

THE
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-News-



Photo courtesy of Latino Beat

By KRISTINA SETH

Two teachers from Vaughn, N.M., will be at several San Diego area colleges next week to tell how they went from idolized to demonized in less than six months.

The two famous Cordova sisters, Patsy, 47, and Nadine, 40, are fighting not only for their civil rights but for far more. They have become the center of a national controversy over what constitutes "appropriate material" to teach.

According to Greg Toppo, a reporter for The New Mexican newspaper, "their difficulties began last fall when they began looking for a program relevant to their students' lives. They looked beyond the history books and developed a brief course built around the work of labor leader Cesar Chavez and others in the Chicano civil rights movement."

The resulting controversy cost the sisters their jobs in the 165-student, kindergarten-12th-grade Vaughn school district, where nine out of 10 students are Hispanics. The two contend there was nothing controversial in the new course. "Why is it we can teach everyone else's history, but my history offends people?" asked Nadine Cordova.

Her question now will have to be answered in court. The New Mexico Civil Liberties Union has agreed to represent the sisters in suits against the Vaughn school board.

The Cordovas will be in San Diego from Nov. 3 to Nov. 8 to speak on issues in multicultural education. Their lectures include one at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 3 at San Diego State University's Aztec Center. Others are at UCSD at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 4 at UCSD's cross-cultural Center and at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 5 at the University of San Diego's Solomon Hall. For more information, contact the UCSD cross-cultural Center at (619) 822-0173.

The controversy started last year when Vaughn Superintendent Art Martinez leveled charges of racism against the sisters after Nadine Cordova held the first meeting of a MEChA chapter club on campus.

VAUGHN, NM — Patsy and Nadine Cordova wanted to teach Hispanic students about the history of their people. But, district officials thought they were preaching the gospel of hate.

Martinez charged that the MEChA Club "came across in a very negative way. It was racist, politically divisive and it just didn't work."

Last December, Martinez dropped the district's support for the club and requested the sisters to stop teaching Chicano studies. The Cordovas eventually agreed to do so, but tried to come up with a suitable replacement.

On Feb. 21, they wrote Martinez and the school board saying they planned to use "Teaching Tolerance," a curriculum developed and used in Alabama. After receiving no response, the two began using the new program in their classes.

A week later, they received letters from Martinez notifying them they were fired for insubordination. The sisters challenged the decision, but the Vaughn school board narrowly upheld the superintendent.

The wife of one board member who voted to keep the sisters charged that the sisters were "victims of a personal vendetta" by several board members and prominent local figures who were determined to keep Chicano history out of the classroom.

"Martinez never met with us or observed our classes and never had a committee review our curriculum, as required by district policy," Nadine Cordova charged. Added her sister: "If there were acts of racism, the Superintendent should have been observing me every day for a month or two."

Parent Angela Gutierrez said, "My daughter was never taught to hate Anglos, or anybody else for that matter. People just made a mountain out of a molehill."

One of Nadine Cordova's students added, "They gave us the bad with the good. They gave us the story of Cesar Chavez and let us decide. We believed what we wanted to believe. It made me proud to be who I am."

The sisters said they were prompted to introduce the new studies by their students. "We wanted to teach material that specifically interested them,"

said Nadine. "I felt like these students needed something that was stimulating to their minds." Added Patsy: "This area of

See Cordova Sisters Page 3

Night classes still require flexibility

By EVELYN CHOROSER

If you're planning to get your degree by attending night school at CSUSM, your options are somewhat limited at the moment. "Students need to be quite flexible to complete a course of study at night," said Therese Baker, CSUSM's Evening Degree Program faculty coordinator. "There aren't that many class choices available, so night students need to select required classes when they are offered."

Evening degrees are offered in history, literature and writing, social sciences, women's studies, education and business administration. In addition, the College of Business Administration offers an evening degree program with options in accounting, high technology management and service sector management. One-third of its courses start at 5 p.m. or later.

But it's not an easy route, Baker warns, adding that many students have asked about making more courses available at night and on weekends. "They'd also like to have sets of courses that could meet all their major requirements, but it's not always possible," she adds.

It is possible to complete certain majors at night within four semesters ... but only if a student has fulfilled all lower-division requirements, including the foreign language, and can take four or five courses each semester. But most evening students have full-time jobs and family responsibilities, which limits the number of classes they are able to handle each semester.

Normally, achieving a degree via night classes takes seven or eight terms, Baker says. But those taking three courses each term should be able to complete the upper-division degree requirements within five or six semesters, she adds.

Students attending night classes have to be flexible.

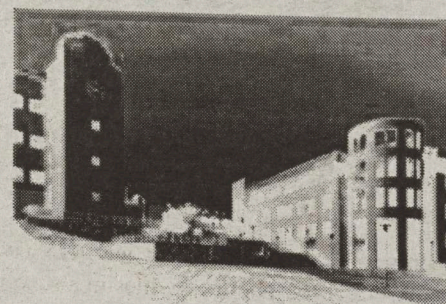
"I pick the class I want without concern for the time it's offered," said Debbie Holderby who is taking two classes at night this semester and one in the late afternoon. She is able to adjust her work schedule to meet the class requirements.

Don Hall, who works full-time and is trying to get accepted into a graduate studies program in literature and writing, said it's not easy to find the few classes he needs at night.

Kathryn Moors' work schedule allows her to attend one early morning class as well as evening classes. "I prefer night classes as they are more relaxed and the atmosphere is more mature," she said. "But, I don't like having to make two trips to school."

Added Laura Hopkins, another full-time worker during the day: "As a transferring junior this fall, it was difficult to find two available classes that were required for my major. Many of the classes needed were closed before my orientation and eligibility to register."

Said Baker: "We are hoping to begin to deliver a more focused, concentrated program by next fall. It will guarantee to students that if they follow a pattern of courses in the evenings and on Saturdays, they could graduate within four to five semesters."



Night-school students able to park in Faculty lot

Night school students can park in the faculty parking lot if they get a sticker from Public Safety Services.

Any student with classes after 5 p.m. can get one. All it requires is showing your class schedule to Public Safety Services,

which will issue a sticker to affix to your parking decal.

