

FIND US ONLINE

www.csusmpride.com
Cougar Chronicle on Facebook
csusmchronicle on twitter

SPORTS



Page 3 - Senior women's softball player, Alyssa Dronenburg, wins one of two female athlete of the year awards. Read where she plans to play after graduation.

FEATURES



Page 7 - 41 students participated in CSUSM's first cigarette butt cleanup, called "Kick Butts off CSUSM." Read just how many cigarette butts they picked up in an hour.

OPINION

Page 9 - Is the CSUSM campus too invested in KONY?

A & E



Page 10 - A CSUSM VPA class partnered with High Tech High to raise money to "Keep Art Alive." Read how the process started and the organization they chose to donate to.

New candidate steps up for ASI presidential race

Nicholas Jaffari replaces disgraced ex-candidate Weaver

MELISSA MARTINEZ
STAFF WRITER

When students vote for the office of Associated Students Inc. president next week, they'll see a new name on the ballot: Nicholas Jaffari.

The third-year sociology and criminal justice major stepped up to run against Scott Silveira after Silveira's lone opponent ---- business major Matt Weaver ---- was arrested March 15 on suspicion of stealing 700 students' passwords to swing the vote in his favor. Weaver's case is now under investigation by the FBI and the elections were rescheduled for online voting May 7-10.

Jaffari, a 21-year-old married San Diego native, spoke to The Cougar Chronicle about his interest in running and the goals he hopes to obtain if he is elected ASI president (Silveira was interviewed in our last issue).

Question: Can you tell us a little about yourself—including any hobbies and/or organizations you may be involved in?

Answer: I am an easygoing individual who is always willing to help people whenever I can. I am a strong advocate for Social Justice and

for engaging students on the issues that face our campus community both internally and externally. I have worked at the Cross-Cultural Center as a Peer Educator. I also have worked alongside the Women's Center and LGBTQQA Pride Center to create programs for students, faculty, and staff to create awareness, empower, educate, advance dialogue, and overall promote Social Justice. I am also involved with different student organizations primarily with Kamalayan Alliance as Political Chair.

Q: Why did you decide to run for office of ASI President?

A: I decided to run for ASI President because I wish to step up and use my experience and knowledge to advocate for students and create a safe just campus community.

Q: As ASI President, what are your goals?

A: My goals are to first continually promote Social Justice throughout our campus community, second advocate for students so their voices and concerns are heard, and create/support events that enhance our campus community.

Candidate continued on 2.



New faces in ASI special elections

JULIANA STUMPP
STAFF WRITER

The ASI special elections, being held the last week of classes, will have many new names on the ballot after the candidate scandal that declared the original election results invalid.

ASI Board of Directors' choice to start the elections from scratch means that candidates from the first election would have to reapply and campaign once again. This also meant new candidates could appear on the voting poll.

The polls will be open online from Monday May 7 at 7 a.m. through Thursday May 10 at 5 p.m. Results of the election will be announced Friday May 11 at noon in

FCB 5-103.

Candidate applications became available on April 11 online. Candidates had to attend a mandatory meeting the following week and the applications were due April 20. According to Election Code 602, all candidates are allowed campaigning two weeks prior to elections, which began April 23 and will end May 10.

Candidate open forums will be on May 3 and May 8 during U-Hour at University Hall Plaza.

Associate Executive Director of ASI, Sara Gallegos said, "This election is a brand new election, and I'm hoping that we can have a clean race. I'm hoping that students will still vote even though it's during a busy

time of year."

CSUSM student turnout for elections has been low in prior years. Approximately 10 percent of the student population voted in the 2011 elections, according to ASI presidential candidate Scott Silveira.

"We actually have more applicants and candidates running than the election in March. My hopes are that is a sign that the students will still continue with their involvement," said Gallegos.

During the original March elections, there were 22 people running in total. This special election has 27 candidates. Gallegos said, "We have new faces that have stepped up as well as those who ran in the first election." *ASI continued on 2.*

The other side is starting to look a little sunny

Job prospects for grads getting better

JESSIE GAMBRELL
STAFF WRITER

Recent surveys suggest that the hiring rate for graduating seniors will be up this year compared to last, but CSUSM seniors are still hesitant and weary about the prospects in the job market. Job Outlook's 2012 survey states that in 2012 employers plan to hire 9.5 percent more new graduates compared to 2011.

"Employers will continue to be selective which means that they are more likely to hire graduates with more experience, higher levels of motivation, and a focused interest in their industry," Mike Profita, former Director of Career Services at Skidmore College, said on About.com.

The best tip for students about to graduate is to visit your university's career center. Career centers provide a variety of resources for students including career counseling, internship listings, access to recruitment centers and job networking

assistance. "I'm looking (for a job), but haven't found any. The Career Center isn't very helpful, and they should put more effort into helping us out," an anonymous CSUSM senior said.

Sunny continued on 2.

CHECK OUT OUR GRADUATION / SENIOR RELATED ARTICLES

PAGE 3 - SENIOR ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

PAGE 5 - COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

PAGE 8 - AN OPINION PIECE TO ALL GRADUATING SENIORS & A COMIC ABOUT THE JOB MARKET

PAGE 9 - A GRADUATION SPEECH

PAGE 10 - TOP FIVE MOVIES FOR RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES

PAGE 12 - A CROSSWORD ON GRADUATION

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2012



EDITORIAL

STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

ASHLEY DAY
csusm.cougarchronicle@gmail.com

DESIGN EDITOR

MORGAN HALL
cougarchron.layout@gmail.com

COPY EDITOR

AMY SALISBURY
cougarchron.copy@gmail.com

NEWS EDITOR

KRISTIN MELODY
cougarchron.news@gmail.com

SPORTS EDITOR

ALEX FRANCO
cougarchron.sports@gmail.com

FEATURES EDITOR

KYLE M. JOHNSON
cougarchron.features@gmail.com

OPINION

POSITION OPEN

cougarchron.opinion@gmail.com

A & E EDITOR

MELISSA MARTINEZ
cougarchron.arts@gmail.com

COMIC ARTIST

FAITH ORCINO
STEPHEN DI PADOVA
cougarchron.comics@gmail.com

MEDIA MANAGER

CHRIS GIANCAMILI
cougarchron.media@gmail.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER

