

CSUSM holds ASI Elections

Online ballot available through Thursday

Meet your 2009-2010 presidential candidates

BY DIANA VALDIVIA
Pride Staff Writer

ASI Elections are this week. From March 23th through 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 26th students are able to vote online. Students will be voting for ASI Board of Directors, which include the positions of President, VP of Operations, VP External Affairs, VP Marketing, VP Finance, COAS Representative, Representative At Large, COBA Representative, and COE Representative. ASI Board of Directors are elected to serve and represent the student body at local and state level. Today, Tuesday, March 24, there will be an open forum in front of the Library Plaza where students will be able to hear candidates and ask them any questions.

More ASI Election candidates

VP Operations

Alex Hand
Brittney Russo

VP External Affairs

Amanda Riley
Cory Safford
Travis Wilson

VP Marketing

Greg Reese
Cole Tran

VP Finance

David James Ricardo

COAS Representative

Raisa Alvarado
Anthony Buonocore
Nicolas Lopez
Julia Recht
Kuba Wasowski

Representative At Large

Holly Gerrity
Nathan McWeeney
Lee Wright

COBA Representative

Shane Skelton

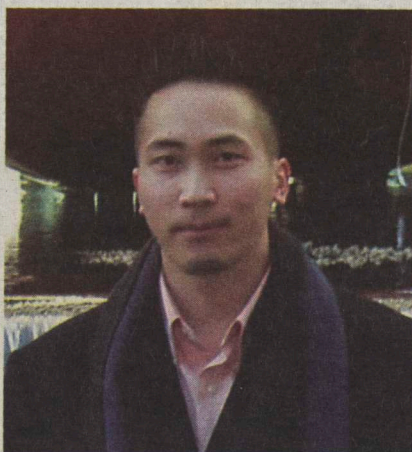
COE Representative

Sara Ouellet



To vote, visit www.csusm.edu/vote

Alexander Hoang



With tenacious passion, unrelenting resolve, and limitless determination, I, Alexander Hoang, have come to serve the CSUSM community as President & CEO of A.S.I. As a natural advocate for others I intend to continue using my voice for the students, and my integrity of following through with action to further enhance A.S.I and effect positive and progressive change at CSUSM.

As a Resident Advisor of the International & Multicultural Experience at the University Village Apartments here at CSUSM my service to others has literally hit home. I received the award of R.A. of the year and Best Programmer of the year 2007-2008 during my engagement as an R.A.

The 23 CSU ASI President's and their teams have elected me to the executive team to lead them as the University Affairs Chair of the California State Student Association. Here I have advocated for CSUSM students, and all 450,000 students of the CSU at a state level in order to keep the CSU accountable to being accessible and affordable for all students.

I have been actively engaged in civic leadership roles and consistently strive for academic excellence in order to lead by example. In total action and in words of truth, I ask sincerely to be your servant leader. I've established the relationships necessary to be truly effective here at CSUSM on issues of student fees, fun programming for all students, and bringing unity to A.S.I and our CSUSM community.

It would be an honor and privilege to serve as your student body government President & CEO in my final year. I seek your support and your vote in order to continue to be a valuable asset for you.

Zach Morrison



I will work hard, as your next ASI President, to have a significant positive impact on your time here at CSUSM. I am passionate about our school and committed to making it a better place; socially, academically and on a daily basis.

In addition to being a current Board Member of ASI (representing the Students at Large), I have been the sole appointed student representative on faculty committees (Budget and Long Range Planning). I am comfortable advocating for students in a variety of situations: from talking one-on-one with President Haynes or the Mayor of San Marcos to addressing the entire Academic Senate or the San Marcos City Council.

I have been able to draw upon my experience in past leadership positions to create a strong relationship with students, faculty, staff and leaders both on and off-campus.

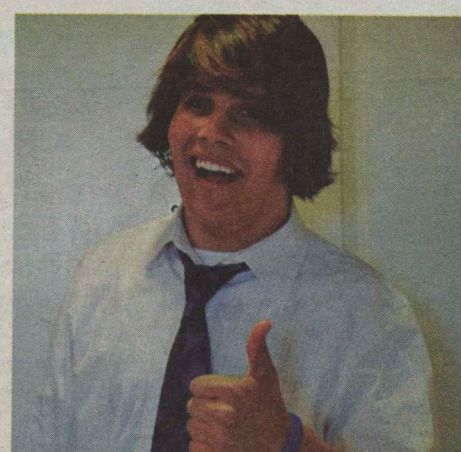
I have worked on many projects through ASI including spearheading the future removal of the CCR (Computer Competency Requirement), creating a parking ticket grace period and assessing how ASI could sponsor more events/dances that can accommodate a larger number of CSUSM students.

As a 21 year old student who has lived in the dorms, off-campus apartments, and been a commuter student from home...concurrent with working in a restaurant...I am aware of the diverse lifestyles and academic paths of the students of CSUSM. My decisions are influenced by both my past experiences and my ability to seek out information and opinions that may be contradictory before reaching a final conclusion.

As the next President of ASI, I will lead and assist each of the Board Members in the development of action plans that will generate results in their areas of responsibility.

Voting for me will insure that you have a President who will always work 100% for the students.

Brian Buttacavoli



What's Up Everyone!

My name is Brian Buttacavoli and I am running to be your next ASI President.

I am a Business Major and going into my senior year here at Cal State San Marcos. I am currently your Vice President of Marketing and a Resident Advisor for the University Village Apartments.

I have been involved in multiple student organizations and have personally hosted numerous programs on campus including, but not limited to: Environmental, Social, Occupational, Spiritual, Intellectual, Physical, Cultural, and Emotional Well-ness Programs.

