is finally being rewarded for its hard work and effort. At La Sierra, the Cougars came out on fire, getting on the scoreboard in the second minute. Miquella Martinez, who played a terrific game overall, crossed a ball to Randi Leyva. Leyva was able to strike the ball out of mid-air, knocking it into the lower-right corner.

With a 1-0 lead, the squad went into a bit of a lull, and La Sierra capitalized. They equalized the score in the 22nd minute when Shelley Bun hit a corner kick to Starlena Murray, and Murray was able to finish. The 1-1 score would hold up through halftime.

After halftime, the Cougars would regain the spirit they had early in the game. In the 64th minute, Miquella Martinez once again set up a teammate, this time Kelly Wherry. Martinez played a ball across the top of the box, Wherry controlled it, and drove it into the upper right corner of the net.

Seven minutes later, the Cougars pushed the lead to 3-1. Clarissa Hidalgo made one of her trademark runs through the defense, and was able to beat the keeper with a strong finish.

Though the squad was able to hold on for the win, it would not come as easily as Coach Ron Pulvers would have liked. With one minute left, Shelley Bun brought La Sierra back within one, and the possibility of another late-game disappointment was suddenly evident. However, CSUSM was able to hang on, winning the game 3-2 for their fourth win of the season.

In what was an all-around strong effort, both the back and front lines had strong games. The Cougars will try to keep the momentum going when they face off against Chapman University on Friday. The game will be played at Mangrum Field at 2:00 p.m., so come on out and support your Cougars!

Men's soccer posts convincing 6-0 win over La Sierra; Defense back on track

Men's Soccer Posts Convincing 6-0 Win Over La Sierra; Defense Back on Track

Mike Nuovo's two goals propelled the Cougar men's soccer team (11-3) to a convincing 6-0 win at La Sierra University on Wednesday. Earlier this month, CSUSM defeated La Sierra by a score of 4-0.

Almost as important as the win itself was the fact that the squad's defense regained its form. In its first eleven games, the Cougars limited opponents to just seven goals. But in a weekend road trip against U.C. Santa Cruz and Menlo, the defense faltered, allowing seven goals in just the two games.

Wednesday's match was the first since those games, and the defense bounced back better than ever, as did keeper Trent Painter. The offense was awfully good too, with forwards Curtis Marcikic and Mike Nuovo playing dynamic games. The Cougars controlled every phase of the match, out-shooting La Sierra

by a staggering total of 29-3, and earning ten corner kicks to their opponent's zero.

The Cougar scoring came early and often. Off the opening kickoff, Curtis Marcikic split the defense for a one-on-one with the keeper, but was unable to convert. At the one-minute mark, Miguel Jacobo penetrated the defense, and struck a cross in front of the goal. A La Sierra defender tried to head it aside, but redirected it into his net for an own goal.

But the Cougars wouldn't need that kind of luck on Wednesday. In the 11th minute, Curtis Marcikic slid a pass to Mike Nuovo behind the defense, and Nuovo was able to slip it under the keeper. Just two minutes later, the same duo teamed up for another goal, with Marcikic once again finding Nuovo behind the defense.

Three minutes after that, the Cougars earned a free kick in La Sierra territory. Chris Wyatt surprised his opponents by taking the kick quickly, and finding defender Ben Crouse making a

run. Crouse was able to tuck his shot into the bottom corner of the net.

At the 43-minute mark, CSUSM would push its lead to 5-0. Miguel Jacobo hit a cross that found Brandon Zuniga, who made a nifty redirection towards the goal. The keeper would make the save, but Daniel Vasquez was there to clean up the rebound.

The scoring was capped off in the 70th minute when Bradley Seidenglanz collected a loose ball, made a run through the defense, and beat the keeper. The 7-0 final score matches the squad's biggest margin of victory, which came in the September 7th win over San Diego Christian College.

Next up for the Cougars is a home game against Chapman University on Friday, October 20. All fans are welcome to head down to Mangrum Field to cheer on their Cougars in the last home match of their inaugural season! Kickoff is at 4:00 p.m., with the women's team playing at 2:00 p.m.



Photo By David Gatley / Pride File Photo

Men's Cross Country takes 2nd, women place 4th at Fullerton; Mejia breezes to another win

Men's Cross Country Takes 2nd, Women 4th at Fullerton; Mejia Breezes to Another Win

At the Fullerton Invite on Friday, the CSUSM men's and women's cross-country teams looked sharp, finishing 2nd and 4th, respectively. Cougar Juan Mejia won the men's event easily, while Bonghabih Shey led the women's squad with a 9th place finish.

The event marks Mejia's second consecutive win. Last week at Vanguard, he crossed the tape 48 seconds before the any other runner in the field. This time around, Mejia had 33 seconds to catch his breath before the second place finisher arrived. Mejia's 25:49 is in line with his times at other events this year, and his potential at regionals and nationals is off-the-charts.

Mejia wasn't the only Cougar who looked great in the team's final tune-up before Nationals. With the squad's usual #2 runner Phil Hoffman finishing

31st, sophomore Mike Crouch picked up the slack in a big way. His time of 26:25 was good for fourth-place, and a mere 3 seconds behind second.

Crouch was one of eleven runners who finished within 33 seconds of second-place - making Mejia's margin of victory all the more impressive.

On the women's side, Bonghabih Shey continued her string of strong finishes, taking 9th place with a time of 18:39. It was the second time that Shey, already an accomplished track athlete, led the cross-country team this fall.