ROGERS JAFFARIAN
csusmchronicle.advertising@gmail.com

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

JESSIE GAMBRELL
cougarchron.distribution@gmail.com

ADVISOR

PAM KRAGEN

STAFF WRITERS

CURTIS BOVEE

MARCOS CHRON

REBEKAH GREEN

FREDRICK MISLEH

LISSETTE NUNEZ

SURYA QUINONES

ARELY RAMOS

JULIANA STUMPP

BRANDON TORRES

DANE A. VANDERVELDEN

STAFF

PHOTOGRAPHERS
AMIRA EL-KHAOULI

The Cougar Chronicle is published twice a month on Tuesdays during the academic year. Distribution includes 1,500 copies across 13 stands positioned throughout the CSUSM campus.

All opinions and letters to the editor, published in The Cougar Chronicle, represent the opinions of the author, and do not necessarily represent the views of The Cougar Chronicle, or of California State University of San Marcos. Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of The Cougar Chronicle editorial board.

Letters to the editor should include an address, telephone number, e-mail, and identification. Letters should be under 300 words and submitted via electronic mail to Cougarchronicle@gmail.com, rather than to the individual editors. It is the policy of The Cougar Chronicle not to print anonymous letters. Display and classified advertising in The Cougar Chronicle should not be construed as the endorsement or investigation of commercial enterprises or ventures. The Cougar Chronicle reserves the right to reject any advertising.

The Cougar Chronicle
Cal State San Marcos
333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, CA 92236-0001
Phone: (760) 750-6099
Fax: (760) 750-3345
Email: csusm.cougarchronicle@gmail.com
www.csusmpride.com

San Marcos Mayor's visit addresses university development

AMIRA EL-KHAOULI
STAFF WRITER

Mayor of San Marcos, Jim Desmond, visited CSUSM on April 25 as a part of Dr. Staci Beavers State Politics (PSCI) course. During his visit, he informed students about the inner-workings of local politics in the City of San Marcos and discussed city involvement in current and upcoming developments.

Mayor Desmond was elected to his position in 2006 and re-elected in 2010. The mayor stated he makes \$15,000 per year and serves on the City Council. As of April 24, the City Council has hired a city manager, starting on June 4, 2012. Both Mayor Desmond and the city manager will be spearheading upcoming developments near CSUSM.

"Who's my boss?," asked Mayor Desmond. "You are, the voters."

Improvements to Interstate 78 are being worked on as a coalition between San Marcos, Escondido, and Cal-Trans. The San Marcos Creek District is planned as redevelopment into a downtown, just beyond Discovery Street and Craven Road.

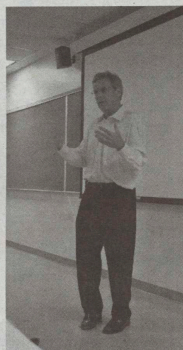
Funding for these projects rely on the city's sales tax and rental revenues, which are fairly stable.

Sunny from 1.

With the unemployment rates close to ten percent, it is now a necessity to search for a job before graduation comes around. Before, students would just wait till after their commencement to look for a job.

"I was originally going to become a teacher, but my sister got her credential and had no job prospects, so she advised me to change my major. So I went into cosmetology and am going to work at a salon," graduating senior Cabria Camp said.

"I'm relying on moving up in my job now, maybe get an internship. I think that it is kind of what you have to do these days," senior Brooke



San Marcos Mayor, Jim Desmond, on the CSUSM campus discussing Interstate 78 and the upcoming community planned around the The Quad student housing. Photo by Amira El-Khaouli.

Several students have raised concerns about rental rates at The Quad, the new university housing on Barham Drive. The Quad is a city project, part of the creation of a University District. The entire project will feature university friendly businesses, places to hang out and more pedestrian-friendly streets.

The goal is that "you can live there," stated Desmond in reference to both the University District and the downtown Creek District. "You don't have to be as dependent on cars. Our worst problem is the traffic issue."

Miller said.

According to Campuscareercenter.com, the key to a successful and profitable career search is research and networking. Meet with influential people, get the right information, and get good leads. Ask yourself what you would really like to do and see yourself doing. Find contacts in the area that you would like to work. Get help from people with "influence".

"I am very excited (about graduating), but I think I am more excited about being an alum and coming back to the CoBA program and give back what they gave to me," graduating senior Jessica Kates said.

Clarification

In the article, "Candidate reveals other side of ASI scandal," from our April 17 issue, we stated, "Accusations tying Weaver to possible identity theft first arose after the university suspected someone had hacked into its computers and tampered with ASU election files." Instead the term "hacking" should have been described as an illegal use of student passwords. We apologize for any misunderstanding.

New scholarship plan would aid middle-class students

Bill would raise money from business taxes

KRISTIN MELODY
STAFF WRITER

Students may see much needed aid money from the Middle Class Scholarship bills circulating in the Assembly, but corporations oppose the source, closing a tax loophole.

To keep the cost of attending California universities and community colleges down, the co-author of the bill, Speaker of the California Assembly John A. Perez (D-Los Angeles), proposed Assembly Bill 1500 (AB 1500) and 1501 (AB 1501).

The bill would close a "single sales factor" tax loophole currently available to businesses operating in California with headquarters out-of-state. The revenue would be distributed to CSU and UC systems as well as community colleges, cutting cost for middle class students by ap-

proximately two-thirds.

"Since the 2003 - 2004 academic year, CSU fees have increased by 191 percent, UC fees have increased by 145 percent and community college fees have also increased significantly... erod[ing] the dream of higher education for too many California families," said Assembly Speaker John A. Perez in a press release.

Supporters of AB 1500 and AB 1501 welcome financial aid coming to middle class students who are not covered by low-income federal aid like FAFSA, or upper class students able to finance their education out-of-pocket. The scholarship would be eligible to students not already covered by financial aid and whose family income is under \$150,000.