As your President, I will put everything I am into making CSUSM a fun and safe place to be. I am Safe Zone Certified and care deeply about campus community and involvement.

With the CSU Budget Cuts, tuition on the rise, and our current economic crisis, you need a candidate with experience that will lead our campus to where it needs to be. I want you to know, that this campaign is not about me, it is about YOU. As President, I will advocate for you, the students. It is our campus, and together we can take our campus out of this economic and social rut that it has been put in.

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Pride Staff Writer

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"Hey Ivan,

I am a virgin and I am 20-years-old. Don't get me wrong, I've been offered sex a few times but I'm waiting for that special someone. Everybody tells me to just do it with someone and just get it over with. It seems like everybody is having sex, what should I do?" -Sad Panda

Well Panda, I can say with all honesty and sincerity (I know, weird, isn't it?) that you shouldn't give in to whatever people think you should do. Essentially, no one can tell you what to do but you. So I personally think it's great that you want to wait for that special someone to share this experience with. And yeah, there's a lot of temptation out there but let's be honest, are you going to do what T.V. or what other people tell you and perform a bionic seahorse or magic show? Those are sick and probably severely experienced moves, wait up a bit before you try that. (P.S. if you want to know what those are, just check Urban Dictionary)

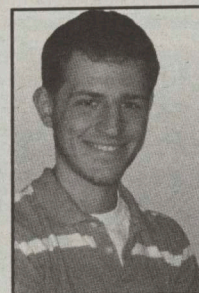
"Dear Mr. Garcia,

Me and my girlfriend have been trying to do something new to spice up the relationship in the bedroom. So for one night I tried giving her the dominatrix roll. We went to a sex shop and bought whips and rope and leather outfits (you know the ones I am talking about) and those mouth piece things. We went home and tried it that night. I must admit it was AMAZING at first!!! I got naked and she tied me up. She started whipping me and the rush I got was indescribable. We stuck with this routine for a while and then about two weeks ago she started to get really violent. She started whipping and hitting me harder. It really hurt and I told her how I felt and she just called me a baby and said to deal with it. Now all I get is pain instead of pleasure. How should I tell her that I don't want to do this any more? Please I need all the help I can get." -Hung Daddy

Well Hung Daddy (I lol'd), it sounds like you got a painful problem. Forgive me if I find the humor in this, but I just want to see the look on the porn shop owner's face. I bet he was thinking something along the lines of: "This guy is gonna get rocked!" But as for your problem, it sucks...and not in a good way. If there is no pleasure involved in this torture anymore, try setting some rules. For example, when she starts getting too rough, make sure you both discuss the idea of a safety word prior to the

Bill of Rights

Drop that four letter crutch

BY BILL RHEIN
Senior Staff Writer

Many people let an occasional "four-letter word" or "sentence enhancer" slip in moments of excitement or stress. These potent words are a verbal crutch

you may use when lacking the ability to come up with a better word. If you use these words, show some discretion.

When playing "Halo 3" on Xbox Live, the only thing more annoying than a prepubescent teen squeaking into their microphone is someone compelled to drop F-bombs in between every word. It is a versatile word, but using it does not make what you have to say more important.

The way I see it is, the more you have to use four-letter words, the weaker your argument is. Logic works better than a nasty word. While "people watching," I notice many students on campus tossing around these words to make themselves

one, unless you want everyone in the vicinity to know how low you are. Do not use words like "gay" or "retarded." If you are tempted to let one slip, do it quietly or in your head. There's no need to share bad vibes with others.

I have noticed people like to laugh at swearing. Even as we get older, overhearing a well-timed curse makes us smirk and giggle. I think when used properly, a curse can create irony and provoke a laugh.

Swearing is only funny when used appropriately and only for an audience that will stand the words. For example, The Lonely Islands song, "I'm On a Boat" is loaded with curses, but works because it is a parody of rappers who abuse that word that starts with an 'f'. YouTube.com star "Winnebago Man" makes people laugh not because of the words he uses, but the relatable frustration he lets loose.

I cannot tell you to stop using any words, but know that it makes your arguments weaker and if you use them at the wrong times, you will look ridiculous.

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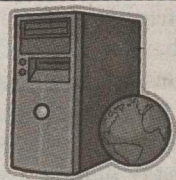
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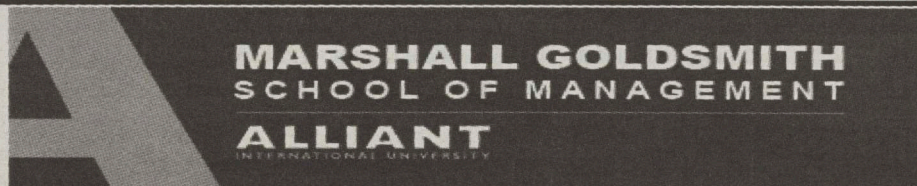


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Keep SPF on hand this spring break

Skin cancer is more common than you think

BY MATT LEWIS
Pride Staff Writer

For many students, Spring Break is synonymous with fun in the sun. It is a chance to get out of class for a week to do what they want, be it surfing, beach going, skating, hiking, or some other outdoor activity. In the rush to get out, however, many people fail to adequately protect their skin from the harmful rays of the sun. While at the time, this does not seem like much harm, a lifetime of sun damage can lead to serious health problems.

According to the National Cancer Institute, there are 1 million new cases of skin cancer in America every year and over a thousand deaths as a direct result. Along with smoking and

obesity, it is one of the largest causes of preventable death in the U.S.

