



Student Union planning underway Facility planners and architects receive feedback from students

BY ALEX HAND
Pride Staff Writer

As enrollment at CSUSM is increasing, the university is looking to expand campus life and resources with talks of adding a new Student Union. Currently, the process is in its first phase, which consists of gathering information

and determining feasibility.

In an effort to gather information and get student feedback regarding the Union, the university put together many focus groups of students who met facility planners and architects on Tues. March 18. The meetings were designed to acquire student feedback and gather information in regards to

students wants and needs in a Student Union. In attendance to conduct the research were Brailsford & Dunlavey Facility Planners and the HGA Architecture Firm.

The first question addressed to students in attendance was why they chose to come to Cal State San Marcos. Student responses varied but mostly had to do with small

class sizes and location. Consistent with the focus on student wants and needs; the meeting proceeded with discussion surrounding what students would like to see in a Student Union on campus.

James Carruthers of Brailsford & Dunlavey made it apparent that they were listening to what students had to say when he stated,

"This is going to be more of a student oriented space as opposed to an academically oriented space, if that's okay with you guys."

Russell Decker, of Planning design and Construction on campus had something similar to say. "We build what people want us to

See Union, Page 4

Gas prices skyrocket nationwide

Price per gallon could rise to \$4 this summer

BY JONATHAN E. THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer

According to MapQuest, the lowest national gas price is currently \$2.56 and the highest national gas price is \$4.33 with a national gas price average of \$3.45 per gallon. San Marcos has a low of \$3.50 and a high of \$3.80 per gallon of gas.

In 2002, a gallon of gas cost roughly \$2 in Southern California. Six years later, the cost for a gallon of gas has nearly doubled. Barrels of gasoline reached the \$100 mark and are inching past \$110.

There are numerous theories and speculations on gas prices—most conflicting with one another. However, America

See Gas, Page 4

GRADFEST 2008

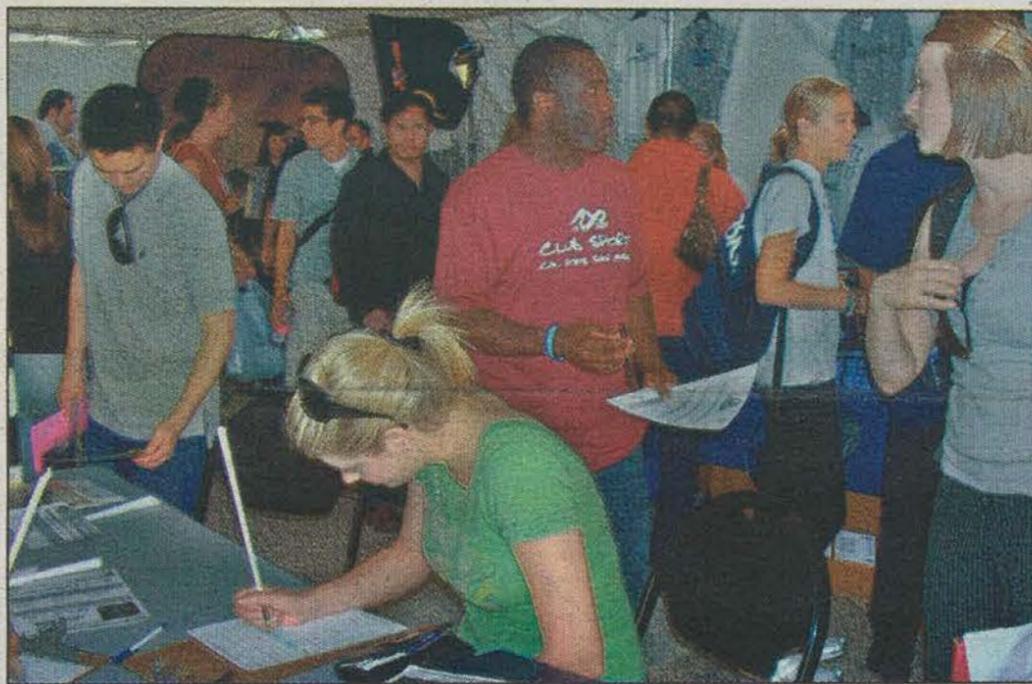


Photo by Jackie Carabajal / The Pride

Seniors make preparations for commencement during Grad Fest.

BY JACKIE CARBAJAL
Pride Staff Writer

Last week, the official countdown to graduation began as the University Store sponsored GRADFEST 2008 offered

soon to be graduates the opportunity to purchase class rings, announcement packages, diploma frames, cap and gowns, and much more.

With the promise of commencement within reach,

seniors are having difficulty sorting out a wave of emotions.

"It's so exciting to be graduating soon but I won't believe it until I have my diploma in my

See Gradfest, Page 4

Safer Spring Break preview

BY ELBERT ESGUERRA
Pride Staff Writer

As students anticipate spring break less than a week away, Student Health and Counseling Services wants to ensure they also keep safety as a priority.

Throughout this week, SHCS is hosting various events to promote awareness for a safer spring break. The marquee event will be held on Wednesday at Clarke Field House, with a lecture performance entitled "J-Spot: A Sex Educator Tells All" and renowned sex educator Jay Friedman.

According to Health Educator Cathy Nguyen, "I've seen him perform at a San Francisco conference and he was very entertaining. I think students will find the performance educational and funny and I hope that they will be able to walk away with more knowledge about sex and healthy relationships."

Today, the campus is having a survivor fair that includes a number of activities such as a walk-the-line DUI checkpoint and alcohol screenings. SHCS is

See Preview, Page 4

San Diego bans alcohol on beaches One year trial ban in effect

BY TORIA SAVEY
Pride Staff Writer

On January 14, after a San Diego City Council vote, a one-year trial ban of alcohol on beaches and in many public parks went into effect. The vote was 5-2, the minimum needed to pass it. The ban includes locations like La Jolla Cove, Mission

Beach and Ocean Beach.

Banning alcohol on beaches has come up with the city council in the past. In 1994, the city council voted for the same type of one-year trial ban, but opponents gathered enough signatures for a referendum, and the council was forced to repeal the ban. In 2002, the ballot included voting on an 18-month alcohol in parts

of Pacific Beach and Mission Beach, which was rejected by a narrow margin.

About 30,209, or 5% of registered city voters, would be needed to force a referendum in the same manner at 1994. The group, "Ban the Ban," run by the grass roots organization Our City, Our

See Ban, Page 4

CSUSM honors March 31 as an observed holiday to honor the life and legacy of labor leader and civil rights activist Caesar Chavez.

"These trends are part of the forces of history that cannot be stopped. No person and no organization can resist them for very long. They are inevitable. Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot uneducate the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore"
—Caesar Chavez



TODAY

LGBTQA will host its annual 'Spring Gay Wedding' today, March 25, in Forum Plaza from 12-1 p.m. The ceremony serves as a demonstration to oppose current legislation that restricts marriage to a man and a woman.



Photos by Pamela Castillo / The Pride

THE PRIDE

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Staff Editorial

Beijing '08 : Wrong place, wrong time

The upcoming 2008 Beijing Olympic games could very well be one of the worst in recent history as a variety of problems and controversy are already ruining what will be one the biggest global events of the year. At the center of the numerous complaints and controversies is the Chinese government, which is guilty of a grave mishandling of preparations for 2008's Olympic games.

While Beijing has been busy getting a face-lift, China's government has ignored the rights of many of its own citizens, placing its Olympic priorities above its people. Varying accounts place the number of Chinese citizens in Beijing that will be displaced because of the Olympics somewhere between 300,000 and 1.5 million, many of whom will have been expelled from their homes against their will. Included in these estimates are many homeless, mentally ill, and transients that will also be banished from the city on account of the Olympic games. Those residents that manage to avoid

eviction and expulsion will be subjected to some 70 new local laws tailored specifically for the arrival of the Olympics in August. One such discriminatory mandate addresses local hygiene concerns by restricting regular Chinese citizens working or living near the Olympic facilities from using new bathroom facilities, a glaring reflection of the meager social progress typical of modern China. A government that equates its common citizenry with filth demands a drastic recalibration of its priorities before taking on the Herculean and equally prestigious task that is hosting the Olympics. One of the landmark achievements of the Chinese government will be its relaxation of media regulations, allowing for the free movement of journalists and assuring no restrictions on media reporting, a right much of the free world assumes to be standard. The fact that this right we consider to be such an explicit certainty should be a special occasion in a country hosting arguably the most important global event should

be a matter of serious concern for any freedom-embracing country. China's ties to the genocide in Darfur and current tension with autonomy-seeking Tibet have brought forth numerous calls to boycott the Beijing Olympics from a multitude of individuals and groups -- a signal that China is still not prepared to be a world leader much less a host to the Olympics.

As if the controversies caused by the Chinese government weren't enough to ruin the Olympics this year, the location could easily seal the deal on this already botched Olympic festival. The air quality in Beijing is so poor that many athletes and health officials are concerned with how the city's environmental issues will affect performance. Endurance sports could see unimpressive performances as the poor air quality, heat, and humidity take their toll on athletes participating in long competitions. Several countries will delay the arrival of their athletes for as long as possible and some have even set

up training facilities elsewhere to limit exposure to Beijing's air. The water and food aren't much better, presenting health concerns for the athletes. A questionable tap water supply and steroid-ridden meat have prompted the U.S. to ship in its own food to avoid athletes getting sick or testing positive for steroids.

For such an important global event like the Olympics to be hosted by a country so willing to compromise the welfare of its citizens signifies a critical misallocation of responsibility by the international powers that be. No matter how many times the China recites this years Olympic slogan, "One World, One Dream," a China-hosted Olympic festival will still always be marred by the mismanagement that has become indicative of its government. And here as Americans, casting judgment on a country with which we are limitlessly bound, the sense of responsibility, if only partial, is inescapable.

Church's Influence on Sports
The Good, the
Bad and the UglyBY DAVID CHURCH
Pride Staff Writer**The Good**

Basketball fans got their wishes and saw Tampa Bay, Florida deliver four upsets in the second day of first round games. In the first game, No. 12 Western Kentucky watched their lead dwindle as No. 5 Drake came back to tie the game. Then Western Kentucky took care of business in overtime when Ty Rodgers hit a three point buzzer beater. Then No. 13 San Diego was able to hold on and win in overtime against No. 4 Connecticut. Later in the afternoon, No. 13 Siena took care of business and beat the struggling No. 4 Vanderbilt by winning by 21 points. Then the final upset of the first round took place when No. 12 Villanova was able to control the flow of the game and beat No. 5 Clemson.

Then add No. 10 Davidson, Western Kentucky, Villanova, and No. 7 West Virginia to the sweet sixteen creating mayhem with the brackets.

The Bad

Three of my five brackets I have playing in money pools.

Seeing Clemson and Vanderbilt getting eliminated, took out two teams that I had beating Kansas in the Sweet 16 and advancing to the Elite Eight. But despite losing a lot of the one point games in the first round, I am happy

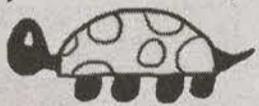
to say I have all my final four teams and the loss of certain teams does help my final standings in my brackets.

The Ugly

This one is easy: Duke! No. 15 Belmont knew what they needed to do to beat No. 2 Duke. Belmont tasted their first tournament victory in history with 11.9 seconds remaining in the game. But there best wasn't enough as they fell 71-70. But it was West Virginia who was able to get the ball down low and take care of Duke 73-67 in the second round.

Duke, like others, were overexposed and overrated. Unable to do what they needed to do to advance, there now going get to watch the rest of the madness with the rest of us on the television.

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

Blood, Sweat, Tears,
TurtlesBY TORIA SAVEY
Pride Staff Writer

"You do realize you have a reptile in your house then?"

Ok, in all fairness, it's not so much a reptile as a turtle. Before you get all taxonomy and point

out that a turtle is a reptile, it's not really. It's a turtle. Reptiles freak you out if they escape from their cages, and they do things like slither, and make your grandmother faint. A turtle just kind of galumphs along.