Opponents of the Middle Class Scholarship, including large corporations, cite

that the source of the funds is more taxation on businesses operating in a weak economy. Businesses say that more taxation may discourage business operations of out-of-state corporations in California.

"This policy is intended to encourage firms to produce in California and sell into other states," stated the Legislative Analyst's Office on www.lao.ca.gov, but only functions properly if all states are using the same model.

Currently, these corporations elect their own tax category. Closing the loophole would make taxes be based on sales only, not payroll, property or other assets. There are 23 other states currently use this model. California has not closed this loophole, which may be putting it at an economical disadvantage.

Candidate from 1.

Q: Your opponent, Scott Silveira, is an advocate for the Civility campaign. How do you feel about the proposal the campaign hopes to present?

A: I feel that the Civility Campaign is very good for the campus community because it gives students the opportunity to come together and advocate for each other.

Q: I understand you are an advocate for the Pride and Women's Centers, what changes (if any) would you want to make regarding the civility campaign on campus?

A: I would add the mission and core values of both the Women's Center and LG-BTQA Pride Center to the values of the Civility Campaign to further create a safe,

secure, and supportive campus climate for everyone.

Q: How do you feel about the Matt Weaver controversy?

A: I am very disappointed with what happened. An act like this creates a lot of distrust amongst students and is very violating for the students whose IDs/passwords were stolen. It is a setback from the work that many in our campus community strive for when it comes to creating a safe and affirming environment for our campus.

Q: Did his actions spark your interest in running?

A: His actions alone were not the only reasons for sparking my interest to run in this election. His actions did strengthen my resolve to advocate for students and to step up.

Q: Was your ID/password among those stolen during the election?

A: My ID/password was not amongst those that were stolen, because I had already voted during that election. I still changed my password just to be safe.

Q: How do you feel about campaigning for the new elections so shortly before finals week?

A: Campaigning so close to finals weeks is a challenge but I am still confident and will continue to keep pressing forward.

Q: What do you hope you achieve as ASI President?

A: I hope to achieve creating a campus environment that continues to promote and advocate inclusiveness, acceptance, equality, and equity.

ASI from 1.

Running for ASI President are Scott Silveira and Nicholas Jaffari. Vice President of Operations candidates are Yeltsin Gonzalez and Audrey Juarez. Sammi Carr, Oscar Reyes and Cipriano Vargas will be campaigning for VP of External Affairs, while Mason Smith and Grant Latimore are running for VP Finance. For VP Marketing Jason Gonzales, Eliasar Mo-

lina and Colton Walsh will be candidates for this new election.

Candidates for representatives include Sarah Do, Israel Irizarry, Samuel Robinson, Saul Serano, Anthony Mercadante, Blaine Mogil, Jordan Moore, John Caiozzo, Alex Evzerov and Dominica Ranieri.

People running for Student at Large representative include Daniel Cruz, Scott

Gordon, Karen Guzman, Kenneth LaLonde and Turner Ward.

LaLonde originally ran for VP of Marketing and is now running for Student at Large Representative.

On the ASI Election webpage, <http://www.csusm.edu/asi/bod/asielelections.html>, there is a link to vote and the YouTube campaign statements for most candidates.



Join our staff!

The Cougar Chronicle is looking for motivated students to join our staff for the Fall 2012 semester.

Writers, artists, cartoonists and leaders wanted!

Meet new people, get involved on campus and add a new skill set to your resume.

For more info, e-mail:

csusm.cougarchronicle@gmail.com

CSUSM PRESS RELEASE

Jennifer Milo appointed Director of Athletics

California State University San Marcos Athletic Director Tom Seitz is leaving the university. Tom has been with CSUSM since 2009. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

Effective immediately, President Haynes has appointed Jennifer Milo as the new Director of Athletics. Jennifer most recently served as Associate Director and Senior Women's Administrator of Athletics for CSUSM. She began her career at the University in 2005 as the Head Softball Coach, and also served as Assistant Director of Athletics for Development.

Her professional career began at the University of San Diego where she served as the Head Assistant Softball Coach. She has also held the positions of Academic Advisor/Counselor for men's basketball and Assistant Softball Coach for San Diego State University. She holds a Master's degree in Counseling and B.A. in Diversified Liberal Arts from the University of San Diego and is completing her Ed.D. at the United States Sports Academy.

"I am confident Jennifer's experience and her successful tenure here at Cal State San Marcos, along with the support of the outstanding coaches and staff, will make her a successful Athletic Director," said CSUSM President Karen Haynes. "She is poised to continue and strengthen Cal State San Marcos's emphasis on the student-athlete model. Under Jen's leadership, Cougar Athletics will continue on its successful path."

Questions or inquiries can be directed to Margaret Lutz, Public Information Officer.

Baseball splits in final double header against Arizona Christian University

Cougars close season with impressive 12-5 win and 6-8 loss

JULIANA STUMPP
STAFF WRITER

Game 1

The Cougars' baseball team beat the Arizona Christian University Firestorm 12-5 on Saturday, April 28.

The Cougars scored six runs in the second inning, an additional run in the third, three in the fourth inning, and two in the seventh inning.

In the second and third inning, first baseman Kenny Belzer had five RBIs and hit two respective home runs, giving him seven for the season. Trent Jemmett also contributed, with four hits and two RBIs.

Frank Charlton was the winning pitcher. He pitched five innings and struck out seven batters. At the top of the sixth inning junior, Seth Smith, replaced Charlton.

The Firestorm tried to come back in the eighth inning when they scored five consecutive runs, but pitcher Smith, shut them down in the eighth and ninth innings to secure the win.

Everyone in the Cougar starting lineup got at least one base hit.

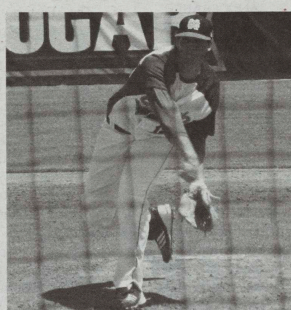
The win lifted the cougars record to 27-19.