If you can't get to the Public Safety office during regular hours (8 A.M. 5 P.M.), it's possible to arrange an after-hours pickup by calling (760) 750-4562.

Cordova Sisters

continued from Page 2

study opens up a whole bunch of ideas for discussion by the kids."

Santa Fe attorney Robert Castille, a former high school teacher who is representing the school board, called the Cordovas' material "insulting," and added that the decision to fire them stemmed from the sisters' unwillingness to compromise.

"The Cordovas have mishandled teaching this sensitive subject matter," he added.

After the teachers were officially voted out on July 7 by a board vote of 3-2, the sisters decided

to go to court. A suit challenging the dismissal of Nadine already has been filed, and another on behalf of Patsy will be filed soon.

One of their lawyers, Daniel Yohalem, said, "They have a very solid case for denial of due-process rights."

Both sisters remain determined. "We were doing a fantastic job. That's the saddest part," said Nadine. Added Patsy: "I've done nothing wrong. I followed the kids' direction. My regret is that I didn't do enough of it."

Anti-abortionists target schools

By DEBBIE HOLDERBY

Anti-abortion protestors calling themselves "representatives of Jesus Christ" are targeting area campuses.

CSUSM's turn came on Sept 30 when the group parked a white van on cam-

pus displaying a huge photo of an aborted fetus. But the demonstration appeared to offend both pro-life and pro-choice students and staffers equally.

CSUSM's Student Affairs office received numerous complaints about the photo, with many students urging college officials to ask the protestors to leave. Some expressed concern about the effect the photo may have had on children.

One of the protestors, a woman carrying a large graphic poster, came to the Commons area at noontime and handed out literature while students were eating lunch. Since she did not have university approval to be on campus, Public Safety officers walked her to the Student Affairs office to fill out forms so she could remain on campus.

When she refused to fill them out and refused to leave the campus, officers escorted her off school grounds. All the while, said Lt. Alicia Smith, the woman was "screaming and yell-

ing" at the top of her lungs, prompting students and staff to leave their classrooms and offices to find out what was going on.

While the woman screamed, a second protestor filmed the event on a hand-held video camera.

The protestors then stood outside the university on state property near Craven Way for an hour, shouting at passersby and waving the poster.

"I was offended and embarrassed," said one CSUSM who is pro-life. "I wouldn't want people to associate me with what they did."

Though stressing that the anti-abortion protestors were acting within their First Amendment rights to free speech, Public Safety officials said the woman who yelled and screamed may have been in violation of a state law providing, in part, that no one

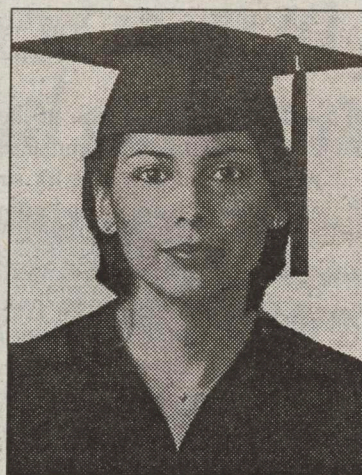
may interfere with the peaceful conduct of activities in a school.

The protestors have also demonstrated at other North County college and high school campuses. Police at nearby Palomar College said they have appeared near that campus several times recently. "They park their van on Mission Avenue near the campus," said one officer. "They also have shown up at San Diego State University."

Police said Palomar students have complained to college officials about the protestors.

Public Safety officials said the Sept. 30 demonstration was the only one at CSUSM.

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Local Police and Fire-fighters to demonstrate their talents

By EVELYN CHOROSER

How does a police department make command decisions during an emergency such as a major earthquake, or a big robbery involving hostages? Very quickly, and on the run.

Students and faculty, as well as the San Marcos community, will have an opportunity to see just how quickly at the CSUSM Safety Fair on campus Oct. 30.

One of the more prominent events in the three-hour fair (11 a.m. to 2 p.m. that day)

will be a demonstration of the Escondido Police Department's command mobile unit, which is used as a base for strategy planning during disasters and crime emergencies.

Also featured at the fair will be antique fire trucks, prevention tips from San Marcos firefighters and K-9 demonstrations by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department.

Representatives from the Escondido Youth Encounter, a resource organization

available to law enforcement, will be on hand to answer questions, and CSUSM Police Officer Mario Sainz will provide tips on rape defense.

The North County Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Council will demonstrate equipment to detect drunken drivers that is used at checkpoints and provide information about the consequences of being charged with the driving under the influence.

"This is the largest safety fair in North County," said Bobby Rivera, CSUSM police officer. "Last year there were about 500 students participating, but because we've invited the entire community, we expect a larger crowd this year."

Rivera has been assisted by other public safety officers and campus members in the coordination and publicity of the fair, which is sponsored by the North County Times and Acapulco Restaurant.



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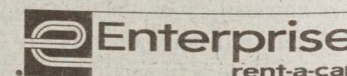
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Use Your Head

Let's put driving back into perspective



By Val Knox

A terrible day to most of us usually means that things just didn't go according to our plans.

Whatever causes our stress, bad work-day, bad school day, bad hair day, all seem so monumental. But how important are those stresses when we put them into perspective?

Too often, we get stressed out with life's inconveniences because we've put too much importance and attention on them. It's not until a real crisis occurs to a loved one that we realize what it really means to have a terrible day.

I found that out recently as I hurried across my church's parking lot. An acquaintance, Karen Baker, stopped me and asked me to offer my prayers for her youngest son who was involved in an auto accident a few days earlier. Chris Baker, 22, was in critical condition with massive injuries.

I knew Chris from the days when he and my son played on the same soccer team for many seasons, and I had seen him and talked to him many times in church. Our two families were friends.

What do you say to someone whose child is hanging onto life by a thread?

I discovered there isn't really very much, besides offering sympathy. As Karen talked, I held her hand and listened in disbelief. I turned to offer a hug to Chris' father, Dave. I'll never forget the pain on his face.

Most of us don't realize our fragility until tragedy strikes. But, when it does, you're never quite the same.

How many of us lose our cool on the road and test our invincibility, cursing slow drivers in front of us while speeding to get around them, perhaps at the same time talking on the car phone? How many of us drive while angry or upset or, worse yet, while not paying attention.