But wait. There's more. This turtle is much more than a turtle. This, my friends, is war with a shell. Well, more like a passive aggressive battle of wits between my significant other and myself.

You see, this is relationship rehab. Recovering addicts, depending on the program, are taught to ease back into responsibility. Try a plant. Then a fish. Then a dog or a cat. Then finally, you can move onto people. I didn't go to rehab, but I've been in a buttload of unhealthy relationships. I did things a little backwards though. I got the guy first. Then followed it up with no plant, and now a turtle. So really, I think we're both just making sure we can keep the

turtle alive before we make a bigger commitment.

I mean, would you marry a turtle killer? No, I wouldn't either.

So, here's a little view of how my morning went. Get up too early. Check and make sure turtle's still alive.

He's still alive. (Sidenote: we don't know if it's a boy or a girl yet. People have been asking me how you check the sex. Answer: Play soft music and buy it flowers and candy until it rolls over for you.) Text significant other to say that I'm worried Mr. Turtle doesn't have enough room to swim and he seems unhappy. Significant other's response: "He'll be fine, babe. Take him on a field trip to the bathtub." Um, my boyfriend's ex-roommate used to go shopping. At bars. For men. Every night. I'm way more worried about the bathtub giving Mr. Turtle the clap than I am about catching salmonella from him. I'm pretty sure if the turtle catches syphilis on my watch, I lose the battle.

So, perhaps you too are in a serious relationship but afraid to take that next step. But I bet if you knew the next step could eat goldfish, like mine can, you'd be all over that and walking down the aisle (or having a commitment ceremony in the Bahamas...or being hitched at a drive-thru chapel in Vegas by Elvis) in no time.

Bill of Rights Call it "Country Pop"

BY BILL RHEIN
Pride Staff Writer



When I think of country music, I think of one of two things. One is the great songs by Johnny Cash, Charlie Daniels, or Willie Nelson. On the other hand, there is the contemporary modern country that seems to have sold out. There is a distinct difference in the tempo and sound of country music today as compared to past decades. The people in the music industry could clarify this by labeling modern music of this nature as "country pop."

One difference I find between the two eras of country music is the popularization of the new breed. Today performers have replaced the dated 'twang' sound with synthesized vocals and electric guitar. Like all genres, it seems it is more about the money than the music. If this were not true, there would not be an entire television station devoted to country music, and in fact, there are two. This change-over, with singers such as Shania Twain, is an informal selling out.

Another reason for this clarification is the ability for lyrics to be

change into other genres. Carrie Underwood's tune "Before He Cheats" could just as easily become a pop or R&B song. On the other hand, Cash's "Ring of Fire" and Daniel's "The Devil Went Down to Georgia" do not sound right performed any other way, such as in Guitar Hero III. Yet most songs by groups such as the Dixie Chicks or Rascal Flatts have a popularized lyrics and tempos:

the nail in the coffin for this involved examination of another genre. Rock widely encompasses many styles and types of music. Country is large as well, but people do not break it into sub-genres. As for rock, there is classic rock, blues-rock, psychedelic rock, pop rock, alternative rock, and many more types. Some genres when blended receive appropriate titular status, yet country is unwilling to budge. People place artists like Molly Hatchet and Lynyrd Skynyrd into "southern rock," though there are definite country influences in the music.

There is more to the facets of country music the just country western. Based on the style of music in both lyrics and instrumentation, it is fair to label the modern country music scene as "country pop."

University Voice

What characteristics are you looking for in the new ASI board?

"Someone that looks out for the best interest of the students and someone who would be willing to do something about bringing the price of parking down."

Anthony Gonzalez
Business Administration
Freshman



"A group of people interested in being receptive to the diversity and needs of the school."

Dylan O'Brien
Political Science
Junior

"Open minded, creative, and a good leader."

Cody Savoie
Biology
Sophomore



"Someone outspoken who knows what they want and goes for it."

Stephanie Williams
Liberal Arts
Junior

"People who take control of what they are doing and get people involved."

Shay Michaels
Business
Junior



"Really strong leadership skills like hearing what the students want and taking their direction."

Myesha Albert
Education
Grad Student

Photos by Bill Rhein / The Pride

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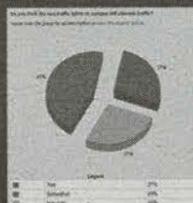
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Student Polls

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From UNION, page 1

build" said Decker.

Ideas and programs discussed primarily had to do with food and a better social environment on campus. Students in attendance had a great variety of ideas ranging from a cafeteria, to an internet café, or even a pub on campus. One student even voiced the suggestion that the building should be made out of recycled materials, since CSUSM has a reputation of being such a recycling savvy campus.

Matthew Bohannon, also of Brailsford & Dunlavey incorporated feasibility into the discussion as well.

"Part of what we are trying to do is

figure out the financial threshold at this point," said Bohannon.

With the CSU system facing budget cuts, it is important to determine where the funds to build the Union would come from. Chances are the funds would come out of the pockets of the students since the Student Union would be a student-oriented, student-run space. Another question addressed to students was how much they were willing to see their tuition increase in order to see that the Student Union was built. Most students in attendance had no problem with a slight increase in tuition just as long as the Union was built the right way.

From GRADFEST, page 1

hand, I feel like something will go wrong," said senior Business major Debbie Gralla.

Students go to college, ideally, to manifest their education towards a successful career. Leading up to graduation, seniors face the challenge of finding the right job.

"I'm nervous about searching for a career and not just any job. I hope that cougar jobs can help me out. I'm

also really excited to start making some money instead of studying all the time."

Commencement 2008 is on Saturday, May 17 at the Grandstand at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. There will be two ceremonies; one at 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Any students with direct questions regarding commencement ceremonies can email grad2008@csusm.edu or visit www.csusm.edu/commencement for more details.

From BAN, page 1

Responsibility, collected 45,000 signatures. However, when the city clerk's office randomly sampled 3% of the petition, they found only 680 of 1,367 signatures to be valid. As a result, the petition was declared to have an insufficient number of signatures. The question remains over whether random sampling is fair. However, it is more economical. According to a press release from the city clerk's office, "The cost of a signature-by-signature verification of the petition has been estimated at \$70,000 - \$147,000. Therefore, any person who desires to challenge the determination of insufficiency by random sampling method must post...a certified check for \$70,000 to initially cover that cost."

The law might not have passed before

the problems last Labor Day in Pacific Beach, in which the arrest of one reveler turned into a major clash between beach goers armed with rocks and glass beer bottles and police officers in riot gear, which ended with the arrests of 16 people. The police department has been accused of using excessive force in the situation.

For a first time offense, the maximum fine is \$250. However, repeat offenses could bring up to \$1000 in fines, and may include up to a six-month jail sentence.

The ban covers beaches up to the Del Mar city limits, leaving residents of North County in the middle of a checkerboard of beaches covered by alcohol laws. A full list of areas where alcohol is banned by the new law can be found at www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk.

From PREVIEW, page 1

handing out pledge kits on Thursday encouraging students not to drink and drive and will be giving free pizza with it for a safer spring break.

"While spring offers a fun and enjoyable week away from school, college students need to be aware of safe and responsible activities," said Tracey Arnold. "Just because we have the capability to drink alcohol, doesn't actually make us adults, it's how we conduct ourselves and how we are held accountable as well."

For years, spring break has been notorious for its high levels of excess drinking and sexuality. However, recent studies have shown a change in trends. A Nielsen Media study shows 84% of college students drank responsibly and 90% think providing community service projects to college students is a good way to spend their spring break.

Some of the more infamous destinations for student retreats include Las Vegas, Fort Lauderdale, Rosarito, and Cabo San Lucas.

Over the past weekend, police arrested three young men in Daytona Beach, Florida for detonating an explosion at local hotel terrace. The blast mildly injured a nearby family, according to the Daytona Beach News-Journal.

On March 15, authorities halted the Spring Fling event hosted by Associated Students Incorporated abruptly due to rambunctious activities by many of attendees. Reports onboard the San Diego yacht of underage drinking and detrimental behavior by a number of underage students surfaced and forced the event back to shore.

Locally, San Diego City Attorney Michael Aguirre specifically addressed students and warned them of the alcohol ban on all San Diego beaches.

"San Diego city beaches are now alcohol free," Aguirre said in a letter sent out to 20 nearby universities in California, Arizona, and Colorado. "Violating this law can put a real damper on your entire spring break." First time offenders could be fined up to \$250 and repeat offenders as much as \$1000.

From GAS, page 1

sees sharp gas price increases as summertime approaches. People often travel more during the summer as they vacation across the nation. The increased demand lowers the available supply, thus increasing the cost of gas.

Gas prices are an unfortunate part of CSUSM. CSUSM currently holds the label as a commuter school. Most Cougars commute to campus. This inherent phenomenon is evident in the parking lots. Increasing gas prices are not enough to thwart off an education, therefore forcing students to shell out the extra bucks at the pump.

Junior Business Major Kyle McClellan seemed to have a lot to say when asked about his opinion on gas prices.

"Soon gas prices will be higher than the Empire State Building. It's so expensive I will have to mortgage my house just to buy another gallon. I think I will have to invest in a bicycle to ride everywhere. If Gandhi were alive, he would agree with me, gas is too expensive. Gas already costs an arm

and a leg, what body part comes next," McClellan said.

The trend seems to show no mercy. Gas prices have been increasing for years, granted there are few decreases along the way. Unfortunately, these decreases are minuscule and short lived. Make preparations now and plan for \$4 per gallon of gas this summer.

Gas Prices in San Marcos

Prices current as of 03-22-08

1. Chevron - 130 Knoll Rd., San Marcos: \$3.56 Regular, \$3.68 Mid-grade, \$3.78 Premium
2. Chevron - 1200 W. San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos: \$3.56 Regular, \$3.68 Mid-grade, \$3.78 Premium
3. Exxon - 102 W. Mission Ave., San Marcos: \$3.56 Regular, \$3.66 Mid-grade, \$3.76 Premium
4. Chevron - 110 N. Rancho Santa Fe Rd., San Marcos: \$3.58 Regular, \$3.68 Mid-grade, \$3.78 Premium
- 5.7 - Eleven - 1650 W. San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos: \$3.60 Regular, \$3.70 Mid-grade, \$3.80 Premium

Police Beat

3/5/08 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

An unknown suspect removed a CD player, 40G Apple iPod, and 10 CD's from an unlocked vehicle in Lot C.

3/2008

A staff member at UVA received an annoying and harassing e-mail with obscenities. UPD is still investigating pending further leads.

3/7/08 8 a.m.

Dean of students called UPD to assist in a threat assessment. UPD determined the student not to be a threat to self or others, and referred student to counseling.

3/6/08

In Lot F, a student returned to vehicle 9:15PM, and discovered a forced entry to locked vehicle. The parking permit was stolen, along with CDs, damage was done to interior lights, and canvas top was cut.

3/8/08 9:30 p.m.

UPD received a report of a possible sighting of a person pulling a gun from waistband at the Clark Field House. The shiny object turned out to be an iPod.

3/10/08 1 p.m.

In Lot N, a student returned to parked car and found damage to the left rear of cab door. Suspect believed to be driving a white Ford pick up truck. UPD appreciates any witnesses coming forward.

3/10/08

In Science Hall I Rm. 317, an individual found that an iPod and laptop were missing after left unattended for a short amount of time. Any info, contact UPD

3/11/08

UPD reported to UVA for medical emergency. They found an individual who had taken an unknown amount of prescription meds that was breathing but unresponsive.

San Marcos Fire transported the individual to Palomar hospital for treatment and evaluation.

3/12/08 2:31 a.m.

On Twin Oaks, an officer observed an SUV traveling at excessive speed and weaving lanes. After further investigation, the driver was booked in to jail for DUI under age 21, and vehicle towed.

3/11/08

Parking permit stolen from an unlocked 1975 Chevy parked in Lot F.