Whitney Patton, who has led the squad in the events Shey hasn't, took 18th. Olympia Olguin backed up a strong 19th-place finish at Vanguard by taking 27th on Friday. She's been a pleasant surprise this year for Coach Steve Scott, and has improved tremendously since

last year.

Overall, the Cougar women finished with a time of 1:35:05, good for fourth place. Cal Coast TC won the women's 5k event by running 1:30:45, and UC Santa Barbara finished second. Santa Barbara won the men's 8k event with a total time of 2:13:36, 36 seconds better than the second-place Cougars. CSUSM results are below, with the runners' places calculated for team-scoring purposes (meaning they don't include independent runners).

Top 5 Cougar Men

1 Juan Mejia 25:49.00
3 Mike Crouch 26:25.00
16 Thomas Thys 27:12.00
17 Oswaldo Alvarez 27:15.00
21 Leo Elorza 27:31.00

Top 5 Cougar Women

8 Bonghabih Shey 18:39.00
16 Whitney Patton 18:49.00
23 Olympia Olguin 19:06.00
29 Kirsten Simek 19:15.00
30 Morgan Sjogren 19:16.00

All about pumpkins

The origins of pumpkins

BY KELLY CORRIGAN
Pride Staff Writer

"Pepon" is the Greek word for pumpkin, meaning large melon. The French changed the word "pepon" to "pompon," and shortly thereafter the English changed "pompon" to "pumpion." American colonists then changed the word "pumpion" to pumpkin, and meanwhile, Native Americans referred to it as isqoutm.

Many believe that pumpkins originated in North America and seeds of similar plants

have been found in Mexico dating all the way back to 7000 B.C.

In order to make mats, Native Americans weaved dried slices of pumpkin together. Pumpkin was actually a staple in their diet, as they also roasted long strips of it over an open fire. The origin of pumpkin pie is thought to have come from the colonists when they would slice the pumpkin top off then fill it with milk, spices and honey after removing the seeds. Afterward, they would bake it over a mellow fire.

But the pumpkins we know today with

carved faces of irate or joyful expressions, toothless or fanged, with fire glaring from within, have been brought to us by the Irish.

The Halloween we celebrate dates back at least 3,000 years ago to the Celtic celebration of Samhain which is pronounced Sow-ain. The Samhain festival celebrated "Summer's End" and took place on October 31. It was during this time of the year that the Celtic people felt that the souls of the dead were closest to this world and that it was the best time to contact them in order

to send a plea for assistance or to give their final farewells.

Carved gourds or turnips were placed in windows and on porches in order to welcome deceased loved ones and to also protect against malevolent spirits. This original Jack O'Lantern was lit up inside with lumps of coal. When the Irish settlers landed in America they were especially pleased to find large pumpkins at a cheap price to carve for their festivities. In the 1800s, Halloween finally caught on in the States and became widely celebrated.

Drink of the week: Pumpkin Pie

BY SOPHIE BRINK
Pride Staff Writer

As Halloween grows near, there is a certain squash that gains prominence in the hearts and minds of children and adults alike. Bright orange in hue, this round wonder is found stacked en masse in bins, spread across patches, glowing upon front steps, and starring in slasher stories in kitchens across the country. A marvelous member of the Cucurbita family, which includes squash and cucumbers, the pump-

kin is truly a marvel of nature. Not only are they rich in potassium and Vitamin A, but pumpkins were once praised for their power to remove freckles and cure snake bites. Native Americans would use the seeds of the pumpkin, which they called "isqoutm squash," for food and medicine.

Among the hundreds of recipes that call for pumpkin – soups, breads, and pies galore – some enterprising pumpkin aficionado created the Pumpkin Pie cocktail so that pumpkin-lovers everywhere could drink in the medicinal benefits of their favor-

ite squash.

Like the baked good of the same name, the Pumpkin Pie cocktail can be made using various recipes. My favorite combines 2 parts Vanilla-infused vodka (I like Absolut Vanilla), 1 part pumpkin liqueur, a splash of cream, and a sprinkle of nutmeg. All ingredients should be shaken in a cocktail shaker with ice and strained into a martini glass rimmed with nutmeg or pumpkin pie spice.

Unfortunately, the primary purveyor of pumpkin spirits, Bols, has apparently dis-

continued their Pumpkin Smash liqueur, so I was left to my own devices this year to come up with a suitable replacement.

Thanks be to the Great Pumpkin that Torani makes a delectable Pumpkin Spice syrup; otherwise I would be sadly bereft of one of my favorite holiday beverages.

A warming combination of spicy flavor and creamy texture, the Pumpkin Pie will make your Halloween festivities just a bit brighter.

Halloween Pumpkin Recipes

Caramelized Pumpkin Seeds
Recipe courtesy of Sandra Lee, FoodNetwork.com

½ cup butterscotch caramel sauce
1 cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon extract
½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
3 cups pumpkin seeds, roasted
1 cup almonds, crushed

Lightly coat baking sheet with cooking spray and set aside.

In a large skillet, slowly melt the caramel sauce and sugar. When melted stir in cinnamon extract and cayenne. Continue cooking until mixture reaches a temperature of 310 degrees Fahrenheit. Stir in pumpkin seeds until completely coated. Spread caramelized seeds onto the baking sheet and sprinkle with crushed almonds. Separate seeds with wooden spoon until cooked.