Game 2

The second game in Saturday's double header was less favorable for the Cougars.

At first, it seemed that the team was in the midst of clenching another victory with Jeremy Baum's three-run homer in the first inning but Arizona Christian came back to score one run in the second, three in the third and four in the fourth.

In the bottom of the fourth, the Cougars attempted to even the score after two runs were scored by Jeremy Baum and Vince Rizzo but



Frank Charlton was the winning pitcher of game one in the double header. He threw for five innings and struck out seven batters against Arizona Christian University. Photo by Juliana Stumpp.

the Firestorm kept the score at 8-6.

Despite the loss, the Cougars still remain in the top of the A.I.I. Conference.

The Cougars will finish their season with the A.I.I. Conference Tournament on May 2 and at the NAIA National Championship Opening Round on May 11.

The tournament will be held at CSUSM and start in game one against Dakota State.

SCORE REPORT

4/21 Men's Baseball v.s. Fresno Pacific

L 2 3

W 4 1

4/21 Women's Softball v.s. Patten

W 5 2

W 9 1

4/22 Men's Baseball v.s. La Sierra

W 7 2

W 17 3

4/22 Women's Softball v.s. Simpson

L 2 7

W 6 2

4/23 Women's Softball v.s. William Jessup

W 11 3

W 7 0

4/27 Men's Baseball v.s. Arizona Ch.

L 1 5

W 9 3

4/28 Men's Baseball v.s. Arizona Ch.

W 12 5

L 6 8

Senior Spotlight, Women's Softball "Player of the Year" and "Most Valuable Player," Alyssa Dronenburg

MELISSA MARTINEZ
STAFF WRITER

Not many athletes can say they've hit a home run almost every game, nor can they say they were one of two American's chosen to play for a team in the Netherlands, however, Alyssa Dronenburg has accomplished many feats during her softball career at CSUSM. Dronenburg's amazing play and softball accomplishment has made her an astounding player to watch for everyone and with graduation just around the corner; I was able to hear about the life and times of a legend.

Q: At what age did you gain interest in softball?

A: I have been swinging a bat since I was three, and I have always been very competitive. My dad is a sport fanatic and taught me when I was very young. Softball and sports in general are something I love to do. I enjoy playing them, and sports allow me to express my life frustration in a positive way doing something I truly love to do.

Q: How long have you been playing?

A: I started playing softball at age 8 or 9, but prior to that, I played baseball and made the switch to softball because I was discriminated against over my gender. [...] In middle school, I began playing more competitively then, mostly traveling to L.A. to play with better competition.

Q: When did it become



Coach Dave Williams and Female Student-Athlete of the Year/Softball MVP, Alyssa Dronenburg. Photo courtesy of Sierra Lansing from www.csusmcougars.com.

apparent that softball was a big part of your life?

A: I think it became apparent to me in high school because I could not partake in the same social events, parties, beach trips, concerts as my group of friends because I was playing high school softball and travel softball (in off-season) as well as soccer and field hockey.

Q: Do you wish to continue your softball career professionally?

A: I am leaving on May 30 to play for semipro team UVV in the Netherlands.

Q: What was your best experience playing softball?

A: My personal best softball experience was opening day of the new softball field on campus at CSUSM, three years ago. There was a great crowd of students, friends and family supporting us. We

ended up beating Redlands University, a very good division III team. I hit two home runs my first two at bats, and that was very exciting.

Q: In what ways has playing softball shaped your life?

A: I believe softball and athletics in general have made me into the person I am today. It has taught my work ethic, discipline, and leadership skills which I am using currently in the work force, as well as open many opportunities such as playing softball in Netherlands and gaining great lifelong friends through all the team mates I have had.

Q: Has your family influenced you to be athletic?

A: My parents have always encouraged extracurricular activities to keep me busy as a kid. However, I decided

Athlete continued on 4.

THE HEART BEAT Sleep Deprivation

CURTIS BOVEE
STAFF WRITER

Sleep is a topic overlooked and is often compromised to complete unfinished tasks and engage in unnecessary activities.

A survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that one-third of adults in the United States report getting inadequate amounts of sleep.

The college population is even more effected by sleep deprivation, as portrayed in a study at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota.

The study, which can be found online in the "Journal of Adolescent Health", reported that 70 percent of college students fail to get eight hours of sleep per night.

Eight hours of sleep per night is recommended for adults and college students, as reported by the CDC. This recommendation increases when your brain is utilized more often; however, this suggestion rarely becomes reality.

During finals week, sleep becomes more important; however, sleep deprivation is more common during this period. Of the 1,125 students in the study, 20 percent pulled all-nighters at least once a week to keep up with academic tasks.

Sleep deprivation presents an abundance of problems.

According to the National Sleep Foundation, short sleep duration is linked with:

- Increased risk of motor vehicle accidents.
- Increase in body mass index—a greater likelihood of obesity due to increased appetite caused by sleep deprivation.
- Increased risk of diabetes and heart disease.
- Increased risk of psychiatric conditions including depression and substance abuse.
- Decreased ability to pay attention, react to signals or remember new information.

Furthermore, sleep deficiencies will interfere with work and school, likely decreasing academic performance, according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

For healthy brain function, sleep is essential. Your brain utilizes sleep to function correctly and prepare for the following day. New pathways are being created to help you remember information and become more efficient when retrieving that information, per the NIH.

The correlation between sleep and academic performance is obvious. Decreasing procrastination and all-nighters will likely causes a positive spike in your grades, along with boosts in energy and mood.