3/13/08 noon

Student Health requested UPD assistance with a student acting unusual. The student was transported to Palomar hospital for 72 health evaluation.

3/14/08 1:15 a.m.

On Campus Way and Campus View Drive, an officer stopped a vehicle for failing to stop

at the stop sign. UPD cited the driver for possession of dangerous fireworks, driving on suspended license, and stop sign violation.

3/16/08 midnight

During a routine security check at the foundation building, an officer encountered a male and female in possession of meth and glass pipes.

3/17/08

A cougar watch sign was discovered tagged with a possible gang moniker.

3/18/08 10 a.m.

Parking services reported a suspicious vehicle in Lot H, a 1983 Mercedes Benz with keys still in the ignition. Officers locked the vehicle and secured keys at department.



Pride Comics

Just for Shiggles by Jenny Bigpond



Calendar of Events



Tuesday 3/25
10:00 a.m.
Spring Gay Wedding
Forum Plaza

11:00 a.m.
SLL Survival Series
CFHUSU 110

11:30 a.m.
FMP Graduate Studies Workshop
KEL 2413

12:00 p.m.
Women in Mythology
MARK 103

12:00 p.m.
Senior Experience Information
Session
ARTS 240

5:00 PM
Dinner Dialogues
COM 206

Wednesday 3/26
12:00 p.m.
Senior Experience Information
Session
ARTS 240

5:00 p.m.
ASI Leisure Courses
CFHUSU 130

5:00 p.m.
J-SPOT, A Sex Educator Tells All
CFHUSU 113

Thursday 3/27
9:30 a.m.
Life in Prison
MARK 106

12:00 PM
Frontiers in Science Seminar
SCI2 208, SCI2 243

12:00 p.m.
ASI's Cesar Chavez Day Celebration
Chavez Statue

3:00 p.m..
World Affairs Lecture
ACD 102

4:00 p.m.
Info Session for the Dept. of the State
MARK 102

Monday 3/31.
Spring Break
Cesar Chavez Day

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

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

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

Choices include one or more of the following:

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

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

"Influence" A video of inspiration

BY BILL RHEIN
Pride Staff Writer

Online Video
of the Week

Thanks to websites such as YouTube and Photo Bucket, unconventional art is on the rise. One of the most notable and skilled unconventional artists is Phil Hansen. Though his works reflect the same skill as most drawings and sculptures, Hansen uses several unique tactics to create his art. In one of his works, "Influence," he only uses paint and his own body as a canvas. However, he has also used pinecones, other parts of nature, a blowtorch, and his own hands and feet as paintbrushes.

"Influence" is a video of Hansen painting thirty pictures on his own stomach--most of which are of people that influenced him. Not only is being able to point on one's own chest a skill, he does it thirty times and with incredible skill. Hansen paints each picture

over the one before it. He reveals his clever thought process in the end when he peels the entire work off and cuts it into two faces opposite each other.

The skill of his work comes from the material he chooses to use and/or how he makes it. There are instances where his piece is made of eggs, Starbucks cups, or matches, in which he cannot create an outline, and most times, he does not have the final picture before him. The project wraps around him and he can imagine the entire work in his mind without physically seeing it.

There is more to his work than just "Influence." He has created over a dozen works of art, most of which become destroyed in the process and only exist in online videos. His videos are on YouTube, but his main website is www.philinthecircle.com, where viewers can watch the production, completion, and destruction of his art.



Photo courtesy philinthecircle.com

O-Team's Spoon Wars

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

Has anyone else seen random students around campus carrying bright green spoons in their hands? It's more than likely that the answer is yes, so this brings about the question of why? Why are students carrying around bright green Kermit spoons, to be exact?

Well, it looks like the answer can be found at Student Life and Leadership, where many campus inquiries can be answered. For its second year, the Orientation Team from Student Life and Leadership—also known as the O-Team—is in the middle of a war: a spoon war.

What initially began as a way for the O-Team to grow and learn about one another, has quickly evolved into a new tradition here at CSUSM that is integrated within the entire campus community. Implemented by Jennie Goldman, the director of New Student Programs, and O-Team Director John Hall, this new tradition is an adaptation of the game "Assassins."

"Each person on O-Team was given a bright green Kermit plastic spoon," said O-Team member Angela Ortiz. "We are to carry the spoons everywhere. They need to be in our hand and if we let go of the spoon, it must be able to fall." Throughout the war, each participant has an assigned "target" they are watching. If they catch their target without their spoon, their target is out—or technically speaking, "spooned," by their hunter, and then the target's target becomes the hunter's new target. Everyone on the O-Team is a hunter and a target during the spoon war.

"We cannot tag a person while they are working or if there is a presentation going on during one of our O-team meetings. Other than that, you can tag a person anytime, anywhere," said Steph-

Beware of the spoon

nie Michaels of the O-Team. "This is a team building exercise that teaches you to keep your friends close, and your spoons even closer," said O-Team member Kevin Chatham. "The spoon war can last for a really long time or a really short time," said Ortiz. "This game can go on for months..." said Hall.

Last year Ortiz got spooned at home by her own sister who was also on the O-Team only an hour after the war started, and Michaels lost at last year's Spring Fling while dancing without holding her spoon. "I wanted a truce so I didn't have to dance with my spoon but my friends wouldn't do it," said Michaels. Chatham, commenting last year's war said, "I can't believe I got out! I thought she was just giving me a hug but she spooned me!"

"If you see someone holding a plastic green spoon, then you know who O-Team is and you know the Spoon War is on. The Spoon War is all about bonding with your target," said Ortiz. "You get to know where they hang out, whether it's the library, C3, SLL or in some random classroom. You try to scope out who others have, and attempt to build alliances.

Now one is safe, not at any Spring Fling dance, lunch outing, O-Team meeting or before class."

"The spoon wars are a great way for our organization to be visible, have fun, and further build community in our organization," added Hall.

"Whether in orientations or in the classroom, O-Team will be there to show school spirit, even if it means holding a little green spoon with the image of Kermit the Frog all over it," said Ortiz.

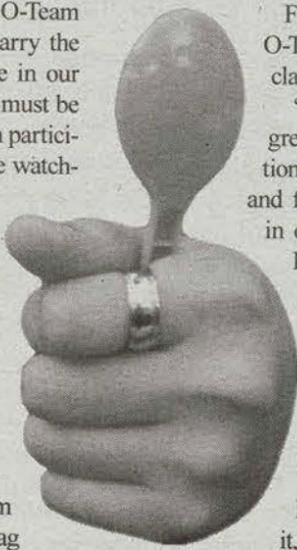


Photo by Jackie Carbajal / The Pride

Seeqpod.com

BY BEN ROFFEE
Pride Staff Writer

Website of
The Week

What started as an attempt to organize data at the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is now becoming one of the Internet's fastest growing media resources currently available. Connecting users to every bit of playable media on the Internet is the primary function of Seeqpod, which has quickly developed a name for itself in the realm of online multimedia, music in particular. Users can compile playlists of playable media that can be shared with others and even embedded into social networking websites and the like.

Seeqpod claims on its website that it "was built with the social networking mobile generation in mind, and we provide users with an array of easy to use tools to playlist, share, embed, and purchase results, as well as iPhone and iPod Touch compatibility."

Seeqpod, the offspring of founders Kasian Franks, Raf Podowski, and Shekhar Lodha, is modeled after a system used by genomic biologists to sort through a library of staggeringly complex body of data. Looking to simplify the process of filtering through the information, an algorithm was developed, an algorithm that would

eventually become the foundation for Seeqpod.

According to the Seeqpod website, "We have created a totally unique algorithm that finds the hidden relationships between playable topics, not unlike the way our minds make relevant associations between subjects of interest to us. Our technology mines the deepest crevices of the Web, returning useful, precise results."

While the concept itself may be simple, Seeqpod has applied its innovative search methodology to compile one of the most comprehensive indexes of web-based playable media on the World Wide Web. Seeqpod is constantly expanding as it combs the Internet with crawlers retrieving new links to media all the time. This massive index is then put to use when users search specific media, which Seeqpod allows users to play in the website. This has become particularly useful resource for users looking for music online.

Because Seeqpod does not actually host any media, simply linking users to existent media, Seeqpod is fairly well protected, much like most other search engines. In a subset of Internet groups that has been plagued with litigation, the legality of Seeqpod's service remains unhindered, a fact that holds promise for Internet music's latest addition.

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CSUSM Softball closes out Sun West Tournament strong



Photo by Tim Moore / The Pride

Freshman, Marly Barth singles to start off the sixth inning against Williams, Saturday

BY TIM MOORE
Pride Staff Writer

CSUSM Softball played six games in five days in an extremely busy week of play. The Cougars capped the week with four wins in their final four games of the Sun West Tournament in Orange. The wins put the Cougars at a perfect 6-0 record in the round-robin tournament.

The Cougars started the week off on Wednesday with a doubleheader against the #10 ranked Vanguard Lions.

In game one, the Cougars' defense kept it locked up at zero until allowing a bases-loaded double in the bottom of the sixth, driving in two runs. The Cougars would not be able to recover from the plate – losing the game by a score of 2-0.

Game two brought increased run-production from both teams. Vanguard struck first in the bottom of the third, with a four-run inning. The Cougars put up one run in the top of the fourth inning, before seizing the lead in sixth. The sixth inning saw a four-run Cougar rally sparked by Sophomore, Erica Coelho. The Cougars took advantage of Vanguard errors to take the 5-4 lead going into the bottom of the sixth. Vanguard came back in the sixth to score two runs, bringing the score to 6-5. A scoreless top of the seventh inning for the Cougars gave the win and the doubleheader sweep to Vanguard.

The tough luck would not last long, as the Cougars made the trip to Orange to participate in their final four games in

the Sun West Tournament. The tournament, hosted by Chapman University took place at Hart Park and featured talent from across the nation. In their final four games, the Cougars saw Avila University of Kansas City, Missouri; University of St. Thomas of St. Paul, Minnesota; Tufts University of Medford, Massachusetts; and Williams College of Williamstown Massachusetts.

The Cougars kicked thing off with a bang on Friday, beating up on Avila University with an 8-0 mercy rule shutout. Junior Melissa Lerno, threw the second no-hitter in the history of the school's softball program, striking out 11 of 16 batters faced.

In the second game on Friday, the Cougars faced off against the University of St. Thomas and struck first in the top of the fourth inning, scoring three runs, sparked by a lead-off home run by Erica Coelho. The Cougars scored two more runs in the top of the seventh, improving their lead to 5-0. Freshman pitcher, Brenna Sandberg fought off a three-run comeback attempt by St. Thomas in the bottom of the seventh, closing out the game with a 5-3 win.

The Cougars carried an undefeated Sun West Tournament record into their final day of play on Saturday.

In game one, Tufts University got on the board first, scoring four runs in the top of the second inning. The Cougars countered in the bottom of the third, putting up two. Tufts took the 5-3 lead in the fourth inning. CSUSM would tie it up in the bottom of the fifth, scoring two runs on a series

of errors by Tufts. The 5-5 tie would carry into the bottom-half of the seventh inning where freshman, Nicolette Nassif would drive in freshman, Lise Leibl for the game-winning run.

Going into their final game of the tournament, the Cougars faced Williams University in a nail-biting contest. CSUSM struck early with a one-run first inning, only for it to be equaled out by one-run Williams half of the first inning. Once again, the the Cougars had a one-run inning in the fourth, only for Williams to counter with a run in the bottom-half. A Holly Russell RBI double would give the Cougars yet another one-run inning in the sixth, but this time, Ashley Salvino would hold Williams scoreless in the bottom of the sixth, giving the Cougars a 3-2 lead. Salvino's pitching would hold up to close out the game, giving the Cougars their sixth win in the tournament.

The Cougars' record in the round-robin Sun West Tournament stands at 6-0. The tournament concludes Thursday.

The Cougars record on the season is 20-9. Their win on Saturday evening doubled their win total from last season's record of 10-31. The Cougars play USD on Thursday in a rematch of their 0-6 loss on March 12. This game is the second on the Cougars' schedule that features an NCAA Division I opponent.