Pumpkin Muffins or Bread
Recipe courtesy of Bates Nut Farm

1 large can pumpkin
6 eggs
1 ¼ cups oil
4 cups sugar
3 teaspoons baking soda
¾ teaspoons baking powder
2 teaspoons salt
1 ½ teaspoon each cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves
5 cups flour
1 ½ cups walnuts
1 cup golden raisins

Mix all ingredients together. Bake muffins in a 325 degrees Fahrenheit oven for 15 minutes; or in a 400 degrees Fahrenheit oven for five minutes; or place in three loaf pans and bake at 325 degrees Fahrenheit for 1 ½ hours.

Pumpkin Smoothie
Recipe courtesy of wikiHow.com

1 Sugar Pumpkin
½ cup milk or cream
½ cup apple cider
1 teaspoon cinnamon
2 tablespoons sugar
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Cut off the top of the sugar pumpkin and scoop out all of the seeds, leaving the inside completely clean. Cut off the outer orange skin and cut the remaining shell into cubes. Boil the cubes of pumpkin meat in hot water until they are soft. Then combine them in a blender with the milk, apple cider, and other spices. Once blended, it's ready to drink. To add more flavor and spice to the smoothie: try drinking it hot or cold, topped with whipped cream; mix it with coffee; or split the mixture with 6 ounces pumpkin smoothie with 4 ounces spiced rum for a delightful and festive treat.

Roasted Pumpkin Seeds
Recipe courtesy of fabulousfoods.com

1 ½ cups pumpkin seeds
2 teaspoons melted butter or oil (olive or vegetable)
salt to taste
Options to taste:
garlic powder
cayenne powder
seasoning salt

Preheat oven to 300 degrees Fahrenheit. Clean off any major pulp chunks attached to the pumpkin seeds. Toss pumpkin seeds in a bowl with the melted butter or oil and seasonings of your choice. Spread pumpkin seeds in a single layer on a baking sheet. Bake for roughly 45 minutes, stirring occasionally, or until golden brown.

Pumpkin Pie
Recipe courtesy of pumpkinnook.com

1 ½ cups cooked, strained pumpkin (or canned)
2/3 cup sugar
¼ cup brown sugar
1 ½ cups evaporated skim milk
3 eggs
¾ teaspoon cinnamon
1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
¼ teaspoon grated orange peel
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
¼ teaspoon salt
1 unbaked pie shell

Preheat oven to 425 degrees Fahrenheit. Mix pumpkin, sugars, orange peel and spices in a large bowl. Add evaporated milk and eggs. Mix all ingredients well. Pour pumpkin filling into pie shell. Bake at 450 degrees Fahrenheit for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake at 45 minutes more. Tip: Add two tablespoons bourbon for Bourbon Pumpkin Pie.



Pumpkin Apple Juice
Recipe courtesy of pumpkinnook.com

1 medium sized pumpkin
1 quart apple juice
nutmeg and honey

Slice pumpkin in half, scrape and remove pulp with a big spoon. Place pumpkin halves, cut side down on a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for approximately 30 minutes until soft. Let cool. Remove pumpkin pulp out of shell. Cut pulp into chunks and put it through a juicer or wrap pumpkin in a in a cheesecloth and squeeze. Add apple juice. Make sure consistency is thin and juice-like (like orange juice). Add a dash of nutmeg. Add one to two table spoons of honey, stirring thoroughly. Sample juice, add more honey if it is not sweet enough.

OCTOBER 24-30

Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat Sun Mon

24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>"Wonder Of The World," (Arts 111 8p.m. 10/27-28, 11/3-4, \$5 students)</p> <p>National Latino Research Center annual reception (Library 5th floor Reading Room 4-6p.m.)</p> <p>Physical Therapy Informational Meeting (Markstein Hall 102 12-1p.m.)</p>	<p>CoBA Information Forum (Markstein Hall 125, 12-1p.m.)</p> <p>Achieving Peak Performance for Athletes an intro to Sports Psychology (CFH Room 113)</p> 	<p>International coffee hour (Commons 206 12 pm - 1:30 pm)</p> <p>Community and World Literary Series Reading: Linh Dinh (CFH 113 7p.m.)</p> <p>Jimmy Buffett (Coors Amphitheatre, 8p.m. \$36-\$126)</p> <p>KMFDM, Combi Christ, Abby Travis (House of Blues 8 p.m. \$22-\$25)</p>	<p>Foster Youth Services and CSUSM present College Connection Day (8:30-1:30 p.m.)</p> <p>Trace by Teri Rueb. An interactive GPS-based sound installation / public lecture, (Arts 111 9-12p.m.)</p>	<p>Wynton Marsalis (Center for the Arts Escondido, 8p.m. \$47-\$65)</p> <p>Native American Circle of Harmony Benefit Concert (Poway Center for the Arts 7-10p.m. \$25-\$100)</p> <p>Average White Band (Viejas Casino 8p.m. \$30)</p>	<p>Gin Blossoms, (Belly Up Tavern 8p.m. \$28-\$30)</p> <p>Tricky (House of Blues, 8p.m. \$27-\$32)</p> <p>Skelpin Celtic-Iberian folk music (Carlsbad City Library 2 p.m.)</p> 	<p>Pumpkin Decorating/Carving Contest, (CFH 8-9a.m., Judging begins 9:30 a.m.)</p> <p>"Boy Gets Girl" a suspense thriller,(Carlsbad City Library 7:30p.m. \$1)</p> <p>Moscow Nights: Russian folk music trio (Escondido Center for the Arts, 7:30p.m., \$15)</p>