STUDENT-ATHLETE HONOREES FOR 2011/12

Men's Baseball MVP:
Anthony Renteria

Men's Golf MVP:
Adam Loran

Women's Golf MVP:
Tess Russell

Men's Soccer MVP:
Jake Kaiser

**Women's Softball MVP &
Student-Athlete of the Year:**
Alyssa Dronenburg

Women's Track & Field MVP:
Ashley Jssames

Women's Volleyball MVP:
Nichole May

Women's Cross Country MVP:
Suzanne Cornwell

Male Student-Athlete of the Year:
Austin Coleman

Sportsmanship Awards:
Geoff Landry &
Panos Kotsellas

Highest GPA Award:
Women's Golf
(3.38)

UPCOMING
HOME GAMES

Wednesday, May 2-5.
Baseball participates in
the A.I.I. Conference
Tournament.
Time TBD

Saturday, Aug. 18.
Women's Soccer plays
against CSU Dominguez
Hills at 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 18.
Men's Soccer plays
against CSU Dominguez
Hills at 5 p.m.

CSUSM ATHLETIC
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Women's Volleyball Wins A.I.I.
Conference Tournament
(27 wins, 8 losses)

Women's Soccer Wins A.I.I.
Conference Tournament
(15 wins, 4 losses, 1 tie)

Women's Cross Country Wins
A.I.I. Conference Tournament,
places 1st in NAIA

Women's Basketball Wins A.I.I.
Conference Tournament
(18 wins, 15 losses)

Women's Golf places 2nd in
A.I.I. Conference Tournament

Men's Soccer Wins A.I.I.
Conference Tournament
(10 wins, 7 losses, 1 tie)

Men's Cross Country Wins A.I.I.
Conference Tournament, places
2nd in NAIA

Men's Golf places 2nd in A.I.I.
Conference Tournament

Good luck to the Women's
Softball team and Men's
Baseball team in their quest for
an A.I.I. Conference Tourna-
ment Championship

Where dreams crumble,
and legends are made,
the NBA playoffsALEX FRANCO
STAFF WRITER

The NBA playoffs are set and are in full effect. After a long, tumultuous labor disagreement to begin the season, the playoffs are finally here with 16 teams taking aim at the grand prize in the league.

In the western conference, the number one seeded San Antonio Spurs began their run to the finals with a 106-91 victory over number eight seed, Utah Jazz. The number two seed in the western conference belongs

to scoring champion Kevin Durant and the Oklahoma City Thunder, as they take on the defending champion Dallas Mavericks. The Thunder narrowly escaped the Mavs on Saturday as Kevin Durant's last second heroics propelled them to victory.

The Los Angeles Lakers are the number three seed and defeated the sixth seeded Nuggets behind Andrew Bynum's record 10 blocks to take a 1-0 series lead. Another Los Angeles team made history this weekend when the fifth seed Clippers erased a 27 point deficit in a comeback for the ages to defeat the fourth seeded Memphis Grizzlies.

The Eastern Conference side of the playoffs saw just as much excitement and controversy as the West did. It began with the number one seeded Chicago Bulls beating the eighth seeded 76ers but ultimately losing something more valuable than the game, when reigning MVP Derrick Rose tore his ACL late in game one ending the post-season for him. Fourth seeded Boston Celtics were never able to catch the fifth seed Atlanta Hawks as they were defeated 74-83.

The sixth seeded Orlando Magic upset the three seeded Indiana Pacers, surprisingly defeated them 81-77 without star player Dwight Howard on the court as he is still out with injury. Finally, LeBron James and the Miami Heat look to return to the finals like they did in 2011 with hopes of a different result than what they were given that year. They defeated the New York Knicks, handily in a 100-67 rout with LeBron powering them with 32 points.

The playoffs continue today with the Hawks vs. Celtics, 76ers vs. Bulls, and Lakers vs. Nuggets all on the schedule tonight.

Fallen Angels, slumping Padres,
and scorching Dodgers

MLB SoCal wrap-up for April 23 - April 29

ALEX FRANCO
STAFF WRITER

The 2012 Major League Baseball season has begun to take shape as the World Series contender's separate themselves from the post-season pretenders. Let's take a look at how the Southern California teams have fared a month into this still very young baseball season.

The Angels thought to be playoff favorites have really struggled to get anything going offensively this season, sputtering to a dismal 7-15 record so far. The much publicized offseason pickup, Albert Pujols has yet to get his feet off the ground this season, struggling to hit a single homerun this season. Pujols is going through his worst homerun drought of his career, failing to go yard in 109 consecutive at-bats and hitting a very low .216 batting average. Pujols must be the feared batter he was in St. Louis if the Angels are going

to go anywhere this season. The Angels lost 5 of their 6 games this past week being shut out twice.

The San Diego Padres have also not fared well this season posting a 7-16 record so far. The lack of run production and hitting has plagued the Padres this season. They were 2-4 this past week, but never scoring more than 2 runs in any of their games. The Padres offense must generate some form runs if they are to help their seventh best team earned run average (ERA) win any games this year.

Finally, the Los Angeles Dodgers have picked up right where they left off last season, winning 4 of their 6 games last week to improve their NL west leading and league best 16-6 record. The Dodgers have been hitting on all cylinders this season scoring whenever they need to and shutting down the opponents hitting whenever

needed. Matt Kemp leads the way for the Dodgers' offense and makes his early case for league MVP as he leads the league in homeruns (11) and batting average (.425) and is second in the league in RBIs with 24. The Dodgers pitching staff has also helped them dominate opponents with a team ERA of 1.73.

The season is far from over, anything can change from here to October; let's hope for Angels and Padres fans some things do change.

Colts, feeling Luck-y with
number one overall pick

Indy drafts QB, Luck with number 1 pick in 2012 NFL draft

ALEX FRANCO
STAFF WRITER

The road to the 2012 NFL season officially opened last Thursday night, with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell announcing the newest player to enter the league.

It has been known since the season ended last December who would choose number one overall, the Indianapolis Colts. It has also been known for the past 2 weeks what the Colts had intended on doing with that first pick, and that was to choose the quarterback from Stanford, Andrew Luck.

The Colts have been on a mission to rebuild their franchise for the future since they decided to release their hall

of fame quarterback, Peyton Manning this winter. Indy hopes to have struck gold again with Luck at quarterback and produce the same results Manning did when they chose him number one overall back in the 1998 draft and went on to win a record, four league MVP awards and a Super Bowl title.