For more photos see page 10



Photo by Tim Moore / The Pride

An elephant never forgets...

BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

In a world briefing released by the New York Times on Feb. 28, the Associated Press announced that South Africa's government said it would end a 13-year moratorium on killing elephants beginning in May to reduce the overgrown population of South African elephants in hopes of protecting the ecosystem and impacted wildlife parks. The brief stated that at the turn of the 20th century, there were only 200 elephants in South Africa. Now, there are between 18 and 20 thousand, according to varying sources. All sources agree

though, that the number of elephants currently in South Africa is expected to double by the year 2020—merely 12 years from now.

Interestingly enough, there is another population of elephants that is undergoing population problems. However, this population's problem isn't overgrowth, it is extinction. 5,853 miles across the Indian Ocean, in Laos, once heralded for its numerous herds and once dubbed the "Land of a million elephants," only has what is believed to be 700 Asian elephants left in the wild. In a country lush with forest and vegetation, it's a

harsh

contrast from the scene in South Africa where natural vegetation is taking a beating feeding the some 20,000 elephants there, that can each eat 5% of their weight a day.

According to the World Wide Fund for Nature, it is estimated that there are only 25,000 wild Asian elephants left and 15,000 captive Asian elephants. A hundred years ago however, Thailand is thought to have had upwards of 100,000 Asian elephants. So why are there so few Asian elephants left in Laos? Thanks to farmers, poachers, loggers, and dam builders (who all use elephants as their labor), it's becoming harder for the endangered elephants to survive the threats and demands of man.

Naturally, the first thought one might have is to just ship some—or in this case thousands—of the South African elephants to the lush and under-populated Laos.

However, the two species of elephants are vastly different. And now, through DNA test-

ing, it is believed that there is actually a third species of elephant. The third species comes just from the distinction between the African forest elephants and the African savanna elephants.

The African forest elephant is slightly smaller than the more often seen Savanna elephant (*Loxodonta Africana*), which is the species most commonly seen by the world in zoos, safari-goers, and tourists to Africa. Coincidentally, the

Paris zoo is the only zoo worldwide that currently has an

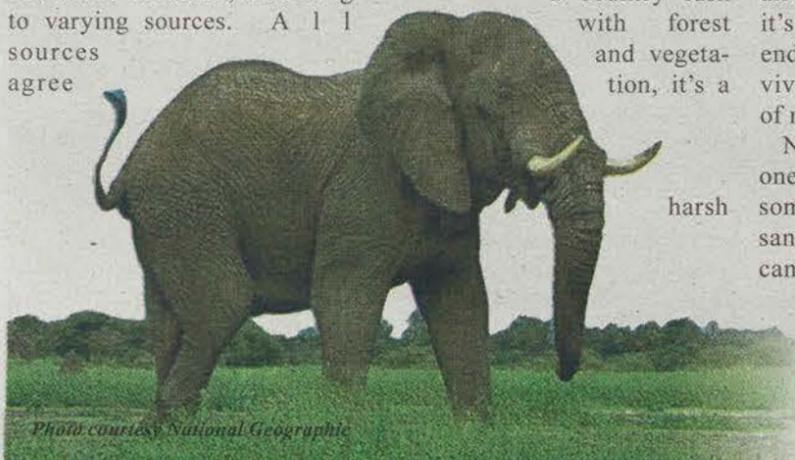
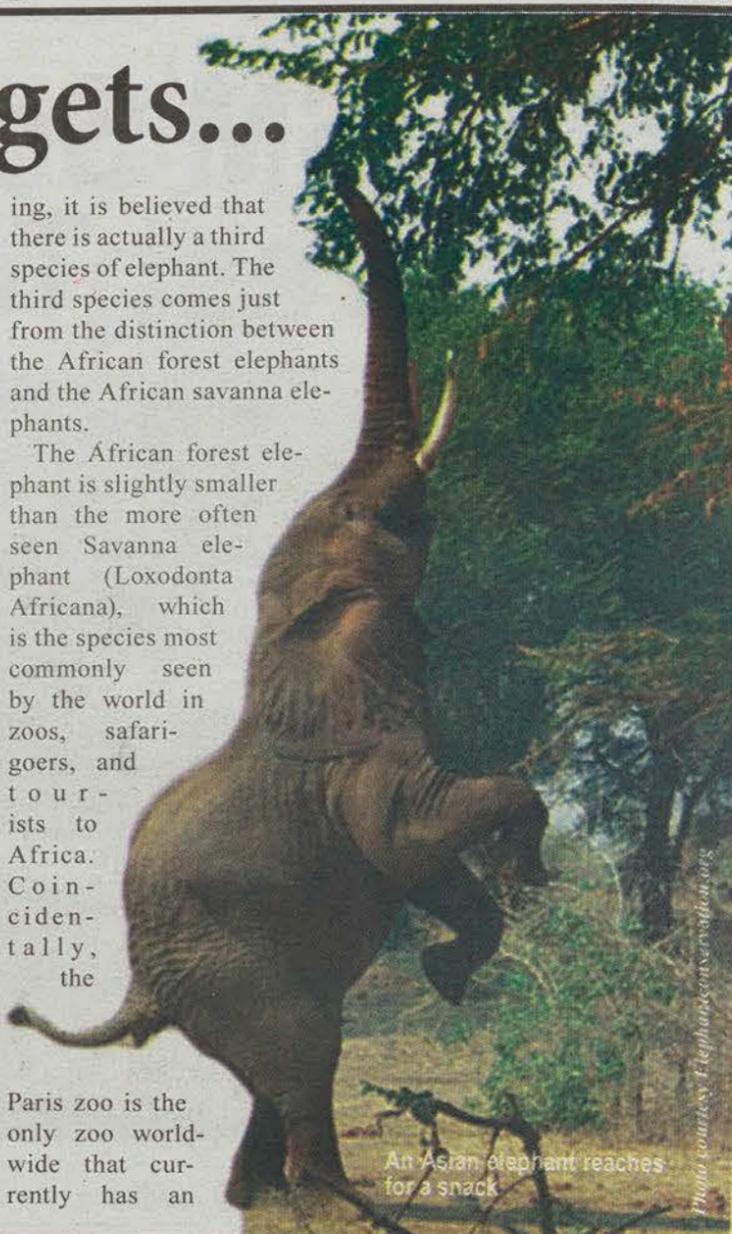


Photo courtesy National Geographic



An Asian elephant reaches for a snack

Photo courtesy Elephantsofparis.com

music Saves Lives

"Saving lives has never sounded so good"

The American Red Cross partners with local musicians to donate life

BY AMY SALISBURY
Pride Staff Writer

Leave it to our generation to revamp the American Red Cross blood drive. Thanks to Music Saves Lives, an emergent organization offering donors incentives beyond free cookies and juice. There is hope in sight for raising the national and global blood and bone marrow supplies by empowering youth and young adults to take action using a powerful and renewable resource that runs through their veins.

Back in 2005, Russel Hornbeck of the Red Cross created MSL along with Stacy Clark, a performance artist from Orange County. The foremost endeavors of MSL focus on blood dona-

tion and bone marrow registry. "We put a new spin on it, so high school and college kids want to get involved," said Clark.

To encourage a younger demographic to aid in America's extraordinarily depleted blood supply, MSL awards blood donors free CDs and backstage passes to the shows and tours they support.

Thanks to the Long Beach-based, independent recording label SideCho Records, 50,000 compilation albums, entitled "Saving Lives has Never Sounded so Good," were originally pressed including unreleased rarities and b-sides from a wide variety of artists such as Motion City Soundtrack, the All-American Rejects, Copeland, Yellowcard, and Mae. The initial amount of CDs quickly diminished only to be augmented by an additional 100,000. Needless to say, the pioneering events of 2006 caused heads to turn, smiling, toward MSL.

A slew of popular bands have also joined MSL-sponsored benefit performances such as the most recent Rockstar™ Taste of Chaos, as well as Tour for a Cure, Digital Dona-

tion Tour, and the Vans Warped Tour. MSL has also garnered enthusiastic support from pop culture VIPs not limited to MySpace, Monster™ Energy Drink, Gibson Guitars, and MTV.

In fact, those planning to attend and of the Rockstar™ Taste of Chaos shows taking place through May even have the possibility of getting in the venue early.

MSL has most latterly joined with DKMS America, the largest bone marrow donor establishment in the world. Founded in 1991, Deutsche Knochenmarkspenderdatei, or German Bone Marrow Donor Center in English, expanded to the States in 2005, and has since acquired more than 1.6 million marrow donors all over Europe and North America.

Rockstar™ Taste of Chaos and MSL host DKMS's presence during the tour, and have agreed to let the first 20 arrivals into the venue early by signing a commitment form as a potential, anonymous donor.

If a concertgoer is between 18 and 55 and in good health, registration takes only about 10 minutes. A cheek swab is the mere requirement to test for possible matches. In fact, MSL's outreach to Leukemia sufferers is the larg-

est ever conducted toward citizens under 25 years of age. The gravity of becoming a marrow donor is quite real, and the chances of a match are slim, but doing so can save a life from disease.

MSL strives to bring awareness to America's youth about helping others, but with a new contest called ScholarFlips, students may help themselves by winning a prize of \$5,000 toward education.

An innovative website called Flip.com hosts online scrapbooks, aptly named flipbooks, that promote young women to share their stories through digital media and, of course, music. Flip.com also collaborates with several social networking sites, namely MySpace and Facebook, as a means of getting the word out.

"What do you Flip for?" asks Flip.com. To enter the contest, make a flipbook about one of the seven causes included in the scholarship competition. These causes include everything from animal rights to environmental protection.

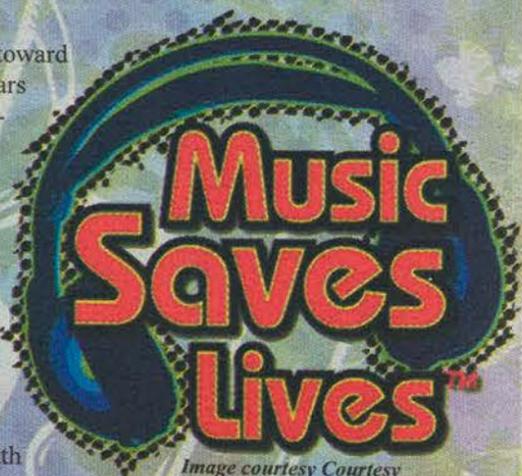


Image courtesy Courtesy of Music Saves Lives

MSL

also has a category encouraging applicants to tell Flip and MSL how music provides the inspiration to better the lives of others. The deadline for this contest is April 1, 2008. To view the official rules, visit Flip.com.

Regrettably enough, the fear of needles and various stigmas surrounding tissue donation scare off loads of young people. What many do not understand is that by giving blood just one time, three lives are potentially saved.

Moreover, the process of bone marrow donation has developed a harvesting system that does not require surgery. MSL's potential as an organization has skyrocketed over the last two years, and when given the opportunity to give back, as founder Hornbeck says, "How can you not do that?"

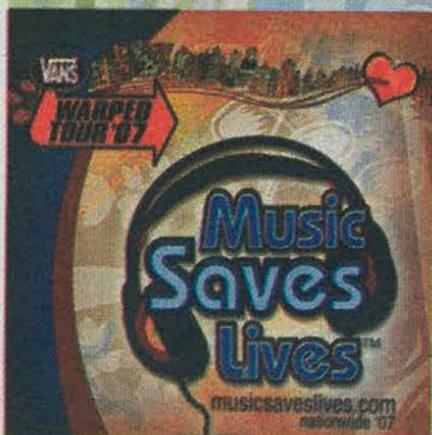


Image courtesy Courtesy of Music Saves Lives

but are we forgetting the elephants?

African forest elephant in captivity.