I've seen people reading maps while driving on the freeway, eating juicy hamburgers at 70 miles per hour or putting on make-up. It's crazy.

All of us need reminding that when we get behind the wheel it's for real. And, like Chris Baker, we break easily.

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Halloween's auspicious beginnings

By DAVID JOHNSON

Halloween is not "officially" a holiday. No day off is given, and no federal decree is proclaimed. Yet, Halloween has become one of the most important and widely celebrated festivals not only on the contemporary American calendar, but in the world.

Halloween, or 'The day of the Dead,' as it is more aptly referred to in many cultures incorporates recognition of death as a concept with rituals that remember the deaths of individuals. The origins of this celebration derive from the ancient Celtic (Irish, Scottish, and Welsh) festival called Samhain.

Samhain was the New Year's Day of the Celts, celebrated on 1 November. It was also a day of the dead, a time when it was believed that the souls of those who had died during the year were allowed access to the land of the dead. It was related to the season: by Samhain, the crops should be harvested and animals brought in from the distant fields.

Many traditional beliefs and customs around the world are associated with Samhain, most notable that night was the time of the wandering dead, the practice of leaving offerings of food and drink to masked and costumed revelers, and the lighting of bonfires, continued to be practiced on 31 of October, known as the Eve of All Saints, the Eve of all Hallows, or even Hallow Even. It is the glossing of the

name Hallow Even that has given us the name Hallow e'en.

Over the course of time, the spirits of Samhain, once thought to be wild and powerful, were deemed by the Catholic church to be something much worse: evil. The church maintained that the gods and goddesses and other spiritual beings of traditional religions were diabolical deceptions, that the spiritual forces that people had experienced were real, but they were manifestations of the Devil, the Prince of Liars, who misled people toward the worship of false idols. Thus, the customs associated with Halloween came to include representations of ghosts and human skeletons, symbols of the dead, the devil, witches, and other malevolent and evil creatures.

The custom of trick-or-treating, however, is thought to have originated not with the Irish Celts, but with a ninth-century European custom called "souling". On November 2,

All Souls Day, early Christians would walk from village to village begging for "soul cakes," made from square bread with currents. The more soul cakes the beggars would receive, the more prayers they would promise to say on behalf of the dead relatives of the donors.

At the time, it was believed that the dead remained in limbo for a time after death, and that prayer, even by strangers, could expedite a soul's passage to heaven.



Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0327

ACROSS

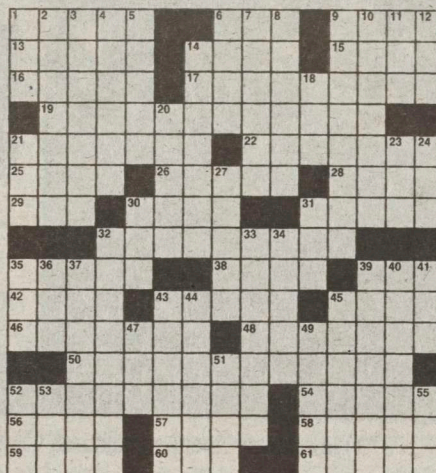
- 1 Make silly
- 6 Undergoes
- 9 Out of cards in a suit
- 13 Peter _____
- 14 Common-sense
- 15 River through Aragón
- 16 Ballgoer
- 17 Puling
- 19 Happy spymaster?
- 21 Heartfelt
- 22 Record-owning
- 25 Poolroom aid
- 26 "And thereby hangs _____"
- 28 A party to
- 29 Kind of beer

DOWN

- 30 Interpretation
- 31 Summoned
- 32 Happy Wagner hero?
- 35 Trekkie idol
- 38 Province
- 39 Subject of academic study
- 42 Viking deity
- 43 Hodgepodge
- 45 _____ spumante
- 46 Certain riding horses
- 48 Like many gardens
- 50 Happy ex-Mayor of New York?
- 52 Play backup for
- 54 Make fit
- 56 "Damn Yankees" vamp

DOWN

- 1 Dribble guard
- 2 Like a Thomas Gray work
- 3 Schoolmaster's order
- 4 Word of the hour?
- 5 Yonder
- 6 Doubter's outbursts
- 7 Member of a very old kingdom
- 8 Dotty, perhaps
- 9 Antonio or Bassanio, e.g.
- 10 Compliant
- 11 Investigator's employer: Abbr.
- 12 Hairstyles
- 14 Hon
- 18 Inadequately
- 20 Boardroom easel display
- 21 _____ Lanka
- 23 Miney follower
- 24 Omega



Puzzle by Alex Vaughn

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SALAD COLE PAP
IRANI OREL HURL
PASTA NAGS INCA
INACLAIRE DAY
CBS EVE TEE INE
OREO ARGO OATER
CAMPSITE TPK
ANITALOOSWEIGHT
IVS DAINTIER
BOCCI FERN ASIA
RIO OSU AGE TRY
ALHIRTMYSELF
KEEN ABOO FAZED
ERRS GLUT IRATE
SSE SERA NEPAL

- 27 Year's record
- 30 Modern ink source
- 31 Singer Zadora
- 32 Item aboard a merchant ship
- 33 Awards for Sheryl Crow
- 34 Overhaul a soundtrack
- 35 Jean, for one
- 36 Witness's reply
- 37 Wonderwork
- 39 Pequod hand
- 40 Bell site
- 41 Prefix with life or wife
- 43 Grab
- 44 Tremulous
- 45 Park in Maine
- 47 Issue matériel
- 49 Toronto Maple
- 51 Resurgently
- 52 Swiss eminence
- 53 Pigeon sound
- 55 Kingdom scores, for short

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

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-On Campus-**ARTS & LECTURES SERIES****Stereo Dogs presents
eclectic repertory Nov. 3**