Skin cancer comes in several different forms, which affect unique areas and parts of the skin. According to the National Cancer Institute's website, www.cancer.gov, melanoma, one of the most common types, forms in melanocytes, or the skin cells that make pigment. Skin cancer that forms in basal cells, the small, round cells in the base of the outer layer of skin, is called basal cell carcinoma. When cancer forms in squamous cells (flat cells that form the surface of the skin) it is called squamous cell carcinoma. Skin cancer that forms in neuroendocrine cells (cells that release hormones in response to signals from the ner-

vous system) is called neuroendocrine carcinoma of the skin.

Dr. Steven Bates, who practices at the Student Health and Counseling center, outlined the symptoms of skin cancer.

"The main thing is to keep an eye on moles or any other unusual or new skin growth," Bates said. "For instance, if the skin growth is growing rapidly, changing color, bleeding, changes in texture (becomes scaly or itchy) or becomes asymmetrical, it should definitely be looked at by a doctor ASAP. Ideally, you should do regular self-checks on the moles you have and have a dermatologist check your skin once a year."

The risk factors of skin cancer include excessive exposure to sunlight or other ultraviolet

radiation, like tanning booths. While normal exposure to sunlight is an important source of Vitamin D, too much sun without adequate protection causes major skin damage.

"The best protection you have is sunscreen" said Jennifer Rummins, a local registered nurse. "If you are going to be out in the sun for a while, use at least an SPF of 30 that protects against both UVA and UVB rays."

In addition, Dr. Bates warned that those who have fair skin tones, freckles, or have a family history of melanoma are most at risk. Both Rummins and Dr. Bates also recommended limiting your time in the sun and wearing loose protective clothing. So when heading out the door this Spring Break, be smart

and remember to pack the sunscreen—it could end up saving your life.

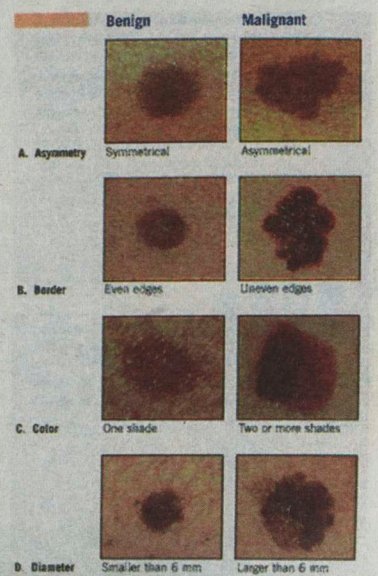


Image courtesy of mayoclinic.org

Grappa's and Legend's closed

Player's Sports Bar in talks to take over

BY JONATHAN THOMPSON
Senior Staff Writer

Grappa's and Legend's officially closed down. Player's Sports Bar is in the process of buying the recently revamped local restaurant. As business dwindled over the years, Grappa's split into two restaurants sharing one roof. The bar and restaurant served customers until there was no more food or alcohol.

"It wasn't fun. It was really rough trying to keep the doors open," said Grappa's and Legend's restaurant manager John Medina.

After the recent renovation

that added Legend's, a sports bar-oriented atmosphere, it seemed that the business was headed for greener pastures. However, from the recent closing, the remodel came too late to salvage the flailing Cougar hangout.

"The owners banked on the sports bar bringing in more students from [California State University San Marcos] and keeping it alive. There was a big increase, but it didn't happen," said Grappa's and Legend's bartender and former CSUSM student Tyler Barr.

Although there are various reasons why Grappa's and Legend's ultimately folded, some reasons point toward legal issues

and marketing.

"The City of San Marcos wouldn't let us do a lot of things because of the license we had. It was the biggest fight. We couldn't have any live entertainment, and we couldn't change our liquor license. We had to close at midnight Sunday through Wednesday, even if it included a holiday like New Year's Eve. You tell me how you are supposed to be a bar and close at midnight," said Barr.

"We weren't quick enough to respond to all of the issues. Without advertising money or promotions, we couldn't really do much," said Medina.

The recent rumors of Player's

Sport Bar purchasing the restaurant are true. Co-partners Mike Pasulka and Ted Semtrini who have worked seven years together at the Player's Sports Bar in San Diego, and five years together previously, are pushing through red tape to acquire Grappa's and Legend's.

"According to our attorneys, we should be open in 60 to 90 days from now. We have plenty of college students at our current location. We don't cheapen our drinks or our place. We put our money back into our big screen televisions and our generous proportions. You can't eat an appetizer and entre and finish both of them," said

Pasulka.

Players should fare better than Grappa's and Legend's as they plan to have more entertainment for patrons.

"Player's is definitely going to have a sports bar feel, but still be a family friendly restaurant. There will be a lot more options, not just televisions and food, like video games," said Medina.

Although students will have to wait for the opening, Player's will be here soon enough.

"The guys coming are going to be really good for the place. Player's is very customer oriented. They are going to take care of the college population and local residents," said Medina.



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UniversityVoice

Photos by Kevin Chatham /Pride Staff Writer

"Is anything threatening to rain on your Spring Break parade?"



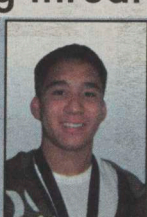
"I have to get my cavities filled. And I have a class at Palomar during spring break."

Brittney Banfer
Sophomore



"I have a ten page paper due after spring break, so I am going to spend my break researching, writing and revising a fun paper on legislature."

Janet Barajas
Freshman



"I am getting my wisdom teeth removed in the beginning of spring break."

Pat Tang
Freshman



"I have a large project due for a Bio class! And I have work all week!"

Sarah Beck
Sophomore



"I don't know, rain maybe? To be honest, Spring Break should be pretty good for the most part."