There are many differences between African and Asian elephants, both in their physical

structure, and in their anatomy. The main differences between the two are: African elephants (both genders) have ivory tusks, and only the males in Asian

elephants have tusks, which are much smaller than those of African elephants. Also, the shape of the ears—African elephants have huge ears whereas

Asian ones have smaller ears; and African elephants have a downwards curved spine and extremely wrinkled skin, whereas Asian elephants have an upward rounded spine and smoother skin.

Furthermore, in comparing the two African species, the African forest elephant is also smaller than the African savanna elephant with rounder ears, and its tusks are slightly longer and straighter, with a slight pink hue. However, while the African savanna elephant that inhabits South Africa seems to have no problem copulating, the African forest elephant is extremely endangered because of poaching.

In an article printed on Mar. 16, the North County Times quoted Sebastian Diffillot, the co-founder for ElefantAsia, "The situation will become very dramatic in about 10 years if nothing changes," further warning that within 50 years the wild elephants of Laos could be completely extinct. The U.S. Wildlife Conservation Society is also working in Laos along-

side the WWF to help alleviate the rising conflicts between humans and elephants.

In a more recent article published by the NY Times written by Michael Wines as a follow up to the previously printed brief, he said South Africa's environment minister released a revised proposal that would allocate roughly \$700,000 for more scientific study as to what the most humane and effective way for elephant population control. Though there is still much debate and controversy over the subject, with many people of all levels on involvement on both sides, nothing has been firmly decided for the fate of 14,000 elephants.

At the moment, there are numerous organizations working hard in both countries to protect both the elephants and the ecosystems, but there is still no plan or quick-fix options in place for either Laos or South Africa.

For more information, the 3 articles can be found linked to this article at the online version of The Pride.



Photo courtesy esri.com

A family of African elephants

What's in your water?

BY [Redacted] Pride Staff Writer

Earlier last week, the Associated Press released an article about the nation's drinking water supply being contaminated with pharmaceuticals. The Associated Press conducted a five-month long investigation that revealed pharmaceutical drugs in the drinking water supplies of 24 large metropolitan areas.

Trace concentrations of heart medicine, infection fighters, estrogen hormones, anti-convulsants, mood stabilizers, and tranquilizers were found in areas including southern California, New Jersey, Michigan, and Kentucky. Similar drugs were found in upstate New York and in Philadelphia, other medicines such as asthma, high cholesterol, and epilepsy were found. In southern California, anti-epileptic and anti-anxiety medications were revealed in treated drinking water that 18.5 million people consume.

The article reports that over the past couple of years, Americans' intake of prescription and nonprescription drugs has increased. The

contamination of water could conceivably be traced back to metabolized use (drugs do not just "stay" in our bodies and are "flushed out" and back into the water supply) or simply unused by humans.

Additionally, there is the issue of contaminants, such as pesticides and lead that have been focused on and regulated because higher concentrations presented a clear health risk. In regards to pharmaceutical drugs, some officials note that human safety may not be jeopardized because of studies done with larger amounts of trace concentrations and lab animals.

Other officials are concerned because humans consume water every day consistently and in respectable amounts. Another point of view on the subject is that pharmaceuticals, contrasting to other contaminants, are designed for the humans. With a compounding consumption, these trace amounts could especially affect and be more devastating to those more in more sensitive conditions—the elderly, pregnant women, and significantly ill people.

Currently, the federal government does not have any required testing for

pharmaceutical drugs in water nor a maximum or minimum level of safety. The AP article also notes that some water providers that do screen for drugs only screen for a small number, which overlooks the prospects of other drugs.

Another concern is the addition of chlorine in water can exacerbate the toxicity of drugs. Furthermore, another matter is bottled water and home filtration systems, which do not remove these impurities. Bottled water is often the same tap water repackaged and is not treated for pharmaceutical contamination.

The article also explains that the only known technology to remove pharmaceutical contaminants is reverse osmosis, but the drawbacks of this procedure is its expense for mass production and it also produces large amounts of contaminated water for every small amount that is clean of pollutants. So, unless a home filtration system specifically features a reverse osmosis capability, the water may still contain harmful pharmaceutical pollutants.

This problem is not just contained to the United States either—the AP arti-

cle mentions that some studies have found trace concentrations of pharmaceuticals in Asia, Australia, Canada, and Europe. There are also documented health issues with wildlife that are being further investigated.

It is also important to address that based on what the pharmaceutical industry knows, they justify that there is little effect on human health by these trace contaminants. While this is important news, the AP did not conduct a comprehensive, scientific study to examine the full effects of this on humans, so these discoveries cannot conclude a specific cause-and-effect relationship on humans. Many scientists emphasize that research is limited on this subject matter and a lot of information is unknown.

For more information, and to read the AP article, please see http://www.linkrook.com/260_water

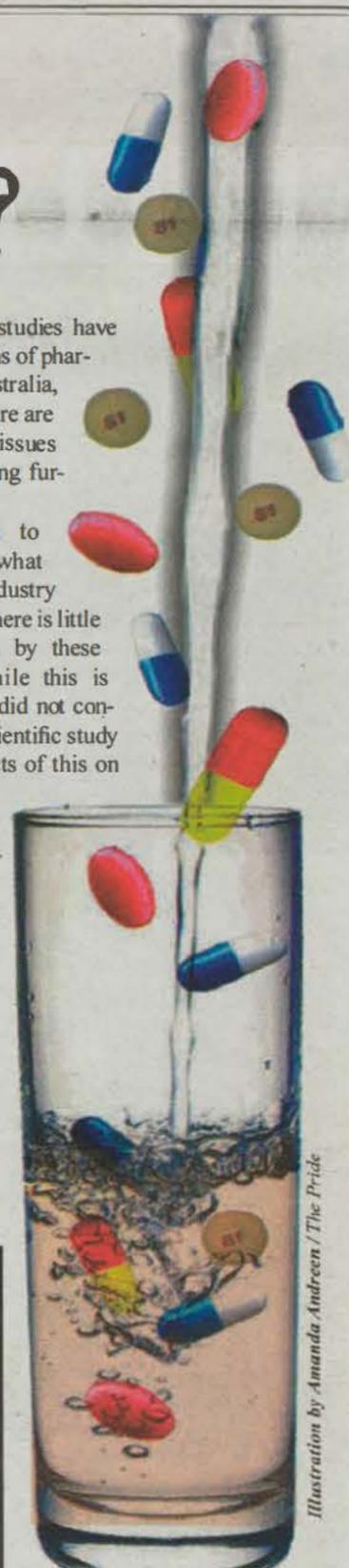


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Photo by Tim Moore / The Pride

Freshman pitcher, Ashley Salvino works her way to seven strikeouts in CSUSM's 3-2 win over Williams University, Saturday. For full story see page 7.



Photo by Tim Moore / The Pride

Baseball Goes 1-1

Nearly complete major upset

BY LANCE CARTELLI
Pride Staff Writer

March Madness is in full force with the second round being completed on Sun., but Cougar baseball came in as the Cinderella and almost came away with the upset.

Playing against an extremely talented #2 Azusa Pacific team, the Cougars surged late but could not complete the comeback.

Azusa Pacific started strong scoring six runs in the first two innings, knocking out SP Steve Triolo after just 1 1/3 IP.

Down 6-0, the Cougars got on the board as 3b Austin Coleman hit a solo homerun in the bottom of the 2nd, and would tack on two more in the third to be down 7-4.

In the bottom of the 7th, DH Austin Way hit his second home run of the game to start the comeback, but Azusa Pacific would come right back with three runs in the top of the 8th to put them up 11-6. The game would end 11-8 in a victory for Azusa Pacific University.

CSUSM does not have a football team, but by looking at the score of the second game of the week for the Cougars, some may make think otherwise.

Scoring at least one run in every inning, the Cougars beat Principia 24-3 in complete domination.

Principia lead the game off with two runs to take the lead. The Cougars blew the game open in the bottom of the 2nd, lead by a grand slam by 3b Coleman. Scoring eight runs in the 2nd, the Cougars were up 10-2 already.

SP Chris Skaalen would pick up his second win of the year going 4 innings giving up two earned runs on four hits while striking out four.

In the bottom of the fourth, Way continued his hot streak with a grand slam which was the second of the game for the Cougars.

The Cougars' record improves to 11-14-1 on the season. The Cougars travel to Point Loma today, before playing host to Bethany University this weekend.

NCAA.com and CBS

perfect internet streaming

BY TIM MOORE
Pride Staff Writer

In this vast world of technological advancement, the live streaming of sporting events is a task not to be taken lightly. It is an undertaking that requires mass amounts of bandwidth and a dedicated repair staff. Rarely is the art of making sports available to the masses done right.

NCAA.com, in association with CBS has done it right. Throughout the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament, NCAA.com is streaming games live and 100% free. The concept is great, and the execution is even better.

The service caters primarily to those in professional environments, locked away from access to a television during one of the best times on the sporting calendar. The interface features the fabled "boss button" for the paranoid employee. The "boss button" transforms the interface into a mock-spreadsheet, instantly giving office-wandering superiors the security of productivity, or so they think.

The service also comes in handy when more than one game is in play. CBS chases what games they will show region by region. For instance, in Sunday's second-round matchups, San Diego's CBS affiliate KFMB showed nearly exclusive coverage of USD's game with Western Kentucky. Near the end of the game, USD was trailing by double-digits with under 30-seconds left on the clock. The game was clearly out of reach for the Toreros, however, because of geographic restrictions KFMB aired the game to the final buzzer, which lasted around five minutes because of timeouts and fouls. During this time, #10 seed Davidson was in the process of upsetting the #2 seed Georgetown. A few clicks was all it took for viewers to have access to the Georgetown, Davidson game online.

Before accessing the online coverage, users must first log in with a CBSSports.com, CBSNews.com, CBS.com, CBSGames.com, TheShowBuzz.com, or NCAAAsports.com username and password.

The interface of the service is simple and responsive. A pre-roll short advertisement plays before the user's initial selection, and after that, the only additional advertisements are the normal commercial breaks. The video quality in full-screen mode is comparable to that of the television broadcast. The only drawback to the service is a buffer delay (around one minute) from the actual live game.

NCAA.com and CBS have offered the services for free that other leagues charge premiums for. The service is giving people what they want, and it is a win-win for all parties involved. CBS is projecting advertising revenues of at least \$21 million, some \$10 million more than 2007's tournament.

What happens on spring break doesn't stay on spring break

Dr. Wider urges youth to consider stats

BY JACKIE CARBAJAL
Pride Staff Writer

Spring Break '08 is a home stretch away and with that comes the necessary proactive safety advice from the campus, family and friends. Many just looking to "don't worry be happy" for a week may mistake concern for annoyance, believe rules are meant to be broken, and consider those cautious as 'square.' Warnings can only go so far—in one ear and out the other, but the truth doesn't lie.

Jennifer Wider, M.D., author of *The Doctor's Complete College Girls' Health Guide: From Sex to Drugs to the Freshman 15*, warns college girls of the possible repercussions of activities that ensue during a stereotypical college Spring Break vacation. Alcohol, drug use, and promiscuous sexual activity can lead to sexually transmitted

diseases, pregnancy, overdose, and serious health problems.

"An American Medical Association survey of college students found that 83 percent agree that Spring Break trips involve more or heavier drinking than typical college life," says Wider, M.D. "Almost three-quarters of the surveyed students acknowledged that increased sexual activity takes place on these trips—70 percent know friends who were sexually active with more than one partner on Spring Break. STDs and pregnancy are two very real risks of spontaneous sex that have lasting consequences after the trip ends."

Information mentioned by Wider originated from an online survey of 644 women age 17-35 conducted from Feb. 27-March 1, 2006.

Wider adds that the only 100 percent preventative measure against an STD or

unplanned pregnancy is abstinence; however, youth should prepare themselves in the event they do have sex during Spring Break. In addition to always using a condom, women can make sure to refill their birth control prescriptions before they leave for Spring Break. Plan B emergency contraception (EC) is now available without a prescription at pharmacies for anyone over the age of 18. To download a card that makes purchasing EC more privately, visit www.go2planb.com. Women should never substitute EC for birth control as the pill is not effective when already pregnant and does not protect against STDs.