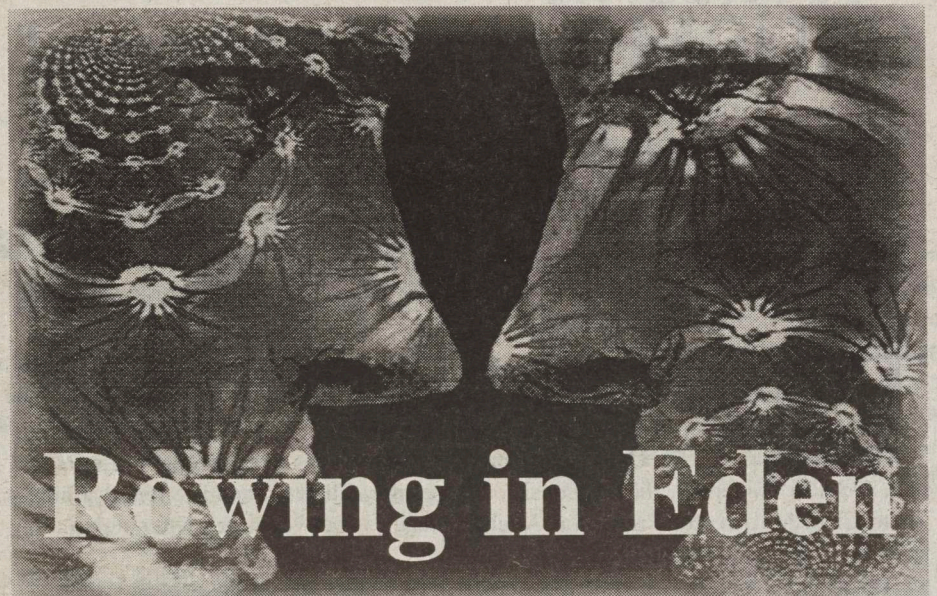
Stereo Dogs, a trio of musicians drawn from the faculty at CSUSM and the San Diego music scene, will perform Monday, Nov. 3, starting at 6:30 pm. in the Center Theatre of the California Center for the Arts, Escondido. The public is invited and admission is free.

Featuring noted Norwegian composer Ivan Antonsen on piano; former Buddy Rich bassist, Gunnar Biggs and flautist Don Funes, director of CSUSM's visual and performing arts program, the trio will perform an eclectic repertory that reflects its musical interests in the folkloric music of Africa, South America, Scandinavia, jazz and the traditional classics.

The program will include several original works and arrangements by Antonsen and Biggs, including two pieces built on Norwegian folksongs, an up-tempo Latin-jazz piece and two arrangements of Grieg piano pieces.

Also slated is Bach's G minor Trio for Flute, Continuo and Bass and Villa Lobos' "Bachianas No.5," a piece originally scored for soprano and eight celli. Rounding out the program will be a performance of John Coltrane's "Moments Notice" and a Peruvian song played by Funes on the quena, the Andean notched flute.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido, is located at 340 N. Escondido Blvd. For more information, contact CSUSM's Arts & Lectures Series, (760) 750-4366.

**Rowing in Eden**

Rowing in Eden explores the historical relationship of women and plants, focusing on herbalists, healers, diviners, and wise women known as "witches."

Historian, Gerda Lerner writes that what has been most important for women in their search for feminist consciousness is a re-establishing of their relationship with the divine, a relationship that was severed with the rise of monotheistic and patriarchal religions.

Rowing in Eden is a part of that search: an attempt to transform narratives into complex visions where paradox is embraced and dualistic oppositions transformed into an experience of connection and communion.

Art Installation:

September 26–November 30
Santa Fe Depot, 1190 Kettner
Tues.–Fri. 11–5; Sat–Sun. 10–6

Drawing Down the Dark Moon Ceremony:

November 1; 4:30–7 PM
Oceanside Harbor Beach

Multimedia Presentation:

November 7, 6:30 PM
California Center for the Arts, Escondido
Free and open to the public

Collaborative Artists:

Deborah Small: writing, computer images, installation, plants
William Bradbury: original music and sound
Dana Case: voice
Patricia Mendenhall: plants, installation



POSTAL ANNEX⁺
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CSUSM instructor named Teacher-Educator of the Year

The Credential Counselor and Analysts of California have named Alice Quiocho, assistant professor in the College of Education at California State University, San Marcos, Teacher Educator of the Year.

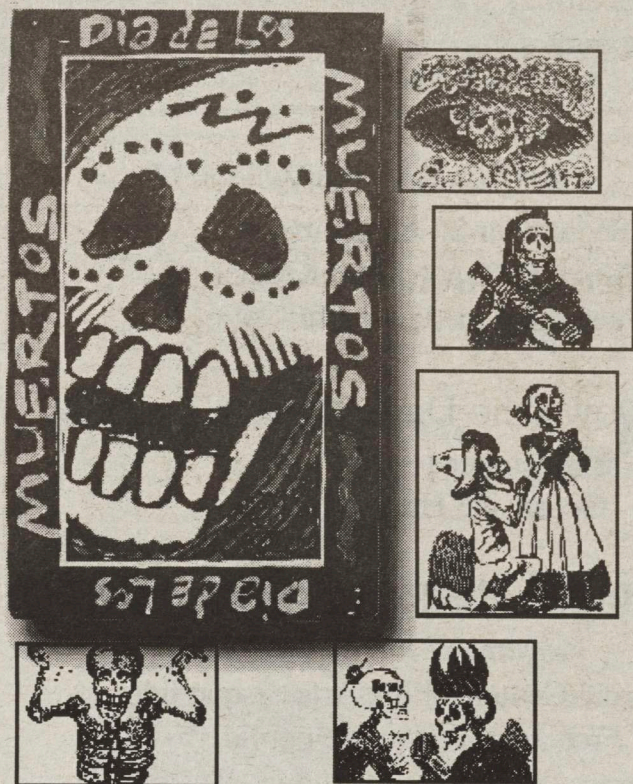
"Over the course of Dr. Quiocho's long and stellar career in classrooms, administration, and now university, she has consistently promoted literacy and life-long learning," wrote CSUSM Director/Credential Analyst Nancy Proclivo in her letter nominating Quiocho. "She exemplifies all that we believe to be the characteristics of a dedicated and caring professional."

Quiocho joined CSUSM 1993 as an adjunct professor, becoming a tenure-track professor in 1996. Prior to that, she was an elementary/middle level school teacher, reading specialist, coordinator of professional development, and principal of both an elementary and middle school. She also served as Director of the North County Professional Development Federation, serving as liaison between the San Diego County Office of Education, 12 North County School Districts and CSUSM.