Vince Rodriguez
Freshman

Life's a beach

San Diego County's best beaches

BY MATT LEWIS
Pride Staff Writer

People who have lived in San Diego for any amount of time could immediately tell you what their favorite beach is. Southern California, San Diego County in particular, is home to some of the most temperate year-round coastline in the world. Be it surfing, boogie board-

ing, sunbathing, or hanging out with friends, the beaches of San Diego are perfect for almost any activity (besides drinking, that is).

Everyone has a favorite beach for their own reasons, and CSUSM students in particular have their fair share of favorite spots. Jermaine Jackson, a junior at CSUSM, cites that his favorite beach spots are Marine

Street and Windansea in La Jolla.

"They both just have a really nice shoreline, and often don't get too crowded," Jackson said. "It's ideal for skim boarding too, because the crowds and little kids usually head towards La Jolla shores. Also, there's a Wahoo's Fish Tacos nearby that me and my friends like to go to afterwards."

On the topic of La Jolla beaches, many students who surf mentioned the famous Blacks Beach as an ideal surfing beach.

"It [Blacks Beach] isn't for beginners, because the waves can get pretty big," said Hayden Ball, a local surfer. "Plus, there are a lot of people there who take it pretty seriously, so you don't want to get in their way or end up on the reef!" Ball cautioned.

While the beaches of south county are no doubt world-renowned, what about the beaches

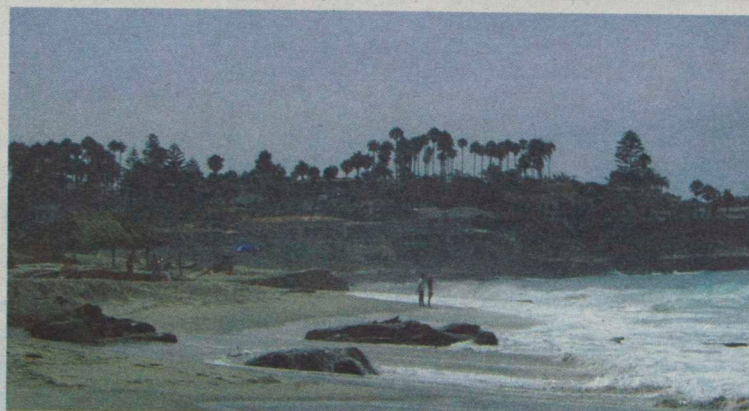


Photo by Jermaine Jackson

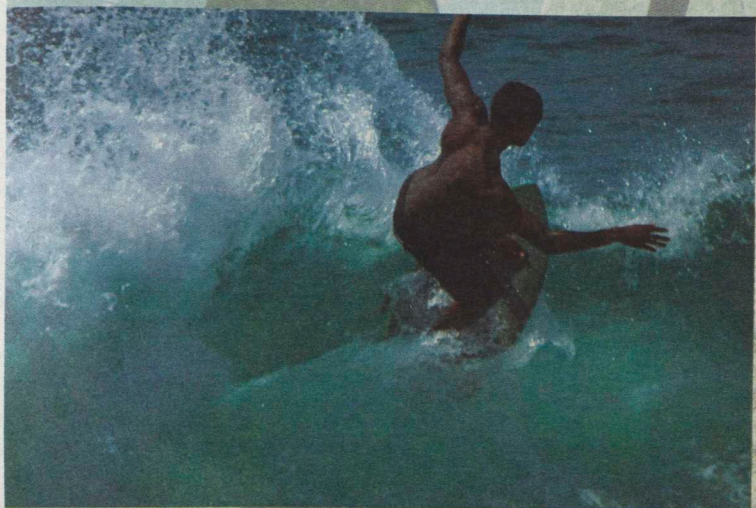


Photo by Jermaine Jackson

closer to home?

Reid Harrell, an incoming freshman from Vista, said his favorite beaches include Tamarack and Terra Mar in Carlsbad.

"The waves may not be as big or difficult, but you can pretty much guarantee that they won't be half as crowded as south county beaches," Harrell said. "It's a great area for long boarding [surfing], and just nice to hang out at for fun with friends."

Carlsbad seemed to be a popular choice among students, not just for the beaches, but for living space as well.

"I live literally two blocks away from Tamarack beach, and it's been like heaven," said Angela Mail, a CSUSM junior. Originally from Wisconsin, Mail said she was not used to

the close proximity of beaches like other people in California. "The rent is really steep, but it's just completely worth it to wake up on a weekend morning and walk out to the beach."

For most people, what keeps them coming back to a certain beach time after time are the memories of good times. Some people might be attached to Torrey Pines beach because they used to visit there with their families. Others might remember winning surf competitions at 19th street in Del Mar, or hanging out with friends at nighttime bonfires in Cardiff. Whatever the reason, these beaches stay with people, and every time they smell saltwater or drive down the I-5, they are reminded of these fun, exciting or relaxing experiences.

Mexico conflict looms over spring break

BY SANDRA CHALMERS
Senior Staff Writer

The constant news concerning the dangerous conditions brewing in Mexico have hit home and now threaten students' spring break plans.

Continuous emails were sent out to the entire student body and faculty advising to take extreme necessary precautions in making any trips to Mexico. Pat Worden, Vice President of Student Affairs, on behalf of the Office of Communications forwarded the advisory along with a link to the U.S. Department of State travel alert implemented on Feb. 20, 2009.

"Recently our Office of Communications sent out a State Department Travel Alert to the CSUSM community that

reports an increase in crime and violence in Mexico. The purpose of such a Travel Alert is to warn prospective travelers of security risks and dangerous conditions," Worden stated in the e-mail. "I urge you to review the State Department information as you consider whether to travel across the border during Spring Break. We want you to have a relaxing, refreshing, and safe Spring Break."