Luck wasn't the only quarterback taken right away, the Washington Redskins also fulfilled their QB troubles and drafted Heisman trophy winner, Robert Griffin III with the second overall pick. The first round saw its fair share of teams trading in order to draft the player they covet the most.

The Cleveland Browns,

Jacksonville Jaguars, and Dallas Cowboys all traded up in the draft Thursday night to draft, running back Trent Richardson, wide receiver Justin Blackmon, and cornerback Morris Claiborne, respectively.

This year's draft marked just the fifth time in the draft's history that two quarterbacks were taken one and two overall, with Luck and Griffin III being chosen. We won't know just who was worthy of their selection until the season begins this fall when the men are separated from the boys.

For complete results of this year's draftees and complete analysis, please visit espn.com or nfl.com.

Athlete from 3.

athletics were something I wanted to pursue further and play in college. Both my mom and dad have always been supportive in taking me to all of my practices and games. As well as working on their own to help me grow into a better player both mentally and physically.

Q: What kind of support have you received during your softball career?

A: Athletic staff has been very supportive at CSUSM. Academic support has been very helpful too. [...] The professors are, for the most part, very understanding and supportive.

Q: What are some negative experiences you've had while playing softball?

A: Last year, coming in fourth place was very rough on all of us. To make it that far at the National Tournament and lose was very disheartening. However, this year my senior year I think our team is even stronger. We have a much deeper pitching staff, strong defense, and a destructive batting line-up 1-9.

Q: What will you be re-

ceiving your bachelor's degree in?

A: I will be receiving my bachelor's degree in Political Science.

Q: Why did you choose that/major(s)/minor?

A: Ever since my junior year in high school, political science and the excitement of politics has been an interest of mine. I grew to love being involved and studying the process of politics and seeing how one can make a difference. [...] Political choices are going to affect your life and Americans have the right to vote to protect their liberties. I also choose this major because I see myself in the future making a difference in others' lives through political decisions.

Q: What are some of your career goals for after you graduate?

A: After I graduate I plan on pursuing my master's (maybe in Europe) continuing my study of political science, maybe going into international relations. After my master's, I see myself working on the presidential campaign addressing social issues. I love campaigning;

it is fun and exciting and sometimes very heated, and I would really love to be on that side of politics.

Q: We discussed how you'll be going to play for the Netherlands after graduation. How do you feel about this opportunity?

A: I am very excited to be going to the Netherlands to play for a Semi-Pro team UVV. I am going with alumni Brenna Sanberg, who was our all-American pitcher last year. I am excited to represent for San Marcos athletically while also showing I am intelligent and a nice person.

Q: How has your experience playing for CSUSM changed/helped you through college?

A: I believe I have matured as a player and a student at CSUSM. I have stepped into the captain role the last two years at CSUSM, and I believe softball has helped me become a better leader. Also, I have learned discipline and [gained] a strong work ethic, which has helped me on the softball field.



JOIN THE CROWD
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



Pregnant?

You're not Alone.
We Can Help.

All of our services are FREE and confidential

- Free Pregnancy Tests / Verification
- Options Counseling
- Ltd. Ultrasounds
- Resources and Referrals

1830 Hacienda Drive, #8
Vista, CA 92081
760.945.4673
24 Hr. Hotline: 800.395.4357
www.pregnancyresourcecenter.com

PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER



What could you be buying instead of cigarettes?

spring break
road trip
concert tickets
\$1800
tuition
text books
dinner with friends
new laptop

Don't blow it away.

The average smoker spends \$1800 a year on cigarettes. Put down your cigarettes and buy a trip to Europe... or a new computer!

Want to quit smoking? Make an appointment with a provider at Student Health & Counseling Services (760) 750-4915.

Visit us online for tools to quit <http://www.csusm.shcs>

For free help quitting, call 1800-NO-BUTTS

©2012, Department of Public Health. This material may not be reproduced or disseminated without prior written permission from the Department of Public Health.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE
FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

Point your car in our direction...

Wed, May 9, 2012
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
San Diego Campus
700 Windy Point Dr
San Marcos, CA 92069

Join us for an information session to learn how a career in physical or occupational therapy could change your life. Attend our information session in San Marcos, CA to learn about why the University of St. Augustine (USA) is the best choice in physical and occupational therapy education.

USA is a graduate university that focuses solely on health science education. It is our mission to provide professional development to health care providers through innovative and individualized education. We look forward to meeting you and sharing with you all that our University has to offer.

For more information about our upcoming info session or to RSVP to attend an event, please visit us at www.usa.edu and click the "events" section on the left. If you have any further questions, please contact us at (866) 557-3731.

www.usa.edu

Twenty-first annual commencement ceremonies will take place on May 18 and 19

JESSIE GAMBRELL
STAFF WRITER

About 1,800 students will be participating in the CSUSM commencement ceremonies on Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19.

There will be four separate ceremonies: The ceremony for the College of Business Administration will take place on May 18 at 10:30 a.m., followed by the ceremony for the College of Sciences and Mathematics at 4:30 p.m. On Saturday, May 19, the ceremony for the College of Humanities, Arts, Behavioral and Social Sciences will take place at 9 a.m., followed by the ceremony for the College of Education, Health and Human Services

at 3 p.m.

"This is the first year that we are having the commencement by college; before the students just lined up, but now they will line-up by major. We also have something new this year that each college will be following their gonfalon, (flag of each college) to the stage," Manager of Resources and Strategic Initiatives, Monique Schlichtman, said.

The agenda for the ceremonies will be:

- Processional
- Grand Marshal
- Student Grand Marshal
- America the Beautiful
- Welcome and Introductions
- University Awards
- Special Remarks
- Conferring of Degrees

-Recessional

The seating will be first come, first serve, with the Common Etiquette being immediate family only (10 or fewer).

The ceremonies, which will be held at Mangrum Track, will be filmed for those unable to attend.

Multiple organizations and operations throughout the school will be participating in this year's commencement ceremonies.