The Whole Language Council of San Diego also presented the educator with its prestigious "Celebrate Literacy Award for 1997. Sponsored by the California Reading Association, the award is presented annually to educators and community leaders who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of literacy and a love of reading.

Quiocho is an Escondido resident.

-csusm-



Fritz Kreisler
CAPS

On Monday, November 3, CAPS will be sponsoring/hosting a celebration of Dia de los Muertos, the Day of the Dead. Day of the Dead? Sounds gruesome! What the heck is it and why would CAPS do this?

Dia de los Muertos is one of the most important and festive holidays throughout Mexico. It is a tradition built from pre-

Columbian as well as Christian sources. Long ago, it was thought that this was the time when the souls of the dead came to earth to visit, and they were welcomed with great joy and celebration. Besides community events such as parades and dancing, families construct altars upon which are placed pictures, mementos, and favorite foods of the loved ones who have

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Tuesday, October 28

Any questions? - please call the Center for Student Involvement X4970 or the Vice President for Student Affairs Office X4056

passed on. This is how the memories of our loved ones are made joyous, how fondly they are remembered. The altars are decorated with incense, flowers, candles and many other objects, including skeletons and candy or papier maché skulls. In our hearts we also thank them for what they gave us during their lifetime. Dia de los Muertos is a wonderful occasion. It is a way that the Mexican culture(s) confront death, which, according to Octavio Paz, "...revenge us against life, stripping it of all its vanities and pretensions and showing it for what it is: some bare bones and a dreadful grimace."

In the words of CAPS' Director, Dr. Carlene Smith, "CAPS' mission involves addressing the psychological needs of students by promoting wellness of mind, body and spirit. The various peoples of the world have all developed strategies for achieving psychological health that are prescribed in cultural ritual. In presenting the Dia de los Muertos event, CAPS affirms the wisdom with which other cultures deal with the inevitable challenges of life and promote health."

We invite you to join us in this celebration. From 10 until 2 on the Founders Plaza on the 3rd, there will be altars set up by various campus and community groups. On these altars, you will find pictures and mementos of loved ones who have passed away, along with their favorite foods, music, flowers, candles, and incense. These altars are festive tributes to those we have: See how well we remember you! How we recall all that you gave us in your life! How lucky we have been! At noon, there will be a brief presentation by Linda Amador, a member of our staff, about the significance of the altars. At 12:30, Professor Bonnie Bade of the Liberal Studies Program will give a presentation on the Mexican tradition surrounding this holiday.

Join us! If you have a loved one that you'd like to remember and honor, bring a photo of him or her, perhaps a candle or some food that was a favorite of his or hers to place on an altar. If you wish, you may say a few words about him or her, or just listen to others.

For additional information, talk to Linda Amador, by dropping by the CAPS office.

CAREER & Assessment CENTER

Fall '97 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Space is limited so call in early to reserve your space (760) 750-4900. 24-hour notice is required for cancellation of your reservation. All workshops will be held at the Career Center, CRA 4201 unless stated otherwise. You will be required to attend these workshops in order to participate in our On-Campus Interviewing program during the last semester of your senior year. (Yes, we are keeping track of attendance.)

***NOTE:** Accounting majors interested in submitting resumes to public accounting firms need to attend the Job Search and Effective Interviewing workshops.

***ANOTHER NOTE:** All Liberal Studies majors entering into our credential programs are exempt from attending these workshops. You will receive this training in your credential courses.

November 21	Friday	9:00-10:00 a.m.	Resumé Writing
		10:00-11:00 a.m.	Job Search Strategies
		11:00-12:30 p.m.	Effective Interviewing
December 18	Thursday	9:00-10:00 a.m.	Resumé Writing
		10:00-11:00 a.m.	Job Search Strategies
		11:00-12:30 p.m.	Effective Interviewing
January 7	Wednesday	1:00-2:00 p.m.	Resumé Writing
		2:00-3:00 p.m.	Job Search Strategies
		3:00-4:30 p.m.	Effective Interviewing

For additional information, workshop updates or to sign up, contact the Career & Assessment Center at (760) 750-4900 or stop by our office at CRA Hall 4201 or register on-line via our website at: http://www.csusm.edu/career_center/

The Career & Assessment Center is an Equal Opportunity Referral Service.

STUDENTS CAN APPLY FOR INSTANT ADMISSION TO CSUSM

Qualified students interested in attending California State University, San Marcos for the Fall 1998 may be admitted instantly at CSUSM's third annual Admissions Day Saturday, Nov. 8. It runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Dome Cafe on the campus located off Twin Oaks Valley Road south of Highway 78.

Prospective students should have a completed CSU application form with SAT test scores, an unofficial transcript from their high school or previous college and a check or money order for \$55 payable to CSUSM for the admission fee. (Fee waivers are available to qualified applicants.) Counselors will review the materials and present an admission letter on the spot to every eligible student.

More than 500 future students, parents and guests are expected to attend the event, which also includes campus tours, information tables, and academic advisors from various departments.

Administrators encourage new students to take advantage of this opportunity to apply early. Last year, CSUSM had to stop accepting applications several months before the beginning of the fall semester.

For more information, call the Office of Admissions, (760) 750-4848.

"O Team" on a mission

By HELEN DAHLSTROM

They show up willingly, ready to sacrifice many hours of their free time. And their payment doesn't come in money. They're the "O Team."

Their mission, according to Mark "Markus" Quon, student director of orientation, is to encourage new CSUSM students to become involved and successful at CSUSM.

In all, there are some 20 team members on campus. Each is trained specifically to help orient new students by identifying CSUSM resources. Their goal, he adds, is "to have each new student make at least one connection with a team member."

The requirements for team membership are a personal commitment, a 2.5 GPA, two references, a completed application and attendance at the Selection Process.

It's not a light commitment. Every month, each O-Team member must undergo two training sessions and spend five hours in the team office. Attendance at five summer and two winter orientation sessions also is mandatory.

Yet the rewards are immense, according to Ginger Reyes, CSUSM orientation di-

rector. O Teamers "develop the greatest leadership skills and acquire faculty recognition as well," he added.