Halloween adventures for cougars

BY JONATHAN THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer

Del Mar Scare Grounds: The Haunted Hayride, House of Horror, and Chamber of Chills are the main attractions that are collectively called The Scream Zone. The event is held at the Del Mar Fair Grounds and is geared toward teen and adult audiences. Ghouls and goblins are guaranteed to scare guests around every corner as they venture through

the attractions. Prices range from \$13.99 for one event, \$17.99 for two, and \$27.99 for all three. For more information on this event, please visit <http://www.sdfair.com/screamzone>

The Monster Manor and Lite Frite: Monster Manor and Lite Frite are two separate events. The Monster Manor is held during in the evening and invites guests through a haunted Manor excursion.

sion. Lite Frite on the other hand, is held midday and is less scary. The Monster Manor costs \$10 and Lite Frite costs \$5. These two events are located in San Diego. For more information, please visit <http://www.monstermanor.org/>

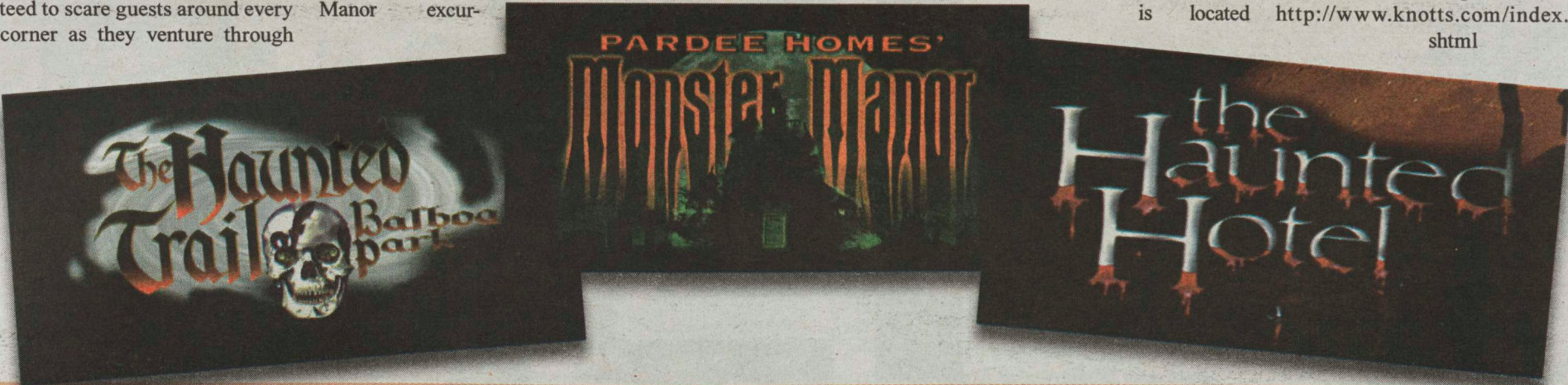
The Haunted Trail: The Haunted Trail is an outside scare attraction. Held in Balboa Park, the experience takes guests on a

walk through the park where they will encounter mysterious sounds and spooky creatures. Tickets are \$13.99. For more information, please visit <http://www.hauntedtrail.net/>

The Haunted Hotel: In this hotel guests experience the real life aspects from the thrillers "Hostel," "Saw II," "Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2," and "House of 1000 Corpses." The event is located

in Gaslamp Quarter. Tickets are \$13.99 at the door if you dare. For more information, please visit <http://www.hauntedhotel.com/>

Knott's Scary Farm: At Knott's guests will be scared by professional monsters roaming through the park. The park is converted into a Halloween underworld. Knott's is located in Buena Park. Tickets are \$49 at the door. For more information, please visit <http://www.knotts.com/index.shtml>



Where to get pumpkins

Bates Nut Farm's Pumpkin Patch
through Oct. 31, 2006 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
15954 Woods Valley Road, Valley Center (760) 749-3333
Jack O'Lantern Pumpkins, tractor hayrides, straw maze, petting corral, pony rides, mule-drawn hayrides & tour and more.

Del Mar Fairgrounds Pumpkin Central
through Oct. 31, 2006 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
1555 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar Fairgrounds (888) 302-8733
Carnival rides, games, snacks and a

petting zoo round out the fun. The Halloween Carnival, 6 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 31, kids' costume contest and safe trick-or-treating.

Mountain Valley Ranch
Daily in October, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
842 Highway 78, Ramona (760) 788-8703
Hayrides, farm animals and pick-your-own-pumpkins.

Pinery Pumpkin Patch Tours
through Oct. 31, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Rancho Bernardo, 13421 Highland

Valley Road
Daily in October, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Bonita, 5437 Bonita Road (858) 566-7466
Offers a farm tour in which kids get a pumpkin (up to \$4 value), coloring book, tractor-pulled hayride, walk through a 8-ft living high corn maze, bottled water, and access to farm animals.