The U.S. State Department, Bureau of Consular Affairs, travel alert expresses that a number of locations along the U.S./Mexico border are experiencing rapid growth in the rates of robberies, homicides, carjackings and petty thefts, notably in Tijuana and northern Baja California within the last year.

"In recent years, dozens of U.S. citizens have been kidnapped across Mexico, many of these cases remain unresolved," the travel alert stated.

Safety tips for traveling include always taking the main roads and traveling during the daylight hours, travel in a group, do not travel alone, and never display expensive watches, purses or even jewelry as these items can viewed as easy targets for crimes.

"Mexican drug cartels are engaged in an increasingly violent conflict both among themselves and with Mexican security services, for control of narcotics trafficking routes along the U.S. Mexico border. In order to combat violence, the government of Mexico has deployed troops in

various parts of the country. U.S. citizens should cooperate fully with official checkpoints when traveling on Mexican highways," according to the travel alert.

Another precaution when traveling is to check with your cellular provider for international cell phone reception and service. Many carriers offer this service for a limited amount of days, not a long-term contract, and for a sensible price. For convenience and safety, a cell phone can be used in case of an emergency. U.S. citizens can contact the nearest U.S. consulates or the U.S. Embassy in case of any trouble. Contact numbers are listed on the travel.state.gov website.

"Mexico is a popular destination and we want students

to exercise caution and avoid dangerous situations if they decide to travel south of the border," said Margaret Lutz, CSUSM's Public Information Officer. "It is important for students to take this alert seriously as there has been an increase in documented violence in Mexico. This violence is indiscriminate and innocent people have been victimized. Students should take common sense precautions and be aware of their surroundings."

"Students should drink responsibly, especially with people they don't know, and keep passports and credit cards with them at all times. Students traveling anywhere abroad should read up on their destination's news and tell someone from home about travel plans," Lutz added.

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What to see on DVD

From out of this world to the end of the world

BY BLAINE H. MOGIL
Pride Staff Writer

This week offers a nice selection of movies with an international perspective. From a down to earth story about a man down on his luck, to the story of a visitor from the stars who brings with him dreams of great things to come, all three films give

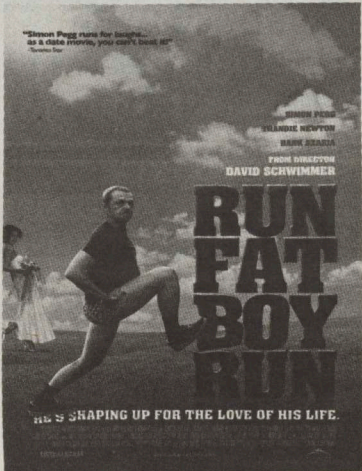


Image courtesy of impawards.com

dramatically different views on the funny ways that we look at life.

"Run Fatboy Run," stars Simon Pegg as Dennis Doyle, a man who so underestimates his own self worth that he runs away from all the fabulous things life has put before him as he abandons his beautiful, pregnant bride, alone and utterly distraught, at the altar. Five years later, he works as a security guard at a women's

clothing store in London, and that is perhaps the pinnacle of his life's achievements after running from his destiny. Thandie Newton, who recently played Condi Rice in the film "W," portrays Libby, Dennis' "almost wife." Libby is the balance in this film. Newton's smooth performance allows others in the film to test the outer limits of control. Hank Azaria, a comic mastermind, fills the role of Whit, Libby's love interest. In this role he plays a crafty foil to Dennis. As the cracks begin to appear in Whit's perfect exterior and expose his inner beast, Dennis begins to build a foundation for his own sense of self worth and expose some of his inner beauty. It was Dylan Moran as Gordon, Libby's cousin and Dennis' best friend, who stole the show. Although Moran is pushing forty, and seems to be a late starter in the movie business, he has what it takes to go the distance. In this film, Dennis must prove to himself by running a marathon that he has what it takes to go the distance, in the race and in life. Dennis finally locates his self worth, at the finish line of the race.

What to See ****

"CJ7" is written, directed, and stars Stephen Chow. What can I say about Chow? I really like him. Some films give you the impression that a movie factory took a familiar story, threw in some well-known actors,

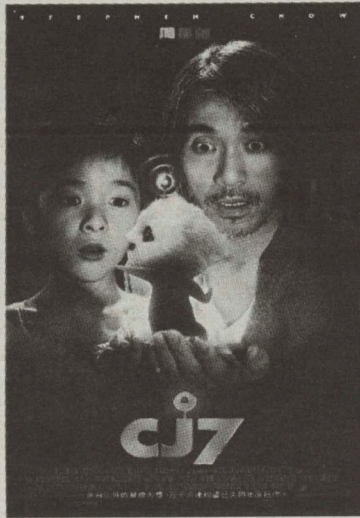


Image courtesy of collider.com

added a bit of marketing magic and created a Frankenmovie. When Stephen Chow creates a film, the satisfaction in watching is more akin to tasting the delicate flaky crust of an artisan prepared almond croissant. Layers of flavor, a perfect blend of spices, each taste a sensation for your palate and your soul. Stephen Chow, thank you. In this film, he moves away from "Kung Fu Hustle" and "Shaolin Soccer," which gave western audiences a brilliant introduction to his works, and goes after a more mainstream family production with every bit the same enthusiasm. In this film, the mother died and the father works long hours as a "coolie" in order to make enough money to send his son to private school. They live together in squalor, yet find hap-

piness in their lives together. The father, played by Chow, rummages through the garbage dump to find things that make their existence a little better. One day he brings home a nondescript green rubber ball to his son. As we find out, this ball is actually an alien that they name CJ7. The boy dreams of all the great things CJ7 will do to help him in life, yet he can never imagine or appreciate just how much CJ7 really does for him. This movie expertly blends pathos, logos, and ethos not according to a recipe, but much as an artisan instinctively adds or takes away a pinch of this or that to create a perfect blend. This is a funny, poignant and fully satisfying movie experience.