While there is no monetary reward, O Team members do receive priority registration. In addition, they enjoy the opportunity to attend conferences, potlucks and retreats, including one last May at Zosa Ranch, a nine-bedroom house converted into a bed and breakfast.

"We came home as a team," said Quon.

Starting this year, O Team leaders will receive a new benefit: recognition of their leadership role on their Student Profiles. Though such co-curricular activities are not noted on student transcripts, they will be referenced on the Student Profile, giving the O Teamers the opportunity to show leadership abilities to prospective employers, according to Quon.

The application process for the 1998-99 team members will begin in mid-November. Anyone interested is urged to contact Quon at (760) 750-4970, or email: markusq@mailhost1.csusm.edu. More information can be obtained by checking out www.csusm.edu/csi.

The
California State University San Marcos

Pride

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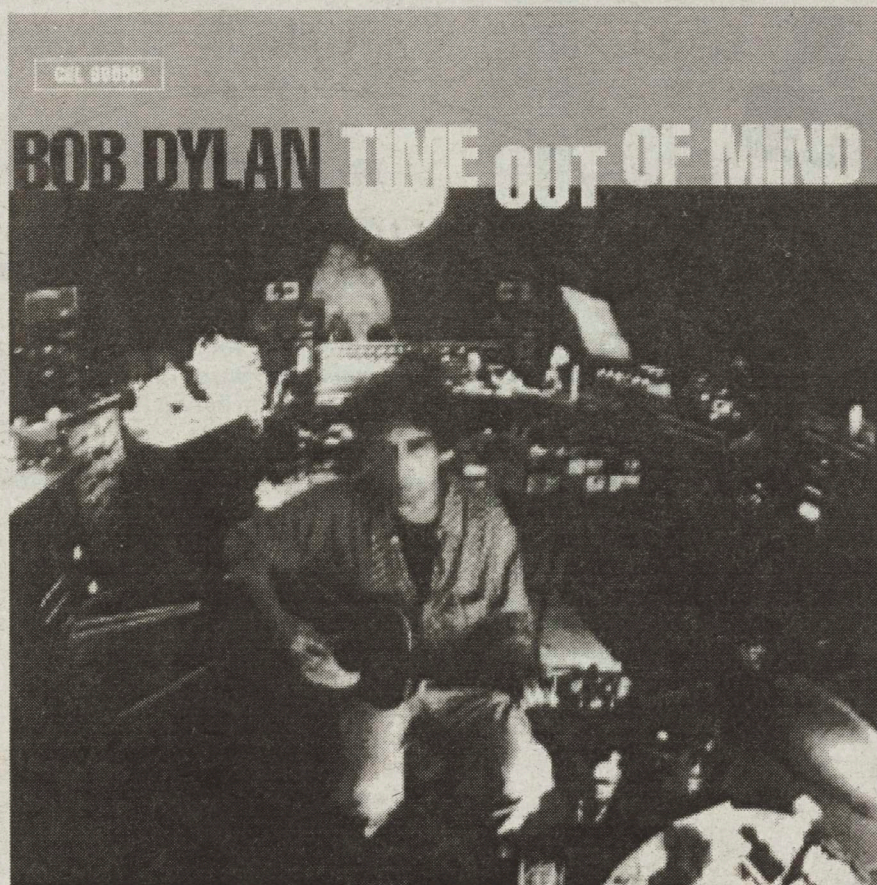
BY GABRIEL LUNDEEN

There is a noticeable change in Bob Dylan. Discounting his brush with death a few months ago and his recent performance for the Pope, this is not the same man who made "Blowin' in the Wind" something of a folk anthem.

Bob Dylan is aging fast, and on his new album, "Time Out of Mind," he shows that he is aging gracefully and accepts that he is no longer the influence he once was.

If you aren't familiar with Dylan's work, you are missing out on some of the most influential rock music and poetry of the 20th century. Albums like "Highway 61 Revisited" and "Blonde on Blonde," are timeless masterpieces of the 1960s, and necessary listening for anyone who considers him or herself a music fan of any genre.

But, as even the staunchest Dylan fans admit, he has put out some pretty lousy al-



Still Blowin' in the Wind

bums from about 1980 on, with only a couple of exceptions.

Which brings us to "Time Out of Mind," which is Dylan's best album since 1989's spotty "Oh Mercy," and his first of original songs since 1991's dismal "Under a Red Sky."

Recorded before his recent illness, "Time Out of Mind" shows that Dylan still has the talent that made him a legend. His focus has shifted, from spokesman of an entire generation to a fringe celebrity unrecognized by a majority of today's youth. His voice sounds weathered and strained at

times, but determined and compelling at the same time.

The album's first track, "Love Sick," is an atmospheric and bitter tone-setter. "I'm sick of love, and I'm in the thick of it," sings Dylan on the song's chorus. As a whole, the album has a very bluesy feel to it.

The 16-minute "highlands" is an examination of Dylan's life from his point of view today, and shows that he is not necessarily comfortable with his fading visibility and age, but has come to understand that he cannot relive his glory days.

Dylan is not the type to bluster about in his mid-50s like the Rolling Stones do today. Dylan's strength has always come in his honesty, and that is something it seems he will always retain.

Dylan was such an overachiever early in his career that everything else he does can only pale in comparison, and he will never be able to relive his glory days. All he can do is keep on going, and that seems to be a looming theme in the album.

Musically, producer Daniel Lanois (best known as the producer for U2) helps create a strong yet unobtrusive sonic atmosphere, and allows Dylan's voice to carry the album, which works wonderfully.

"Time Out of Mind" is an essential for the Dylan aficionado, as both another chapter in his musical library and as the triumphant return of a legend. It is also his most accessible album in years, for the Dylan curious.

But if you've never been exposed to early Dylan, raid the local music store's used LP section for a couple of gems. You won't be disappointed.

The high cost of coffee:

BY JOHN RODRIGUEZ

A review of Bitter Grounds

The pictures seem out of place in an upscale coffee shop.

Perhaps you have noticed them as you sat waiting in your local Starbucks for a cafe latte or frappuccino. The huge, poster-size photos hanging on the walls show workers, likely from Central America, picking coffee berries from trees or sorting coffee beans on long tables.