"I am very excited, super excited. My class (College of Arts, Humanities, Behavioral and Social Sciences) is going to be the biggest with 800 students. I just can't wait to be done," Nancy Rossignol, graduating senior, said.

Making plans for summer staycation in San Diego

JULIANA STUMPP
STAFF WRITER

It's time to whip out that Alice Cooper record of "School's Out" and splash on the sunscreen, because summer time is right around the corner.

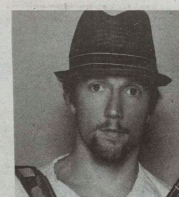
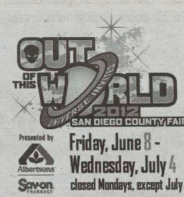
While the weather has given off the appearance of summer, it is all the free time to go to county fairs, concerts and events that really make it feel like summer.

Here are some activities to do this summer in the San Diego area.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheater: Located in Chula Vista, this venue has a lot of big name musicians all for a reasonable price. The amphitheater has lawn seats available starting at \$25, depending on the headliners. Upcoming performances at the venue include the Channel 933 Kickoff, Sugarland, Skrillex, Vans Warped Tour, Big Time Rush, Linkin Park and Jason Mraz.

San Diego County Fair in Del Mar: The 2012 fair will be held from June 8 to July 4. They will be closed all Mondays with the exception of July 2. The fair's theme for this year is "Out of this World." Toyota will be sponsoring a concert series with artists such as Cobra Starship, Demi Lovato, Cody Simpson, Hot Chelle Rae, Kenny Loggins, Scotty McCreery and Train. Tickets for the concert series are different from admission for the fair. Concert tickets vary from \$15 to \$40. Children ages 5 and younger are granted free admission, while kids from the ages of 6 to 12 have free admission on Tuesdays. Adult tickets are \$12 each.

Temecula Balloon and Wine Festival: From June 1-3, Temecula will be holding their annual festival at Lake Skinner. This year, concert headliners are Lifehouse



and Gloriana. There are different ticket packages including Cabana Club, Food & Wine Pairing and General Admission. Throughout the weekend, there will be balloon rides starting at 6 a.m. until 9 a.m. The flights are around \$210 per person and last for an hour.

Amusement Parks: SeaWorld in San Diego has all types of specials during the summer, such as extended park hours and firework spectacular. There are also the returns of Shamu Rocks nighttime show, Sea Lions tonight show and Cirque De La Mer. At Disney California Adventure, Car Land will be opening this summer. Car Land will include Radiator Springs Racers and Mater's Junkyard Jamboree, inspired by the Pixar movie "Cars." Petco Park: Not only are

there many festivals and concerts, but its baseball season. Support your San Diego team by spending an afternoon at Petco Park. Over summer, the stadium will have many themes, including 80's night, Beerfest, US Navy/Army Appreciation and Dog Days. Ticket prices start at \$15 depending on the seating chart.

San Diego Civic Theater: This summer, many Broadway-originated plays are coming to San Diego. From May 8-13, "Chicago" will be featured and "Wicked" will start its production from June 20 and end on July 15. Ticket prices range from \$40 to \$150.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER



Proud Steps

The LGBTQA Pride Center presents
campus-wide Pride Walk

MELISSA MARTINEZ
STAFF WRITER

The LGBTQA Pride Center will be hosting a campus-wide Pride parade on Tuesday, May 1 from noon to 1 p.m.

Last month, the Pride Center dedicated April to "Gaypril," celebrating the LGBTQ community with daily activities held either in the center or on campus to expand support and welcome students to daily events and educational programs.

Since the first Pride Parade held in New York in 1969, the parade has traveled all over the country, allowing members of the LGBTQ community and allies to exhibit their support. The annual parade is held in numerous regions to demonstrate the necessity of fundamental human rights being extended to individuals who identify as LGBTQ.

CSUSM's first Pride Walk will begin outside of the Commons building at noon

and travel through campus towards Palm Court for a photo and continue towards Library Plaza, in which the capacity will be counted.

LGBTQ Pride Center director, Robert Aiello-Hauser explained the purpose for the campus-wide march.

"May 1 is an opportunity for campus to live up to the university's mission and vision and the core values of an inclusive community. There are a lot of allies that 'talk,' but to visibly see individuals showing support for students at CSUSM will say and mean a lot to the community," Aiello-Hauser said.

He went on to say that being an ally is important, especially when support is necessary to obtain human rights, such as marrying someone of the same sex or demonstrating love publicly. Showing ally-ship is much more than promises; it is visually demonstrating support, even when it may not be convenient.

Two authors featured at semester's final CWLS event

KYLE M. JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, April 26, authors Craig Santos Perez and Susan M. Schultz performed readings of their respective works for the final Community and World Literary Series event of the semester.

After being introduced by Mark Wallace, Perez stood before the audience and requested that everyone in attendance boo and heckle him, all of which he filmed to post on his Facebook.

Before beginning his reading, Perez shared how he moved from Guam to California when he was in high school, and that he used poetry as a means to stay connected to his culture.

"That's why poetry's so important to me; it kind of connects me to home," Perez said.

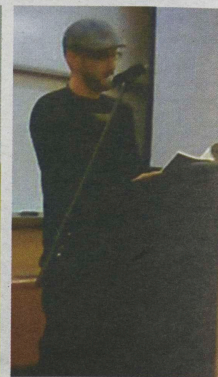
The first poem read by Perez, from his unfinished, third book, was largely about SPAM, the canned precooked meat product, and its significance in his culture. However, Perez later revealed that the poem consisted entirely of found language, meaning

that none of the words in the poem were his own, but a compilation of phrases he found while researching the product.

Perez then read from his book "Unincorporated Territory [Saina]." He introduced the excerpts to be read as influenced by paddling classes he took when he was an adolescent, and the important role of canoes in his culture.

Wallace then introduced Schultz, who spoke to the audience about the influence her mother's Alzheimer's disease has had on her writing, namely her books "Dementia Blog" and "Memory Cards," the latter of which consists of prose poems that fit on index cards.