What to See ****

"Erik the Viking," stars Tim Robbins as Erik. Don't misunderstand. I really like Tim Robbins as an actor. The problem is that he is either not an actor, not a very good actor, or perhaps he falls into the category my daughter calls "non-actors" with such other performers I enjoy watching such as Charlie Sheen and Norm McDonald. He is a master of the craft of non-acting. This film should be required viewing for anyone taking LIT 320, sacred texts. If you view this film without understanding the basis of the story, you might as well watch it in the native tongue of the Vikings with Runic subtitles. This film is anything but sacred, yet it is

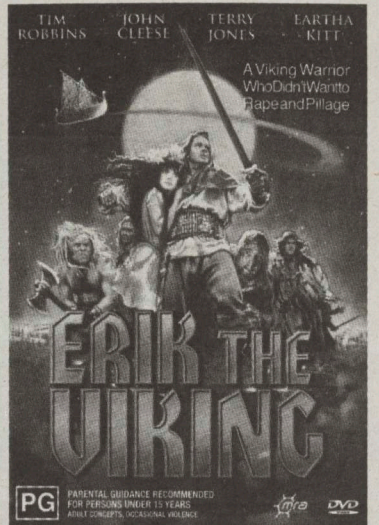


Image courtesy of sub-titles.net

not sacrilegious as one might expect from "Monty Python." Terry Jones, from "Monty Python," retells the story of Ragnarok, the battle at the end of the earth. John Cleese plays Halfdan the Black, father to the first King of Norway, which seems irrelevant to this film. But if they added this character simply to feature Cleese, then all is well as he plays the diabolical role very well. Filmed largely on location in Norway and Malta, the aesthetic of this film is wonderful to behold. This film does not achieve the brilliance of "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" nor does it flounder in the pit of hell as does "Jabberwocky." Heed this warning, do your homework before seeing this film.

What to See **

Fashion inspiration: "Gossip Girl"

BY KEVIN CHATHAM
Pride Staff Writer

"Gossip Girl" is a television drama based on a series of books by Cecily von Ziegesar with the same name. The premise of the show revolves around a group of young socialites in Manhattan's Upper East Side. The show is ripe with clichés, but excels as a beacon of impeccable fashion taste. Below we will examine the styles of two of the main characters:

Blair Waldorf



Image courtesy of WB Network

Blair is one of the main characters of the series, she was raised to be the premier socialite of Manhattan and her style mirrors her polished personality. Blair is very classic and preppy. Her fashion aesthetic is typical of the Upper East Side: it is one that reflects power, privilege, and upper-class. To get the "Blair" look follow these simple rules.

1. Classic: Blair's style is very classic. Look for traditional silhouettes and tai-

lored pieces that accentuate your body. Blair attends an upscale school, so to achieve the preppy look, stick with white oxfords and dark navy blue skirts.

2. Feminine Details: Blair is very feminine. Look for details with hints of delicacy such as lace in order to achieve understated elegance.

3. Color Accents: Blair uses color to modernize her look. To keep things fresh and exciting, look for accessories that have bold colors. Limit the accents to one or two pieces or risk being a visual overload.

Dan Humphrey

Dan lives in the Upper West

Side of Manhattan, a place that reflects a culture that values liberal sensibilities and artistic expression. Dan's style is less formal than Blair's, and Dan tends to lean toward a more relaxed look. Here are a few rules to achieve the "Dan" look.

1. Layers: Dan likes to layer with cardigans and vests. So layer your favorite shirt with a cardigan or vest to



Image courtesy of WB Network

achieve effortless style.

2. Military: Dan wears a lot of masculine military-esque apparel. Think of military jackets and safari jackets as a replacement to blazers.

3. Down to Earth: Dan wears a very neutral palette. Keep things understated by staying with muted tones that compliment a relaxed look.

A Neverending Story Popcorn storytelling

I wrapped myself tighter against Evan as we stood as quietly as possible, straining to see what might be in the bush ahead of us. I found myself breathing with short shallow breaths as I strained not only with my eyes, but also with my ears to determine what might be in front of us. As we stood still, the sounds of the forest seemed to grow around us, and the dark seemed almost palpable.

The bush began to move again and there seemed to be a darkening shadow moving away from the bush and down the trail toward us. In the dim light of the moon it was hard to see any detail. It seemed like a dark shadow without any mass. It just kept coming closer... and closer. I was tempted to break free of Evan's grip and run as fast as I could, but

somewhere in the back of my mind was this survival thought: "running will only attract more attention" from what ever was coming toward us.

When it got within 5 feet the moonlight was sufficient to add detail to the dark void. It didn't seem as big, and it seemed to have some kind of light and dark color pattern. I was about to scream and run when the animal stopped about 3 feet away from us. It looked at us quizzically, wiggling its nose and sniffing the air to determine what we were.

Evan leaned close to my ear and whispered, "Don't move. If you frighten it, we will both regret it. It's a skunk!" A wave of relief seemed to pass through me and my muscles began to relax. It was then I realized

that I hadn't taken a breath for quite some time. I dragged air into my lungs as quietly as possible, and let it out silently through my lips.