The images were intended to lend atmosphere to the store, but maybe you wondered whether there were stories behind the workers.

Sandra Benitez brings their world to our eyes in her new novel, "Bitter Grounds" (Hyperion Press. 444 pp.). Profiled in the last issue of the Pride, Benitez shared the insights and motivations, which led her to write of her recollections growing up in El Salvador prior to that country's civil war in the '80s.

The fictional story that unfolds in "Bitter Grounds" combines her experience as a member of the Salvadoran upper class with

the stories of her family's campesino (peasant) servants. "Bitter Grounds" is an episodic story told through the lives of three successive generations of women from two families, the Prietos (Mercedes, Jacinta, and Maria-Mercedes) and the Contreras (Elena, Magda, and Flor). The Prietos work as domestic servants for the upper class Contreras.

Benitez draws parallels and divisions between the disparate cultural classes. The Prietos are Pipil Indians who, at the onset of the story in 1932, still speak Nahuatl, the ancient language of the Aztecs. As with many Indian groups throughout the Americas, they live in poverty, exist on subsistence crops like corn and beans, and suffer cultural discrimination and injustice. Their main source of income comes from laboring on vast coffee plantations for rich landowners who often underpay them.

The Contreras own one of the most prosperous plantations in El Salvador. Benitez portrays them as savvy business people who

stay ahead of the market through accurate forecasting, innovation and diversity. But she also portrays them as compassionate people, particularly the women, who are not totally oblivious to the plight of their servants.

Limited friendships within the confines of class division form between the corresponding generations of Prieto and Contreras women.

Both families endure trials and tribulations throughout the novel, which is set from 1932 through 1977. The women of the two families deal with emotional heartache over such issues as spousal relations and family strife, although admittedly on different levels.

They must also deal with the growing domestic violence, which threatens their security and hurtles their tiny nation toward an uncertain future.

Historically accurate, Benitez uses the events occurring in El Salvador to provide the basic timeframe for her story. All of the

described events, from la matanza (the massacre) at the beginning of the book to the government seizure of plantations near the end, really happened. It lends authenticity to the stories presented in "Bitter Grounds."

Reminiscent of the Amy Tan's "The Joy Luck Club," the main thrust of Benitez's novel concerns the mother/daughter relationships within the Prietos and the Contreras. Although their lives often overlap, Benitez manages to prevent confusion distinguishing the generations by presenting their respective lives in serial fashion, rather than the out-of-sequence manner employed by Tan.

Benitez cleverly uses a fictional radio telenovela (Spanish soap opera) to parallel and forecast the lives of her main characters throughout the book.

"Bitter Grounds" uses irony and fate to link the lives of the Prietos and Contreras

see **Bitter Grounds** page 11

Bitter Grounds

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tighter and tighter as the novel progresses. Despite their cultural and class differences, the families' futures intertwine until the final climatic convergence, which binds them to a common violent fate.

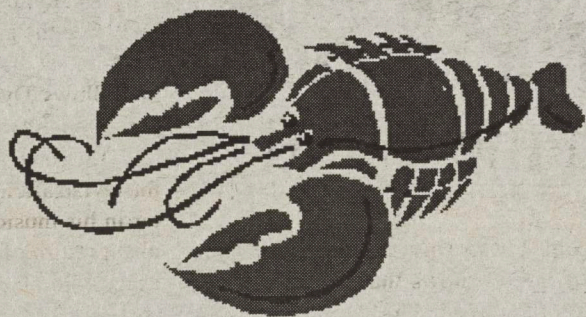
Benitez masterfully writes this scene in a manner which stuns the reader, a la Alfred Hitchcock.

Although "Bitter Grounds" dabbles in magic realism, the hallmark of Hispanic literature, it does not do so nearly on the

level of Rudolfo Anaya's "Bless Me Ultima" or Isabel Allende's "House of Spirits," or any number of novels written by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Benitez's professed favorite author and literary influence.

But, this does not diminish "Bitter Grounds." Rather, Benitez fashions both the characters and plot to a level that compels readers to immerse themselves into the story.

Fish House Vera Cruz offers fine dining



If you're looking for elegant dining in a casual atmosphere with, uh, life like surroundings, The Fish House Vera Cruz is the perfect choice.

Located in San Marcos' Restaurant Row, The Fish House takes its name seriously. It's a dimly lit, grotto-style restaurant with huge aquariums forming most of its inner walls and partitions. But the inhabitants are a far cry from goldfish and seaweed. Sand sharks, lion and clown fish, an octopus and even a huge, zebra-striped eel make up the more interesting sights patrons can gaze upon while dining.

Despite all this grandeur, the atmosphere is relaxed and comfortable. Jeans and a T-shirts are just as acceptable as suits and ties.

The food corresponds well with its surroundings. The menu consists completely of fish. There are no chicken or beef cop-outs.

There is also a wonderful selection of wines to complement all dishes. The restaurant is currently featuring a Chardonnay called La Crema for a very good price. It has a light, fruity, almost buttery flavor that goes very well with fish. It is honestly the best wine I have ever tasted.

There's a small list of five or six appetizers to choose from. The Oysters Rockefeller, in particular, is outstanding, rich enough to please any connoisseur.

Entrees consist mainly of fresh fish, but

there are shellfish options as well as seafood salads offered. But the primary focus is on fish.

For side dishes, you can pick up to three, range from rice pilaf and steamed vegetables to a green salad and soup.

The swordfish is a good bet, as is the red snapper. Both are grilled to perfection and basted with a light garlic-butter sauce. The portions are good-sized and you won't leave still hungry. But, just in case you still have room, Fish House has a modest selection of classic desserts. Nothing too exciting, just your basic cheesecake, chocolate ganache and berry pies.