Pumpkin Station
Daily in October
Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. -9 p.m.; Friday-Sunday 9 a.m. -9 p.m.
Westfield Shopping Town, Mission

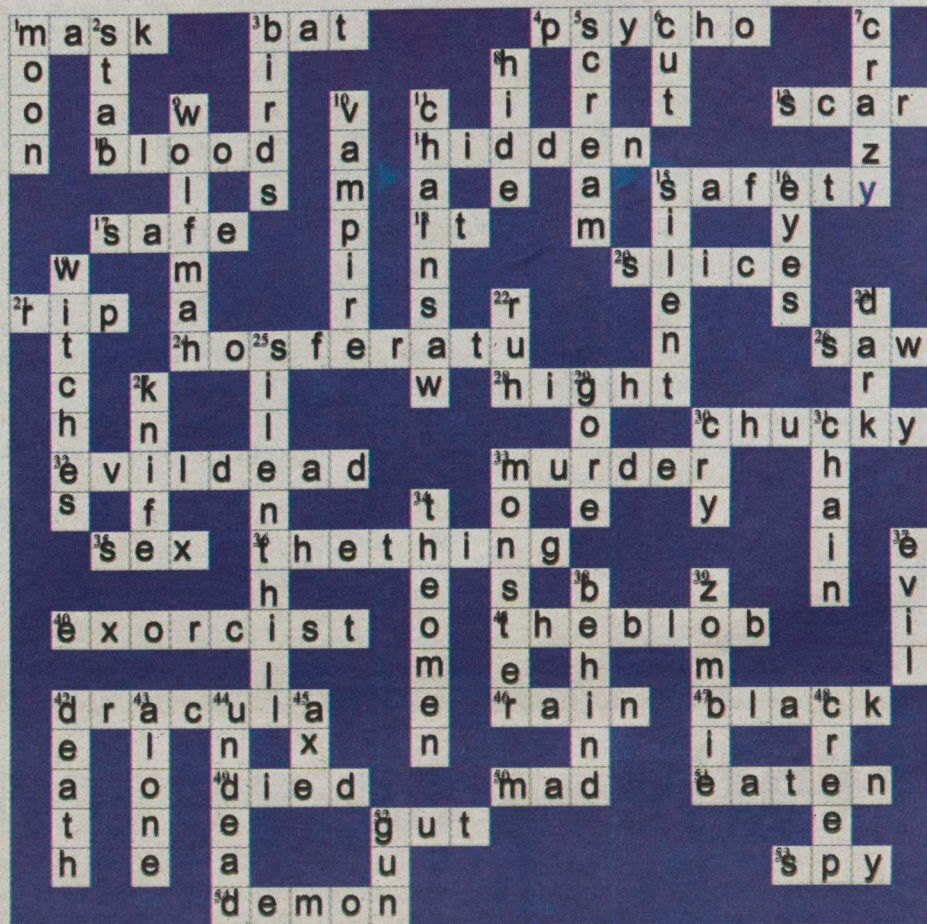
Valley
1640 Camino Del Rio North at Mission Center Road (858) 566-7466

Roadrunner Country Corner
Daily in October, noon-6 p.m.
Highway 78 and San Pasqual Road, Escondido (760) 746-8822
Pick your own from the patch at this family-owned farm then stop and visit the banyard animals at the petting corral. Walk through the Children's Maze (made out of corn and bamboo) and bring your own brown bag lunch for the picnic area.

Cougar r Words SS

Courtesy of The Pride

Last week's key:



"Saved by the Bell"

ACROSS

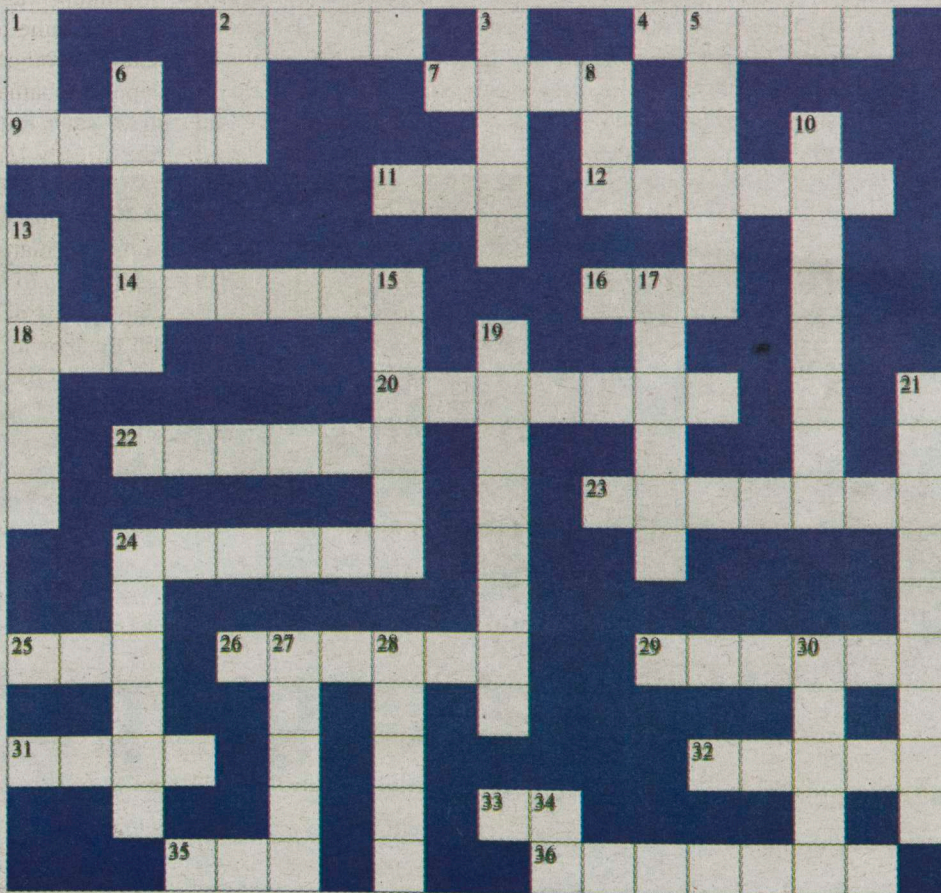
- 2 Name of Jessie's evil step brother
- 4 Screech's sport of sorts
- 7 Fashion queen at Bayside
- 9 Animal Zack saved from the football field oil spill
- 11 Jessie's score on a test
- 12 Local hangout for the gang outside of class
- 14 Living birthday present Screech gives to Lisa
- 16 One of the major networks to air the TV series
- 18 One of the Major networks to air the TV series
- 20 Principal _____
- 22 Curly haired super scholar and activist
- 23 Home to the Tigers
- 24 Screech's girlfriend
- 25 University featured in the "college years"
- 26 Bulkied up jock on campus
- 29 Bayside's mascot
- 31 singing club Zack joins
- 32 Name of Screech's robot
- 33 How Belding speaks to the school
- 35 "____ Hey! Hey! What is going on here?!"
- 36 Last name of beach club owners