The skunk turned tentatively toward the side of the path, gave us one more look, and disappeared into the underbrush. Evan and I looked at each other and began to chuckle with relief. This soon turned into a full roaring, pain in the side, lung gasping laughter. We finally collapsed on the ground out of breath. For several minutes, every time we looked at each other we began chuckling again.

We finally gathered ourselves up and began our trek on down the trail in search of Tim and Ryan. Evan seemed comfortable with my holding his hand as we walked along. The trail began to broaden and open

up out of the woods onto the edge of a lake. The moon seemed to light up the whole surface of the lake as its surface gently rippled with the breeze.

We looked in both directions up and down the beach and hollered for Tim and Ryan. The sounds of the forest retreated into silence around us. But as we listened for a reply, the creatures of the night once again began their nightly chatter. "Which way do you think we should go Evan?" "I'm not sure," he said, "I think there's a swimming area down to the right. Maybe we should check there first." It sounded as good as anything to do at this point, so I told him the go-ahead and lead the way.

When we got to the beach, we discovered the dying embers of a fire in the sand, surrounded by rocks. I

noticed a jacket on the ground and picked it up. "It's Ryan's, I'm sure of it," I said. "You're right, I recognize that tear on the sleeve. I wonder where they are?" We began yelling once again into the distant darkness in hopes that we would get an answer. The only reply we got was the gentle lapping noise of the waves on the beach and the night sounds from the forest.

To Be Continued...

Each week, a new writer continues "A Neverending Story" having first appeared in our March 10 issue. To read the previous 2 chapters, visit theesusmpride.com and search in archive.

Check in next week to read the continuation of "A Neverending Story" as told by a different writer.

Hits of Sunshine

Home Video

BY AMY SALISBURY
Faces and Places Editor

I challenge you to name a good electronica band. “That’s easy,” you might say, “Portishead.” I would swiftly agree, possibly cite a reference to “Dummy,” or explore the progress the band made with their latest album. I challenge you to name a good American electronica band. After a discomfited pause, you might offer Moby. Correct. But how many American musicians actually propel the electronica genre?

The majority of forward-thinkers spring from Europe. By the 90s, musicians quickly embraced technological

advancements and applied them in synthesized loops and samples to produce tracks with sounds beyond organic instrumentation. Björk and Massive Attack characterized the progression as they brought sub-genres like trip-hop and dub into the mainstream. American bands, R.E.M. and Smashing Pumpkins, took influence from this European wave, but had yet to break away from their alternative roots.

Then, in 2003, Home Video finally did it. Collin Ruffino and David Gross formed the Brooklyn-based band out of thin air. Gross, a classically trained pianist, didn’t experience 20th century music until Ruffino introduced it to him

in the form of Radiohead, Massive Attack, and (conveniently) Portishead. In 2004, Home Video released two EPs by way of Warp Records. English radio stations and publications took notice of the band’s solidly electronic roots, and by 2006, the band boasted consistent airplay after Defend Music released the full-length debut “No Certain Night or Morning.” “It Will Be OK,” released in late 2008, is the band’s third EP and first set of recordings with drummer Jim Orso.

“Maybe What You Need” characterizes Home Video’s raw, synthetic sound. A heavy bassline peppered with tinny drums gather strength as minimalist loops surface. The



Photo by Home Video

thickly layered swell introduces a gentle, Thom Yorke-esque voice that turns into a harmonious chant of a chorus. “Maybe what you need isn’t love. Maybe what you need is a doctor,” Ruffino and Gross suggest to an unknown subject. Man-made zips and hits fade out as a placid keyboard

riff flows around “oohs” and “aahs.”

The relatively new band, Home Video, still have a good bit of catching up to do if Ruffino and Gross are ever to compare to the European electronica scene. If I have anything to say about it, they are going in the right direction.



Naked Juice’s Green Machine Hulk’s real secret formula

BY JONATHAN THOMPSON
Senior Staff Writer

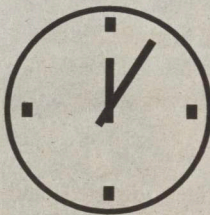


Aseptic Micro-organism Processor I had to sterilize 20,000 gallons of Naked Juice a day on average,” said Naked Juice producer employee and Senior Business Major Kyle McClellan.

After a rigorous shaking, Green Machine pours extremely chunky as it should since it is made with 2 ¾ apples, ½ a banana, 1/3 kiwi fruit, 1/3 mango, and a hint of pineapple. Also living up to the name is the green gooey texture and color. The juice enters smooth before a Hulk of flavors such as banana and apple excite the taste buds and tongue. The yummy juice quickly disappears down below.

Green Machine’s jam

packed nutrients make the juice a healthy and hearty snack before those 7AM Yoga classes. Make sure to check out other delicious flavors. Get Naked!



Vital Information

	IN	5 MIN OUT	OUT
Starbucks Drinks	Chai Tea Latte	Vivano	Caramel Macchiato
Dessert	Home made cookies (you can taste the love)	Cold Stone	Candy Bars
Spring Break Activities	Roadtrips (always in style)	Las Vegas (sometimes things don't always stay there)	Mexico (for safety reasons)
Hangouts	Bonfires (more like bondfires)	Progressive dinners	Movies (should't you hang out with friends to talk?)
Stores	Urbanoutfitters (best store ever)	Nordstrom (eh...)	Hot Topic (being emo is out)

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In theaters this week

BY BILL RHEIN
Senior Staff Writer

This week, moviegoers will have their choice of an action thriller, another graphic horror, and an animated family film.

First, I am unimpressed by the looks of "12 Rounds," starring John Cena, of WWE. Cena plays a police detective

who must play twelve "games" in order to save his girlfriend from a criminal he once put in jail.