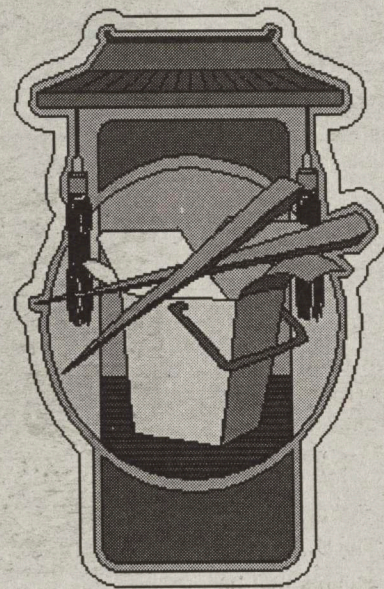
However, all of this excellence doesn't come cheaply. The Fish House Vera Cruz is not a place the average student can afford more than once every few months. Appetizers range from \$5.95 to \$8.95. Entrees start at \$8.95 and can go as high as \$22.95. For desserts, expect to pay \$3.95 to \$5.95. The La Crema Chardonnay wine was priced at \$21 a bottle.

Altogether, it is a meal that can lighten your wallet considerably. But it is well worth it. The food and atmosphere combines to create an unforgettable dining experience. You definitely get your money's worth.

Reservations are not needed (or even taken for parties of less than eight). The next time you want to take a few steps up from Taco Bell or McDonald's, you might

China Wokery: A little tradition and a lot of flavor

By AMY HUDSON



There's a new restaurant in town. The China Wokery has recently opened its doors for business. It is located at Old California Restaurant Row off of San Marcos Blvd. The serving size of each main dish platter can feed at least three people and the prices are very reasonable.

The assorted appetizer platter is an excellent way to start off dinner. This platter feeds two individuals and provides a sample of egg rolls, dumplings, spare ribs, lemon chicken and fried wontons. The price is \$8.95.

China Wokery has specialty platters such as Sesame Chicken, Mongolian Beef, Pork Hunan Style and Treasures of the Sea. These platters run from \$8.95-13.50. In addition to their specialties, China Wokery also has a large assortment of soups, salads and side orders. The price for these dishes range from \$4.95-8.95.

For those of you who are vegetarian, don't count this place out yet. Not only do they have several seafood dishes, but they also dedicate a portion of their menu to vegetarian platters. These include Sautéed Broccoli with Garlic Sauce, Tofu and Mixed Vegetables, and Vegetarian Moo-Shu. Prices

are \$7.50 per plate. The ambiance is characteristic of a Chinese restaurant. There are many artifacts from the Chinese culture which decorate the walls. The restaurant has vaulted ceilings and wooden beams that allow for a more open experience. It's a semi-casual setting and a great place to impress a date. The wait staff is very attentive and courteous. I highly recommend the China Wokery for either lunch or dinner. Lunch prices run from \$5.95-8.50.

La Especial Norte: The place for old world Mexican food

By DAWN KNEPPER

If you're searching for inexpensive, authentic Mexican food, give La Especial Norte on Highway 101 in Encinitas a try.

Whether it's your first time trying Mexican or your umpteenth time, you'll love the cozy hole-in-the-wall restaurant that's easy to miss if you're not looking closely.

The decor is authentic Mexico, as is the menu.

As soon as you can find a parking spot in La Especial Norte's very small lot, go inside, grab a menu and seat yourself. It's a casual place, very reminiscent of Mazatlan or Puerto Vallarta.

There are numerous drink options, from pitchers of margaritas to Mexican and domestic beers and several kinds of tequila. The purple Cadillac margarita (Chambord, Cuervo 1800 tequila and a specially made sweet and sour mix) is particularly good.

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Especial

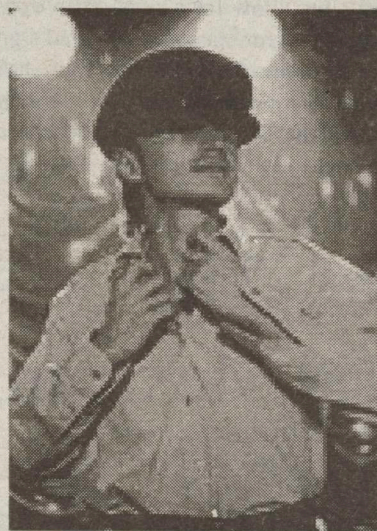
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If you don't fill up on the complimentary chips and salsa, which is made freshly each day, you might want to try the shrimp ceviche tostada as an appetizer. Served on an open-face tostada with bay shrimp, onions, tomatoes, jalapenos and cilantro, it makes for a delicious, spicy beginning.

Along with the typical entrees of burritos, enchiladas and tamales, the restaurant serves 12 extraordinary soups that are prepared fresh daily. The chicken soup, which is supposed to all ailments, can do a real number for a stuffy nose. It's suprisingly filling with lots of chicken, rice, avocado, onion, tomato, cilantro and the restaurant's secret ingredients. The soups come in small and large. But, plan on taking some home if you order the large.

Best of all are the prices, entrees are below \$10. Breakfast and daily lunch specials are available every day of the week.

The Full Monte a riot



BY HEATHER PHILLIPS GRAHAM

Searching for relief, a few hours away from the demands of work, school, and family commitments? Then *The Full Monte* may be for you.

This zany comedy, a film featuring six laid-off steel-workers who decide to earn big bucks by becoming Chip-and-Dale-style strippers ... provides a brief but pleasant escape.

The hilarious efforts of these everyday guys to learn the bump-and-grind keeps you laughing from start to finish.

Underneath all the comedy, the extreme

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desperation of being unemployed lurks about, grounding what could otherwise be a superficial Jim Carey movie, in reality.

Instead of being another dry British film, *The Full Monte* turned out to be a fantastically funny flick.

FOR the EDUCATION and RESEARCH COMMUNITY



—Morningstar ratings for the CREF Global Equities Account, CREF Equity Index Account, and CREF Growth Account*

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Period	CREF Stock Account Star Rating/Number of Domestic Equity Accounts Rated	CREF Global Equities Account Star Rating/Number of International Equity Accounts Rated	CREF Equity Index Account Star Rating/Number of Domestic Equity Accounts Rated	CREF Growth Account Star Rating/Number of Domestic Equity Accounts Rated	CREF Bond Market Account Star Rating/Number of Fixed-Income Accounts Rated	CREF Social Choice Account Star Rating/Number of Domestic Equity Accounts Rated
3-Year	4/1,423	5/274	5/1,423	5/1,423	4/566	4/1,423
5-Year	4/924	5/158	N/A	N/A	4/365	4/924
10-Year	4/441	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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9/15/97