DOWN

- 1 Jessie's pet-name for Slater
- 2 Home-built robot accidentally punches Screech in the _____
- 3 Slater's predecessor in middle school
- 5 class where the gang learns to bake cakes
- 6 Zack's last name
- 8 Screech's farm of

- 10 sorts
- 10 Last name of Zack's love interest
- 13 Auto shop teacher
- 15 First name of AC Slater
- 17 Belding's pruning hobby
- 19 Middle name of AC Slater
- 21 Screech's acronym for remembering the planetary order

- 24 Bayside's rival school
- 27 Heathrob College Professor
- 28 Zack's blonde love interest in college
- 30 _____ statue broken at Screech's house
- 34 Slater's initials



Jock Talk With Josh: The NFL

BY JOSH SANDOVAL
Pride Sports Writer



Far be it from me to tell some multi-billion dollar industries how to run

their organizations, but there are a few things that the NBA and MLB have been doing recently, which just don't make sense to me.

Every professional sports organization wants to be like the NFL. That league is the highest rated sports organization in revenue, television ratings, and in any other competition that rates popularity. They have a good product and don't over-saturate the market with it, since games are generally only played on two of the seven days

in a week. When one of the players in the league has an on-field or off-field incident, he is disciplined immediately and severely. Just ask Koren Robinson with his substance abuse problems or Albert Haynesworth with his rage issues. The NFL also knows who they are selling to; men of all ages.

MLB, on the other hand, is clueless. This organization complains that their popularity is dropping every year. I have one reason why that is happening. They are marketing to the wrong audience. MLB is so old school. MLB is kind of like someone from the elder persuasion who is so set in their ways that it is impossible to change their perspective. MLB is like that with how they advertise their product. They are advertising to a market that they already have.

Take the Tommy Lasorda cam-

paign that has been running on television during the playoffs. MLB has put all of their advertising money for the playoffs into the lap of an 80-year-old white guy. The only people who know Lasorda are die-hard baseball fans, and MLB already has that person coming to the ballpark. If MLB wants to regain any popularity that it once had, it needs to use its money on someone that can appeal to the casual fan, the fan that is younger than 80 years old.

The NBA is misguided as well, but at least they're trying. If you haven't noticed, the NBA is a game that is dominated by African-Americans, with a few good white guys thrown into the mix. It is no secret that Hip-Hop (not the music, but the lifestyle) is synonymous with the NBA. So, my question concerns why David Stern, the NBA commissioner, is

trying to change the sport.

Look at what Stern is doing with all of these rule changes. Last season he instituted a dress code. He said that dress clothes had to be worn immediately before and after games. As soon as an NBA player enters an arena, he has to suit up. Before this rule, players showed up at press conferences wearing the types of clothing brands that NBA fans wear; "Rocawear," "Ecko," "Sean John," etc. Basically, types of clothing that is associated with "minority" groups and the younger generation. Stern has always tried to attract an older white audience, but what he doesn't seem to understand is that they aren't ever going to be interested in the NBA. The only thing that he is doing is diminishing the largest consumer audience around.

MLB and the NBA also need to take a page from the NFL on how to handle disciplinary issues. Look at what is taking over the headlines right now in both sports. MLB has all these steroid problems floating around. Someone actually has to get caught with a needle in their arm to actually be found guilty, and they have to be caught like 30 times before they are kicked out of the sport. In the NBA, Steven Jackson and his off-court crusade with a gun outside of a strip club is only one of the many incidents from an NBA player of late. I am assuming the disciplinary action taken by the NBA will be minuscule, if at all, against Jackson. In the NFL, if you screw up you are banished to Canada, like Ricky Williams.

I guess what I am basically saying is that I should be commissioner of the NBA and MLB.

Want your voice to be heard?

Write the Editor at
pride@csusm.edu

Social and economical problems, unfair conditions for students, stair related injuries on campus, problems with articles or previous letters to the Editor, compliments of how flawless the Pride is every week; all are encouraged.