Whether planning on pontoon boating in Havasu, clubbing in Cancun, or any other popular Spring Break hotspot remember the weeks, months, and years that follow it. Always travel in groups and discuss limitations and expectations beforehand. Keep an eye out for friends—they'll appreciate

it later, and be aware of surroundings at all time.

The 'Girls Gone Wild' film crew isn't the only thing to worry about anymore. In this day and age of Facebook, Myspace and other Internet venues, students should keep in mind how nearly impossible it is to eliminate something once it appears on the web. Pictures say a thousand words—words that can't be taken back.

Staff and faculty members routinely monitor students involved in clubs and organizations online. More and more businesses nowadays use search engines to screen applicants. Think about that the next time you down one too many Jell-O shots in Rosarito.

Having a mature outlook on the future alone will be enough of an awareness to make the right decisions and still have a good time.

A once in a lifetime opportunity

The World Nomads Travel Scholarship

BY ALEX HAND
Pride Staff Writer

There are scholarships that help pay for books and tuition...then there are scholarships that help pay for the experience of a lifetime. The World Nomads Travel Writing Scholarship provides the opportunity for one lucky student to have this experience. This opportunity has recently been opened up to the students at Cal State San Marcos.

The scholarship will send one outstanding student to participate on an i-toi volunteer project to the tsunami-devastated region of Sri Lanka. The chosen student would spend time living in a small coastal village amongst locals of the region. The scholarship winner would also receive mentorship from Sydney Morning Herald journalist and travel writer Keith Austin throughout their stay. Among the perks is also a new Lenovo laptop the student would use to draft up their own fea-

ture travel article highlighting their stay.

Upon return, the student's article could be published by the Sydney Morning Herald (www.smh.com.au). If published, the story would be read by thousands of traveler's worldwide.

Previously, The World Nomads Travel Writing Scholarship has sent students on various assignments in locations such as Anhem Land-Australia, Kenya and Cambodia giving away four educational scholarships to date. World Nomads is partnered with key industry leaders such as Lonely Planet and National Geographic. The "passionate about travel" organization was established in 1999. They have been offering travel insurance and travel safety services to adventurous independent travelers ever since.

According to WorldNomads.com, the scholarship program is "designed to create a dynamic, experiential learning opportunity, which offers mentoring, produces exciting content and facilitates partnership to publish/

broadcast/exhibit student's work." There are currently 4 scholarships open each year in areas of Travel Writing, Podcast Journalism, Photography and Film Documentary.

Any students in the fields of communication, journalism, media, arts, writing and/or lecturers are encouraged to apply. There are no specific eligibility requirements but

the scholarship aims to attract "those students who have a passion for travel and a strong desire to learn and contribute to making a difference in the world." The application deadline is May 25th. For full scholarship and application details visit <http://journals.worldnomads.com/scholarships/post/15629.aspx>

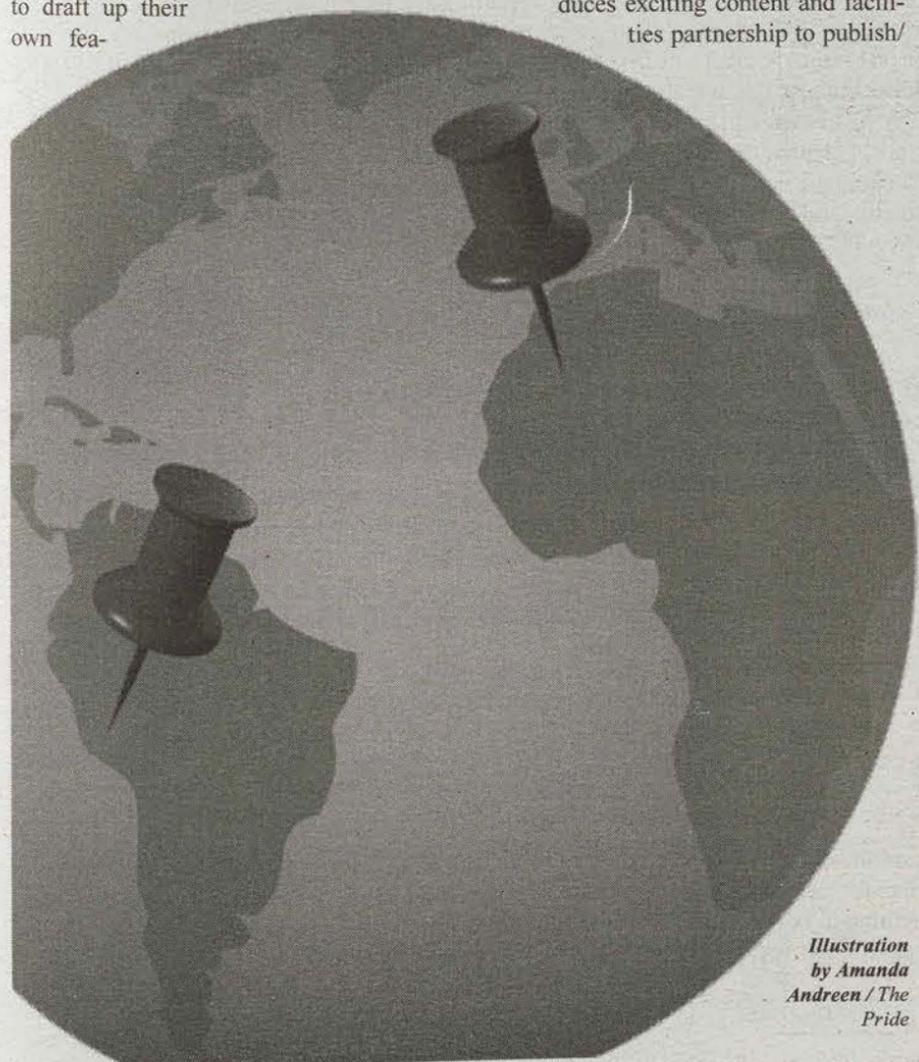


Illustration
by Amanda
Andreen / The
Pride

Design for The Pride

Position Available

The position of Layout Assistant is available. Contact Nick Strizver at csusmpride@gmail.com attn:Layout to schedule an appointment

Skills needed

- InDesign
- Photoshop
- Basic graphic design
- Familiarity with Mac OS X

'08-'09 ASI Cabinet Nominees Bios

*Some bios were edited for length in order to accomodate layout spacing. The full bios can be accessed online at thecsusmpride.com



Alexander Hoang-President & CEO *

Alexander Hoang hails from Vista, CA and is currently an International Resident Advisor and Business Administration/Management student at CSU San Marcos. Alexander's experience spans Education, Business, Non-profit work, and the Arts. He has served in Education as a Team Orientation Counselor and Advisor for UC Riverside and CSU, San Marcos, Princeton Review Instructor, and Meditation instructor. Alex has experience in commercial real estate sales, and is intensely involved in the pursuit of a Business Management Degree at CSU San Marcos, his brokers license, and JD MBA in the near future. Serving his community is Alex's passion. He is thankful for the opportunity to run for ASI President and is grateful to all his supporters.



Zachary de la Pena - President & CEO *

My name is Zachary T. de la Pena and I am running for Associated Student Inc. President and CEO. I am a junior at CSUSM in both graduating year and units completed. I am a political science major and plan on attending law school upon graduating from Cal State San Marcos. I am an extremely hard worker and have great determination. I am running for President because I feel that I could do great things for CSUSM and would be an asset to ASI. I have experience as a leader in an array of organizations and have held a variety of leadership positions throughout my life. I am currently an active member of the executive office in ASI as I am a Board Director of the College of Arts and Science. I would be able to use my experience on the board and my knowledge of how ASI functions to guide the board throughout my term.

DON'T BE WACK VOTE FOR ZACH



Lynn Torbert - VP of Operations *

Hello, my name is Lynn Torbert and I am currently running for Vice President of Operations. I am a junior here on Cal State San Marcos Campus. I am a Communication major and plan on going into managing marketing for a fashion company. At this time I am involved in Orientation Team, Alpha Chi Omega, and ASI. I should be VP Operations because I have many ideas that I would like to see get accomplished and having more of a voice will help me do that. I would like to see more involvement on campus and the best way to do this is by having more activities and to advertise more on what ASI is all about. I am the best candidate for these positions because, my goal is to turn this commuter campus into a fun place to be where you can truly experience all aspects of college life. I am running on a slate.

Vote Cougar Slate



Christian Pedersen

My name is Christian Pedersen I am double majoring in Mass Media and Political Science; I am currently a junior here at CSUSM and am running for the position Vice President of External Affairs. As a Political Science major, I feel that I have the understanding necessary to serve our university on the state level; acting a liaison between the students, ASI, and the CSU system. Having been a member of Lobby Core in years past, I have a good understanding of the challenges and commitments awaiting the Vice-president of External Affairs. I have been involved in many organizations on campus, and have held leadership roles in a number of them. My past leadership positions have helped to give me the knowledge and experience necessary for serving our campus and you the students.



Stephen Castro - VP of Finance *

VOTE COUGAR SLATE!! Stephen Castro (VP of Finance), Zach Delapena, Gil Cardenas, Lynn Torbert, Zach Morrison, Giovanna De Los Reyes, Trevor Frerking!! Proven ability, experience with making difficult decisions, and the integrity to garner the faith of the people are the character qualities I possess. These can be seen through my leadership of an organization on campus, Global Business Management Association. My education here at CSUSM has given me the skills to properly manage not only my financial duties but also the time management responsibilities associated with the position of VP of Finance. I recently accepted the position of Vice Chairman of the ASI Finance Board further contributing to my overall knowledge of the financial situation here at CSUSM. In the absence of the current VP of Finance, I chaired the Budget Marathon meeting and worked diligently with the Board. I am running on a slate and with them we are in favor of REDUCING Parking Prices, Having More Dance Tickets, Increased student out reach by ASI and CSU Admin, More availability in congested Classes, and More Athletics and Intramurals. Our goal is to work together as a Slate to make Cal State San Marcos a FUN PLACE TO GO TO SCHOOL!!! VOTE COUGAR SLATE!!!!



Conrad Ottey - VP of Finance

Hi, I'm Conrad Ottey

I've been advocating for students for three years now, two of those years on the ASI Board of Directors. I have extensive knowledge of the inner workings of ASI and I am very excited for the opportunity to serve as the Vice President of Finance. I've served in a variety of ways to better CSUSM. Over the past two years I have travelled twice to Sacramento to lobby the State Senate to lower student fees and grant more access and affordability. I am a proponent of lowering Parking Fees and granting more access to Financial Aid Benefits. I want to make a lasting difference on this campus and I would like your support. Thank you, Conrad Ottey



Kayla Robinson - Rep at Large

So I am running for Representative at Large, and I chose this position because I wanted to involve myself with the student body as well as learn more about the issues others have on campus. I think this position is perfect for me and I can bring a lot to the role. I am already Treasure of the Black Student Union on campus. I am very compassionate and I work hard for anything to be successful! I love this Campus and I want to be apart of the change that it goes through.

'08-'09 ASI Cabinet Nominees Bios

*Some bios were edited for length in order to accommodate layout spacing. The full bios can be accessed online at thecsusmpride.com



Jessica Mills - VP of Marketing

Hi, my name is Jessica Mills and I am running for the VP of Marketing position. I am currently your Student Rep at Large. By being the VP of Marketing I will make sure that students are informed on the events that are going on, on campus. I will also talk to the ASI president on the goals that ASI has set to make sure that they get completed.