From the looks of the trailer and promotional pictures, this looks like an amalgamation of several other action films. The storyline sounds very similar to a mesh of "Die Hard" and "Die Hard with a Vengeance."

Coincidentally, Renny Harlin, who directed "Die Hard 2", is the man behind this film. "Die Hard 2" was the worst in the series, as I like to pretend the fourth one was never made. With so many classic Schwarzenegger and Stallone action films available to rent, do not waste time or money on "12 Rounds."

Next, "The Haunting in Connecticut," is set to scare audiences. The film revolves around the dark and supernatural events that occur after a family moves into a Victorian house in Connecticut. Lionsgate Studio claims the movie is based on true events, but I remain doubtful.

The poster features an image of a boy violently vomiting, which leaves me shaken, not scared. I have the same feeling about this flick that I did when the remakes of "Friday the 13th" and "The Last House on the Left" came out earlier this year. "The Haunting in Connecticut" looks like it will be based on cheap scares with evil



Image courtesy of Lionsgate

clairvoyants and demons rather than building tension and really scaring the audience.

Lastly, DreamWorks Studios is taking a stab at the market with "Monsters vs. Aliens." The plot is what the title says: aliens invade Earth and the military unleashes its secret stash of "monsters" to fight them. This may sound like the next big Michael Bay romp, but it is actually a CGI family film.

This looks like it could get DreamWorks animation back on track after "Shrek the Third" and "Bee Movie." Like the studio's other recent films, "Madagascar 2" and "Kung Fu Panda," this film features a huge cast of major stars, including Reese Witherspoon, Seth Rogan, Kiefer Sutherland, and Stephen Colbert.

Also notable about this film is that it will be shown in 3-D. For those who have not already noticed, this is the year of 3-D movies. So far, cinemas have shown "Coraline," "My Bloody Valentine," and "Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience." This seems like a ploy to get audiences who have high-definition TVs and home theaters.

Another film coming out this summer in 3-D is Disney/Pixar's "UP." Disney/Pixar has been on a roll with good films for the past few summers. I am worried about "Monsters vs. Aliens" coming out in March and not even trying to compete with "UP." If "MvA" were good, I figure DreamWorks would have waited to release it with the other summer blockbusters.



Image courtesy of Dreamworks



Sarika Thai Kitchen

Authentic and fresh Thai cuisine with great prices

BY CONSUELO MARTINEZ
Pride Staff Writer

In San Marcos, there are a handful of Thai food restaurants to choose from. One of these options is the Sarika Thai Kitchen, a small family-owned restaurant in San Marcos. I came across the Sarika Thai Kitchen one day when I was looking for a different Thai restaurant in the area. Since the banner outside of the small restaurant read "Grand Opening," I was curious to taste their food. Since then, the Sarika Thai Kitchen has been my

favorite place to eat Thai cuisine in North County.

The Sarika Thai Kitchen is somewhat hidden in a commercial center off San Marcos Boulevard directly across from Restaurant Row and next to the Filipino Depot. The "Grand Opening" sign still hangs outside of the restaurant even though the business has been there for over two years. The business is one of two Thai restaurants in North County owned by the Vongsana family from Bangkok, Thailand. The current owners are Vincent and Sarika Vongsana who are third

generation in their family to run a Thai restaurant. The other location, Emerald Thai by Sarika, is located minutes away in Vista. According to the Sarika Thai Kitchen's website, their slogan is "North County's Best Thai Food." I have to agree that the Sarika Thai Kitchen is the best Thai cuisine that I have tasted in North County that also has the best prices.

To get the most variety for your buck, the best deals are during the day. With 15 traditional Thai dishes to choose from for the lunch specials, each is a deal that is hard to find for the quality and amount of food that

this restaurant serves. The lunch special includes your main entree, soup, salad, a fried spring roll and fried wonton. The lunch specials are available Monday through Friday from 11:00am to 3:00p.m. and prices range from \$6.95 to \$9.95. Whether your preference is vegetarian, poultry, beef, or seafood, you will have a variety of dishes to choose from at the Sarika Thai Kitchen. The chefs use natural and fresh ingredients with exotic spices and they use vegetable oil and no MSG. The dishes are traditionally spicy; however, one does have the option to choose the level of spice by indicating from a range of "very mild" that begins at 1, to "fire hot" ending in number 10. If it is too spicy, you can always quench your thirst with one of their cold Thai Iced Teas, a great treat! The Thai Iced Tea has a strong black tea taste sweetened with their delicious coconut milk. Coconut milk is a key ingredient in the many dishes used in Thai cuisine.

For those who enjoy thick sauces like curry, I recommend any of the curry dishes. My favorites are the panang curry and yellow curry. All lunch and dinner choices include the main entree and steamed rice with a hint of jasmine flavor. If you do not take advantage of the lunch spe-

cial, be prepared to get less variety for a higher dinner price. The dinner entrees do not include the soup, salad, fried spring roll and fried wonton. Instead, you receive a larger portion of the entree and rice. Whether your visit takes place during the day or evening, the wide array of choices of appetizers, entrees, desserts and drinks will be tasty and reasonable in price. The small, quiet atmosphere of the restaurant and the friendly and quick service will only add to your enjoyable experience at the Sarika Thai Kitchen.

WHAT: Sarika Thai Kitchen
WHERE: 1001 W. San Marcos Blvd. #130, San Marcos, CA 92078
CONTACT: (760) 752-0091 www.sarikathai.com
HOURS: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; noon - 9 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sunday.
COST: Lunch specials from \$6.95 to 9.95; dinner entrees from \$7.95 to \$13.95.



Photo by Consuelo Martinez

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