Letter to the Editor: Minimum Wage

Most college students have experienced the indignity of minimum wage jobs as well as the barren results they produce. Recently, the U.S. Senate rejected a proposal to raise the minimum wage that would have affected 11% of the work force or about 14.9 million Americans. Many states, including California, are raising the minimum wage through state legislatures, but the same old story is being played out again in other areas. States like Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana do not even have state minimum wage laws, leaving the already impoverished Southern states even further behind the curve.

While this may have a small impact as us as Californians, it is important to America as a nation to promote a strong workforce. It becomes difficult for workers to insist on their own rights and fair wages when people in other parts of the country are not afforded those same rights.

The emerging global markets require a level of high education to stay on top of the game. The only way to achieve this on a large scale in America is to ensure that all people at least have a basic level of comfort. Many people entering the middle class fear that a raise in the minimum wage will

affect their wages negatively, but essential workers will always be compensated for the expertise that they bring to the job.

Many cities and even suburbs in America are experiencing high levels of crime due to poverty. The only way for poverty to be alleviated is through the rise the wages of the workers that are at the lowest end of the spectrum, minimum wage laborers. It is hard to imagine conditions worsening, but the Senate, in its vote against a minimum wage increase, has ensured that conditions will worsen for those that depend on compensation from our nations largest corporations.

-Micah Bearce



Image courtesy of Mary Foley / The Pride

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Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy

Flight of fantasy

Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy comes to Broadway San Diego

BY SOPHIE BRINK
Pride Staff Writer

Where else can you see a singing ladybug, an electric violin-playing tree, and a herd of jazz-dancing zebras but in Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy? An enchanting, vividly col-

orful excursion deep into the heart of a leafy paradise like no other, Jungle Fantasy held my attention from the first scene to the "Finale Fantasy."

The first half of the two-act performance began with "A Bird is Born," which witnessed the hatching of a contortionist depiction of an Emu,

which would make cameo appearances throughout the show, and two colorful, irrepressible Jungleboys. This joyful duo took delight in interacting with the crowd, grabbing two unwary volunteers from the audience and hauling them onstage to teach them a series of dance moves designed to embarrass the participants and delight the audience. It was doubtlessly due to the genuinely endearing nature of the Jungleboys that this scene provoked more laughs than cringes.

During the fifth scene, "Natures Balance," a group of contorting she-lizards would take the stage, slithering into the hearts of the audience with their display of flexible artistry. Forming a series of jaw-dropping human sculptures, these graceful performers transitioned from one move to the next with serpentine smoothness.

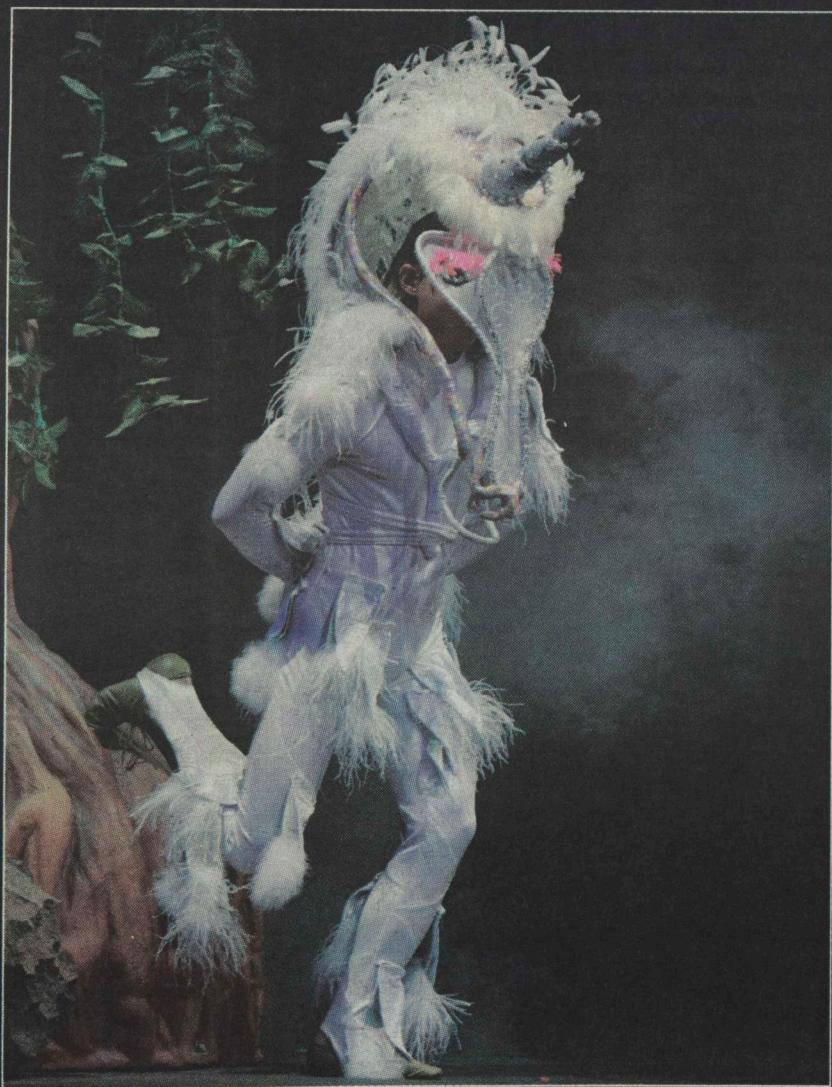
In "Butterflying," a pair of beautiful butterfly specimens took to the air and performed an awe-inspiring courting ritual high above the crowd. This flight of fantasy involved the use of impossibly long pieces of silken cloth which the aerial artists used as gigantic wings with which to soar and leaves in which to wrap about them. In the background, butterfly dancers cavorted below the breathtaking couple.