Hoping for your vote,
Jessica Mills



Gil Cardenas - VP of Marketing

Hello students of CSUSM my name is Gil Cardenas, I'm a Global Business Management - Marketing Major with a minor in Political Science. I've been a part of ASI for the last two years as a Student Representative @ Large in 2006/2007 and The Vice President of Finance in 2007/2008, This is my third time running for the Board of Directors for ASI and I'm excited at what new challenges I can solve next. My number one concerns for next year's board will be: **Lowering or Freezing the Parking Fee increase for 2009** *Raise the budget for the annual Masquerade Ball and Spring Fling dances so we can invite more students. *Advertise to students through the Pride Newspaper the events that are going on, on campus for that current week or month. *Providing students with a plethora of extra curricular events to raise school spirit. *Expand the current Recreations Department that currently provides activities such as, paintball excursions, snow boarding excursions, trips to theme parks, to provide more activities and allow for more students to participate.



Sabrina Oleson - VP of Marketing

Hi! My name is Sabrina Oleson. I am entering my senior year here at CSUSM as a Marketing major in the Business program, which makes me a perfect candidate for the VP of Marketing with ASI. I am mature, reliable, and intelligent. I have the experience needed to not only get the job done, but do it fantastically! Currently, I am on ASI's Programming Board as the Annual Events and Traditions Specialist, planning and executing events for you, the students. Some of my duties included Welcome Week, Cougar Fever Week, Masquerade Ball, and Spring Fling. I am familiar with the school's needs and what the students want. I have professional experience in the real world with marketing and understand the restraints on working with a budget. So remember to VOTE for SABRINA OLESON for VP of MARKETING! Thank you! Sabrina

No Photo Available

Brian Buttacavoli - VP of Marketing

I am a Business Major and an RA for the on campus housing. I want every student to have a voice, and I believe that with my team we will get CSUSM where it needs to be. This campus has a lot of potential, so by using creativity and charisma, I will make marketing for this campus efficient and effective. I will make sure that no student is left in the dark because we will get this campus more involved. I enjoy lobster dinners with my main man Cesar Chavez and long walks on grassy knolls. I also plan on marrying Sara Bareilles, and we will have many beautiful children. So remember, vote with confidence, Vote for Brian!



Giovanna De Los Reyes - Rep for College of Arts and Sciences

Hello everyone, my name is Giovanna De Los Reyes and I am currently running for Representative of college of arts and sciences. I am in my first year at Cal State San Marcos. I am a Kinesiology major in hope to eventually become a dentist. Currently I am involved in Alpha Chi Omega. I should be a representative for college of arts and sciences because I am a hard worker and very goal oriented, and I feel it is important to voice the opinions of the students here at Cal State San Marcos. In addition to my running for representative I am running on the cougar slate to which we are in favor of: -Lower parking prices -More dance tickets -More ASI sponsored adventures -More student reach out by asi and csu admin. -More availability in congested classes -More athletics and intramurals our goal is to work together as a slate to make cal state san marcos A FUN PLACE TO GO TO SCHOOL!! VOTE COUGAR SLATE



Benjamin Bertran-Harris- Rep for College of Arts & Sciences

My name is Benjamin Bertran-Harris and I am a freshman with a nursing major. If elected to be a representative for the college of Arts and Sciences I will emphasize on creating a branch in ASI that represents our nursing students and any Cal State San Marcos student whose major is in the medical field. I am a hard worker and will do what should be done. If you would like to know more then you can look me up on facebook.

Zach Morrison - Rep at Large

My name is Zach Morrison I am a Political Science Major and am running to be a Student at large representative. I am a hard worker who is seeking this position to make a positive impact here at Cal State San Marcos and I will do my best accomplish this. I currently hold a position as VP of Public relations for Hillel here at CSUSM and well connected with the student body. As a student representative I will seek out your concerns, desires and opinions to make sure that the resolutions I propose to the ASI Board of Directors is what you, as a student body want.

I am running on a slate and with them we are in favor of: REDUCING Parking Prices, Having More Dance Tickets, Increased Student Reach out by ASI and CSU Admin, More availability in congested Classes, More Athletics and Intramurals. Our goal is to work together as a Slate to make Cal State San Marcos A FUN PLACE TO GO TO SCHOOL!!! VOTE COUGAR SLATE!!!!



VOTE ONLINE!! Voting started Monday 3/24 and goes through this Thursday 3/27 at 8:00 p.m.
<http://lynx.csusm.edu/vote/index.asp>

The Local Listen

By Amanda Andreen / Pride Staff Writer

Saba
"Best Damn Thing"



With her new album, "The Fallout," due out this spring, an emo banjo—if there is such a thing—kicks this track off. "Best Damn Thing" combines vocal ingenuity similar to that of Fiona Apple and Regina Spektor, with a poppy backbone of, say, Sheryl Crow, and the whole thing winds down with a southern feel, leaving an almost vaudeville taste in your mouth.
www.myspace.com/sabaloo
iTunes: No

Kerri Dopart
"Aven"



Poised and provocative, the indie-country vibe that Dopart emits reminds of Celine Dion mixed with a little bit of Norah Jones and the Dixie Chicks. "Aven" is a beautifully crafted track—a love letter in form of a song. Dopart's voice is refreshing and unexpected.
www.myspace.com/kerridopart
iTunes: No

Dave Boodakian
"All My Love"



Can anyone say "the next John Mayer"? A local import from Boston, Mass., Boodakian possesses the vocal prowess and flirtatious acoustic guitar skills that will have the girls melting from here, to, well, Boston. Boodakian's style is a mixed bag of making love, philosophy and comedy, and "All My Love" is just the track to show San Diego what he's all about.
www.myspace.com/davebooda
iTunes: Yes

Love Campaign
"Dead at 21"



Britney better watch out—though this track isn't about her, it borrows from the feedback

infused and synthy-rock style that fills her latest hit "Gimme More." With hard vocals and a Killers-esque lead guitar, the lyrical drama Love Campaign proclaims laces every bass line and hangs heavy with a climatic hook.
www.myspace.com/lovecampaign
iTunes: No

Derek Evans
"Telephone"



"Telephone" is a strum-tastic tune of discovery and communication in which Evans uses his guitar as a teasing rhythm and his voice as a map through the lyric-driven world created

by the song. Full and free-flowing, this track is mellow and intriguing.
www.myspace.com/derekevansmusic
iTunes: Yes

Nena Anderson



Nena is her name and jazz is her game. From covering old classics like "Gee Baby" and "Don't Get Me Wrong," Anderson's knack for jazz and blues pays off in her self-produced track, "Say You'll Be Mine." This track is where her vocals and piano dance together in a sugary matrimony of harmony and bliss.
www.nenaanderson.com
iTunes: No

Photos courtesy respective artist's Myspace website

Community and World Literary Series Presents: Edwin Torres

BY JACKIE CARBAJAL
Pride Staff Writer

You have to appreciate a man who "MacGyver's" a tape recorder and microphone into a surround sound system.

After pesky laryngitis led to the cancellation of his originally scheduled reading on Feb. 21, contemporary poet Edwin Torres performed for students, staff, and faculty on Thursday, March 20 in



Photo courtesy Edwin Torres

Markstein Hall.

Critically known for his live performances, Torres is not your typical poetry reader. Ad libbing, singing and incorporating theatrics into his performances is par for the course. Not surprisingly, Torres has worked with many performing artists throughout his career. He even has a CD, "Holy Kid" (Kill Rock Stars Records). Some of Torres' books include *I Hear Things People Haven't Really Said*, *Fractured Humorous*, *The All-Union Day Of The Shock Worker*, and *The PoPedology Of An Ambient Language*.

It was an enjoyable night for all in attendance. The mood was light hearted as the audience often found themselves laughing aloud in response to another antic from Torres or a witty line in his poetry.

Torres explains his first

encounters with poetry came from Mad Magazine.

"The song satires and stupid rhymes reminded me so much of Uncle Martin, my mother's brother. [He] lived a few blocks away until my high school years, providing comfort and support after my father died... He was sort of a Puerto Rican Benny Hill...Humor was a motivating force for me since there was always humor in the household," said Torres in an interview with Salon.com.

Much of his work was sung or rapped as well—potentially broadening his likeability among musicians as well as literary aficionados.

Consider the line from his poem, *Exotic People*, "Bohemians is a catch phrase thrown out by no-hemians," or the complete inability to pull out a single line from *All Colors Not White*. Torres' readings are clearly meant to be appreciated live or streamed online. Reading it as simply text just will not do.

The next Community and World Literary Series event will showcase writer Joyelle McSweeney in the M. Gordon Clarke Field House Grand Salon on Thursday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Where are the movies? How San Diego is getting overlooked

BY ADAM LOWE
Pride Staff Writer

Have you ever heard of a movie called "Blindsight"? No. What about one called "The Band's Visit"? Still nothing? How about "Contempt"? All right, so you haven't heard of any of these movies, that's fine—neither have I, to be honest. They are only the top rated movies on www.rottentomatoes.com, so why should we have heard of them?

Well that is why we should have heard of them. If they are the most popular recently released movies—wouldn't you think they'd be in all the major cities across California? Wrong. These "popular" movies, even though they are currently dubbed the most popular movies in the nation, NONE of them have found their way down to the San Diego area.

I am a big fan of going to the movies, and I'm an even bigger fan of road trips—but I am NOT a fan of having to go on a road trip just to see a movie, which is exactly what I'd have to do if I wanted to see these "popular" films. Some of these

movies look quite entertaining and I would absolutely love to see them, but I don't want to drive for a few hours just so that I can sit and watch a movie for 2 hours. Now, I live in Orange County—and going to La-L.A.-land is a drive for me, so I completely understand how much worse it is for everyone down here in San Diego County.

So I guess if we want to see "Blindsight", "The Band's Visit", "Contempt", "Jar City", or "The Diving Bell and The Butterfly", we are just going to have to plan a road trip. We'd have to head up to L.A. to see most of these. For some, however, we'd have to drive all the way up to the glorious misty air of the San Francisco Bay area. But for even some others—we would have to enjoy a delightful flight all the way to good old New York City.

So why aren't these "great" movies playing in our major cities? I don't know, perhaps someone should write a letter to the Motion Picture Association of America. We could say that we aren't upset. We could tell them that we are JUST DISAPPOINTED—that will zing 'em!

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Sleepless Me won't put you to sleep

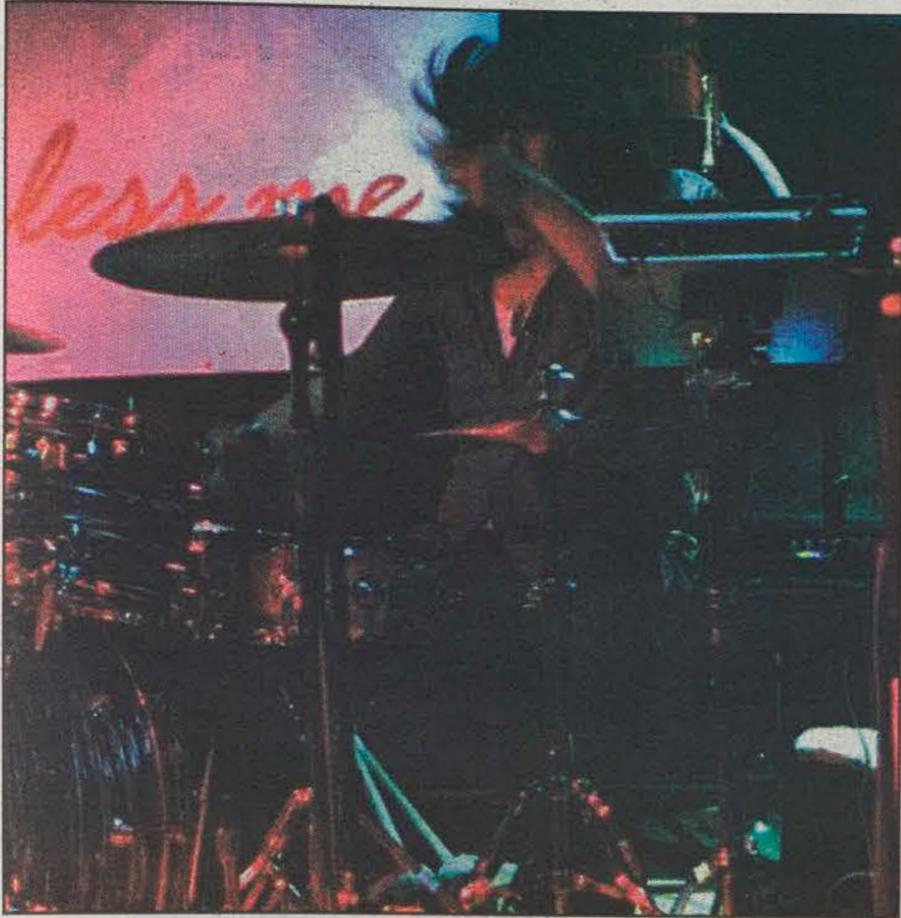


Photo by Merrilee Burke, courtesy of myspace.com/sleeplessme

BY ADAM LOWE
Pride Staff Writer

As I walked up to the doorman/bouncer and paid my \$5 to get in, he asked who I was there to see. "Sleepless Me, for sure!" The Gypsy Lounge in Lake Forest, CA is quite a homey place. Couches line the mirrored wall, and there are comfy stools lining the incredible bar (where they know how to make a drink). It is no bigger than a large living room, but I'd say it is just the right size for a local band venue.

Then Sleepless Me took the stage. Now, I have seen these guys play quite a few times, and I am being totally honest when I say that they get better each time. This night was no exception. The sound system was much louder than usual, so when Sleepless began playing, it was exceptionally loud and had the feel of an epic arena. Needless to say, these guys sounded superb, even more so than usual.

Sleepless Me is Cory, Dale and Bach. Each of these guys brought an awesome (in the original sense of the word) presence to the stage last night. Bach's drums, Dale's bass lines, Cory's inven-

cible guitar riffs, and unstoppable vocals made for one of the greatest Sleepless Me shows I've ever seen — and I've seen quite a few. These guys even rocked so hard that they covered the Lenny Kravitz song "Rock and Roll is Dead" and they proved that rock and roll is very much alive in them!

With the release of the second EP, "2", Sleepless Me has much to offer at their shows. Playing their rockin' songs from their first EP, "Grow," and all three songs from "2", they never cease to entertain the crowds and, on occasion, have been known to rock the faces off everyone in the room! So if you ever get the opportunity to check out a Sleepless show, you should absolutely check in for the ride of your life.

Sleepless Me are once again hopeful for this year's Orange County Music Awards "Best Alternative Band" and despite receiving a poor review from OC Weekly by a guy who doesn't like anything but techno, Sleepless has a great chance of winning that award. Details about Sleepless Me, as well as a place to listen to a lot of their music, can be found at www.sleeplessme.com. Check them out and enjoy some *real* rock music!

Casa Angelo Pizza

BY ROSS LICHTMAN
Pride Staff Writer



Casa Angelo is a family owned pizza and fine Italian restaurant. It is virtually unknown to most of San Marcos but is located conveniently close to campus, on San Marcos Blvd.

The restaurant is run by a married couple, with the help of two or three other delivery boys.

Being so small, one might think that it doesn't have the same resources, along with time and money, to compete against high-powered pizza places such as Domino's or Pizza Hut. Where they lack in size, they make up for with their delicious food.

From the moment you sink your teeth into their mouth-watering pizzas, you can tell that they were made with care.

Not only do they serve great pizzas but they also have a wide variety of tasty and authentic Italian food. Their Italian dinners include spaghetti, chicken parmesan,

stuffed shells, ravioli, eggplant parmesan, and much more.

Every dinner you order comes with salad and garlic bread, and with each dinner costing less than \$10, it is a great deal. Another great part of Casa Angelo's menu is their sandwiches.

Some of the choices include pastrami, meat ball, "moosolini" (meatball, sausage AND pepperoni), vegetarian, and chicken. For an 8" sandwich, it is less than \$6 and for an entire 12" sandwich the price is less than \$7.

An essential part of Casa Angelo is their speedy delivery. From the time we ordered to the time they were at our house door was less than 20 minutes.

Overall, Casa Angelo is a small hole in the wall restaurant that greatly exceeds your expectations. I recommend everyone try it at least once because I can promise that you will not be disappointed. You will have a newly found favorite pizza and Italian place to eat.

To check out the menu and plan your order, go to www.casa-angelo.com.



Photo by Ross Lichtman / The Pride

DROPPING:

CD RELEASES
Tuesday, Mar 25

By Tim Moore / Pride Staff Writer



ROCK/ALTERNATIVE

Pretty, Odd.
PANIC AT THE DISCO

14 year-old girls across the world unite in support for Panic at the Disco's follow-up to the wildly successful "A Fever You Can't Sweat Out." The band is showing signs of maturation, not in the content in which they produce, but by eliminating punctuation. That's right, Panic at the Disco (formerly known as Panic! at the Disco) dropped the "!" earlier this year. Sounds like fun.

ROCK

Funplex
THE B-52'S

In their first studio album since 1992, the B-52's make their comeback... this time, all as members of the 50+ club. "Funplex" reportedly has an "all new" sound — guitarist Keith Strickland says, "It's loud, sexy rock & roll with the beat pumped up to hot pink." Sounds like even more fun.



RAP/HIP HOP

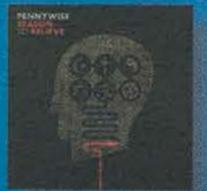
The Wallabies Champ
GHOSTFACE KILLAH

Endeared as "one of the most supreme talents to pick up a mic, ever," Ghostface Killah has his fair share of respect in the hip-hop community. As a member of The Wu-Tang Clan, Ghostface gained notoriety in the 90s before achieving success with his solo career. "The Wallabies Champ" is a collection of rambles and non-album cuts from throughout his solo career.

PUNK/ALTERNATIVE

Reason To Believe
PENNYWISE

Jumping on the Radiohead and Nine Inch Nails bandwagon, Pennywise is taking part in what just might change the surface modern music distribution. Starting today, fans can download the album free and legally thanks to a promotion from Myspace Records and Textango. The album maintains the classic Pennywise sound and political criticism that fans have come to love.



ROCK

Saturday Nights & Sunday Mornings
COUNTING CROWS

In their fifth studio release, and first since 2002, the Counting Crows are back with more inspirational and listener-friendly music. The album has two sides — the first of which, titled "Saturday Nights" features a rock styling, and the second, aptly titled "Sunday Mornings" features a more country sound.

Images courtesy of amazon.com

BE KIND DON'T REWIND



BY IVAN GARCIA
Pride Staff Writer

Don't be fooled. A movie with the promised antics of Jack Black may sound tempting, but this is one comedy that doesn't fulfill its intended purpose.

Jerry (Jack Black) is a junkyard worker who attempts to destroy an electrical plant that he believes is reading his mind. But when his plan goes sour, his magnetized body ends up erasing all the tapes in his friend Mike's (Dante 'Mos Def' Smith) video store, conveniently named Be Kind Rewind.

With a store full of blank videotapes, Jerry and Mike embark on a not-so adventurous journey to remake some of the most memorable movies of our time. The ironic idea in this disappointing movie is that some of the best and most memorable movies are being remade, which just begs you to ask yourself the question: Why aren't I watching *those* movies right now?

Considering this is a comedy, I found myself NOT laughing 90% of the time. Don't get me wrong, the remakes that the protagonists made were amateurishly comedic, but the entire movie just failed to move the audience emotionally.

The remade movies, although humorous, failed to be consistent and plentiful enough to act as a driving force in the film. While Jack Black's performance was usual Jack Black as always, Mos Def came across as a little slow and boring, and that is definitely something that comedies are not about.

With somewhat bland characters and an even duller story, "Be Kind Rewind" fails to hook the audience with its scarcity of laughter.

Chances are you'd be better off staying at home and listening to your Tenacious D CDs.



Photos courtesy Photo courtesy Abbot Genser/New Line Cinema

Stone Imperial Russian Stout



BY JONATHAN E. THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer



Stone Brewery brews and bottles Stone Imperial Russian Stout in Escondido, California. The brewery originally opened in San Marcos in 1996. In 2006, the company moved to a new facility in Escondido to better meet product demand. The current facility is capable of producing up to 250,000 barrels. Stone Brewery should be in Escondido for an extended amount of time.

The brown glass bottle holds 22 fluid ounces. A gargoyles wearing a fur cap



Photo by Jonathan E. Thompson / The Pride

adorned with a star, no doubt a throwback to Imperial Russia, squats holding a mug of stout. The bottle has a bright blue outline while a foggy white outlines the gargoyle. A shiny gold glazed bottle cap, featuring the company's logo in black stencil, caps a bottle with an alcohol by volume of 10.8%. The double than average ABV is characteristic of Imperial Russian Stouts, which often have ABVs of 10-11%. The stout retails for \$5.99 at BevMo.

The stout pours chunky -- a rich black liquid fills the glass. A thin head forms and disappears quickly. The stout radiates a gothic blackish-purplish color. Coffee-like aromas seep into the surrounding air. The murky stout first attacks the tongue. A subtle tingling sensation spreads throughout the taste buds.

The stout gathers intensity during the peak of consumption and finishes off the rest of the oral cavity like a Jackie Chan fight scene. The stout leaves a powerful rolling wave of energy as the stout descends below. The lips smack in joy and demand more.

Stone Imperial Russian Stout should be consumed leisurely in a relaxing environment to fully experience the adventure. Unwind during spring break with this week's stout. If considering the stout, visit a local BevMo quickly as the stout is scheduled to disappear after spring. Have a fun and safe spring break, Cougars!

OneRepublic "Dreaming Out Loud"



BY AMANDA ANDREEN
Pride Staff Writer

Thirteen tracks of juicy vocals and teasing guitar—OneRepublic's "Dreaming Out Loud" is sizzling. A scintillating blend of what falls easily on the ears as a mixture of The Fray, Maroon 5, Keane, and Snow Patrol, "Dreaming Out Loud", off Interscope Records, is heating up the charts and the airwaves across the nation.

"Dreaming Out Loud," moved from slot 45 last week, to slot 20 this week on Billboard's Hot 200 albums. The single "Apologize" featuring Timbaland is #9 on Billboard's Hot 100 singles chart, and "Stop and Stare" is up three spots to the #9 song on Billboard's Pop chart, and is also #9 on iTunes' Top 100 Songs. Not only that, but "Apologize" is the #17 most downloaded ring tone in the nation this week, falling in between "The Devil Went Down to Georgia" by the Charlie Daniels Band and "Stairway to Heaven" by Led Zeppelin.

The album opener, "Say (All I Need)," is a scenic ballad with a techno flare, promptly followed up by "Mercy" which was most recently featured on the March 13 episode of "Smallville," along with "Apologize" and "Stop and Stare." Following "Mercy" is "Stop and Stare"—which stops me in my tracks everytime I hear it. It's that good.

Then comes "Apologize," and there really isn't that much to say about this track other than it's amazing and catchy. "Goodbye Apathy" which falls directly after "Stop and Stare" and "Apologize," mirrors The Fray's sound so closely, it could most definitely be mistaken for a track like "Little House" off

their last album, "How to Save A Life."

Track 7, "Tyrant," brings to mind "Erlkonig" by Franz Schubert with its pounding one note intro, and it definitely isn't the strongest track on the album, but it is apparent they were trying something different, as this track has a little more of a U2 and Bon Jovi vibe.

"Prodigal" starts out slower, and leads in with creeping vocals that could be compared to Snow Patrol and Keane as the song slowly builds into a full-blown pacing rock song with a hint of the Beatles, circa "I am the Walrus" era.

"Won't Stop" has a bit more of a Nashville feel to it, with violins and percussive elements accompanied by a confident steel guitar and curious piano interludes. "Someone to Save You" and "All We Are" sound pretty much the same, except for the really lame sounding drum intro on "Someone to Save You."

Except for those two tracks and "Tyrant," the rest of the album is solid, and even though the "Timbaland featuring OneRepublic" version of "Apologize" rocks, I have no doubt they could have made it to the top without his help.



Photo courtesy Amazon.com