"Roar" perhaps garnered the most praise from the audience. Five artists depicted muscle-bound, male jungle cats prowling about the stage with studied grace, lifting each other into the air with slow, controlled movements that provoked "Oohs" and "Ahhs" from the mesmerized crowd.

When they were finished and the rest of the cast took the stage to join them, the crowd roared their resounding approval and leaped from seats to give the performers a well-deserved standing ovation.

The soundtrack to the performance was, if not all of the music was particularly inspiring, at least evocative of the moods conveyed in each scene. The vocals, however, performed by sequin-clad Lady Bug (Camilla Twisselman), were less impressive. It is important, though, to consider that Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy aims to please young and old alike. With lyrics such as "Rise above and the wind will free you," the Lady Bug's songs were doubtlessly composed with the younger members of the audience in mind. Her musical counterpart's performance, on the other hand, was inspiring. Soul Tree (Jared Burnett) wooed the audience, accompanying the recorded soundtrack live on his electric violin. I only wished that his engaging music could have been the sole background music for some of the acts.

Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy is overall an extremely engaging production. Not only are the performers spectacular, but the set, costumes, and lighting combine to create an untamed dreamscape filled with whimsical flora and fantastical fauna. Although the dream has faded away from San Diego, those who weren't able to see Jungle Fantasy can catch Cirque Dreams' next production, The Journey Continues, at the Palm Springs Pavilion Theater, November 8, 2006 through April 7, 2007. It might well be worth the road trip.



Photos courtesy of BroadwaySD.com

Movie review: "Marie Antoinette"

"Don't let them eat cake"

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

I would have much rather watched Marie Antoinette (Kirsten Dunst) rock out to some Vivaldi instead of The Cure and Bow Wow Wow. Don't get me wrong. I love The Cure, just not as a musical backdrop for the French queen gallivanting about Versailles in the late 1700s.

Directed by Sofia Coppola, "Marie Antoinette," is a beautiful and airy inspection of the life of the young Austrian, Marie Antoinette, who is betrothed to Louis XVI in order to bolster relations between Austria and France. The film highlights the shortcomings that Marie Antoinette experiences as she struggles to become accustomed to the traditions and routines of her newly acquired position.

I'll start by saying that this movie was nothing like I expected it to be. Going into it I anticipated this film to be something like the 1996 remake of William Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet" with Claire Danes and Leonardo DiCaprio. The overlay of modern music and contemporary attitudes towards sex, drugs, and rock 'n roll distracted me at too many points throughout the film. Detracting from the façade of elegant deserts and ornate dresses, the humane Marie Antoinette that the movie tried so hard to portray was almost lost in Coppola's zealous ambition. Aside from the beautiful period detail in costumes, hairstyles and decor, there isn't really any substance to this film; in fact, as an audience member it's hard to stay afloat in the over-processed images of an 18th century France.

Moreover, Jason Schwartzman who plays Louis XVI, I feel, is greatly miscast. Even though his character in the movie is rather aloof, as an actor he lacks the energy and ability to bring Louis XVI to life. Not that there was particularly any chemistry between Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI in any history books, but a little more chemistry on screen—I mean it is Hollywood we're talking about—would have kept the audience awake long enough to watch the end credits. As for Dunst, she seems to struggle with her role. Though it doesn't require all that much depth, or even that many speaking lines aside from "Let them eat cake!" on screen Dunst is a lack-luster teenage queen.

Overall, I felt that there was much more

Coppola could have done to develop the characters more to the benefit of the audience. I think that if Hollywood is going to interpret a historical period of time, and a loathed French queen at that, they could have spiced things up a little bit. Isn't that what the money from our tickets goes to anyways?

Painfully clocking in at 118 minutes, the action and plot of the story didn't even kick in until the final 40 minutes. On a side note, all who are familiar with the actual history and the details of Louis XVI and Marie will find this movie rather forced in terms of its timeline of events; and for those going in cold (unaware of the historical facts), don't take this movie as a depiction of what really happened.

The film basically locks Marie and the audience up in Versailles, trailing Antoinette around the palace, documenting her frivolity and life as a spoiled, royal socialite. Hinting at affairs, rumors, scandals, stagnant sexuality, and bizarre extravagance, Coppola barely scratches the surface in her portrayal of the publicly-hated Dauphine.

With no inner transformation or conflict in Antoinette's character that the audience is able to relate to—other than Louis XVI's disinterest in consummating his marriage—the film's blandness outweighs its beautiful production. I kept waiting for something to happen and nothing did: no evil villain swept in to steal the show, there was no beheading, and no windows were broken as a result of the French Revolution that was happening just outside the palace door. All in all, the film just felt unfinished.

Other historical biopics that I have seen, like "Amadeus," "Malcolm X," "Ray," and "Kinsey," are better examples of films that portray the characters from a perspective that audiences can identify with. "Marie Antoinette" just doesn't hit home for me. I felt misled as a consumer, and when all was said and done, I just wanted my two hours and ten bucks back.

Image courtesy of Columbia Pictures