For Schultz's first reading, she read from a transcript of dialogue between two Alzheimer's patients in a clinic. The piece is titled "Love in the Time of Alzheimer's."



Left, Susan M. Schultz and Right, Craig Santos Perez. Photos by Kyle M. Johnson.

She then shared about reading primarily two children's books to her kids, "Are You My Mother?" and "A Mother for Choco," and how she decided to create a hybrid reimagining of the two to tell the story of her own mother.

Schultz concluded her reading with selections from "Dementia Blog" and "Memory Cards." She stated how it is interesting that her obsession with memory has

led to her writing about forgetting.

The readings were followed by a Q&A in which members of the audience and the featured authors spoke about such topics as the use of social networking and blogging to expose one's work to the public, the form and placement of words in poetry and the balance of language when writing bilingually.

Snap this icon and you will be directed to the Summer Term 2012 Web site.

Get a free code reader app for your phone.

CSUSM SUMMER SCHOOL 2012

June 2 - August 11

- Take classes at the San Marcos and Temecula campuses
- Speed up progress toward your degree
- Catch up on courses you dropped or missed
- Choose from morning, afternoon, weekend and online courses

www.csusm.edu/el/summer • 800-500-9377

CSUSM hosts first cigarette butt cleanup

CURTIS BOVEE
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, April 20, a group of 41 student volunteers participated in CSUSM's first cigarette butt cleanup, called "Kick Butts off CSUSM."

Cigarette butts are a form of non-biodegradable litter, meaning that when they are discarded, they stay around. As a result, their presence is seen in streets, drains, rivers, beaches and the ocean, ultimately polluting the environment even further.

Students and faculty of the Graduate School of Public Health at SDSU developed original methodology for the cleanup event. This year marks SDSU's 3rd annual cigarette butt cleanup.

The event on CSUSM was coordinated by Dr. Devan Romero, assistant professor of kinesiology at CSUSM,

and Vanessa Martinez, a senior kinesiology student at CSUSM.

Each of the 41 volunteers present collected cigarette butts for one hour, with a grand total of 5,389 cigarette butts.

"These findings are astonishing as there is already a group on campus that picks up cigarette butts and other campus litter each week and we collected over five-thousand butts in only one hour," Romero said.

The purpose of the event, according to Romero, is to:

- Create environmental awareness of cigarette butt litter as toxic waste.
- Create a partnership with SDSU to advocate for smoke free environments.
- Inform students of the complex problem of cigarette butt waste from an environmental and behavioral perspective.

According to the National Institute of Health, by 2025, an estimated 9 trillion cigarettes will be consumed worldwide, while 1.69 billion pounds of butts will wind up as litter worldwide per year.

Romero hopes that her research will help to drastically reduce these figures. "My future research will revolve around whether raising awareness of cigarette butts as toxic waste and as a detriment to the campus environment changes litter behavior, ultimately reducing it. Also, whether the impact of knowing the extreme toxicity of cigarette smoking to our environment's health will motivate smoking cessation in the college population," Romero said.

Cosmetic surgery for summer

AMIRA EL-KHAOULI
STAFF WRITER

Summertime is a time to get work done. While summer vacation means beaches, bonfires and BBQ for many college students, others use the extended break to start or complete what may be long-desired cosmetic procedures.

"Getting work done" has long been an open-ended response to numerous upgrades. Besides cosmetic surgery, it could refer to less invasive procedures, like Botox, or the non-invasive, such as doing your hair and nails, or getting teeth whitened.

"Correction is common in young people," Dr. Maurice P. Sherman, of the Del Mar Cosmetic Medical Center, said.

While many procedures require continuing visits and can be started anytime, summer is a popular starting point, to see if results are a good fit for the season. Athletes with facial trauma might opt for procedures during the off-season.

For cosmetic surgeon Dr. Sherman, the most typical procedure for college age students is nasal surgery.

"Rhinoplasty is where we refine the tip and bridge of the nose into a shape that is natural," Sherman said. "We want to take attention away from the nose."

With many cosmetic surgeries, technical improvements allow for a student to get back to class in two to three days.

With rhinoplasty, Sherman stated, the nose cast comes off in about ten days, with no strenuous activity for three weeks.

That also applies to breast augmentation. No swimming for 3 weeks, but your bikini-ready body can go to the beach in a couple of days.

Often, dermatologists offer procedures that are "preventative for young people," Mesa, manager at AVA Medical Spa in Carlsbad, said. "Laser hair removal, Botox and fillers are popular."

Laser hair removal uses

heat to permanently reduce body hair. Treatments are every six weeks, but you cannot have recently tanned. Botox and fillers are injections that smooth out lines and wrinkles, for immediate results.

"I would offer laser skin tightening as an option to college students, instead of Botox or fillers," Ilar Solitani, manager of American Laser Center in Carlsbad, said. "When you have better skin it makes you look more alert, less tired and more approachable. As we get older our skin loses its elasticity."

It is important to remember that the reasons for cosmetic procedures vary; for some it's medically necessary, and for some, there are psychological benefits. Yet others might not be happy with results. It is equally important to consider work done by licensed professionals.

For more information, contact a provider in your area.

Comic By: Stephen Di Padova



Graduating soon? Fast forward your career.

Ask About Our
Reward Scholarship

Take advantage of multiple start dates, no requirement changes, and convenient block scheduling—ideal for working professionals.

Degree & Credential Programs

NEW Special Education Credential (11 months)
Starts June 2012. Apply Now!

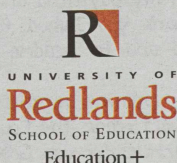
- Clinical Mental Health Advanced Training Certificate (1 year)
- Spatial Literacy for Educators Certificate (15 months) **Online!**
- Teaching Credential (10 months)
- Professional Credential (7-24 months)
- MA in Education
 - Counseling (2 years)
 - Curriculum and Instruction (15-24 months)
 - Educational Administration (2 years)
 - Higher Education (2 years)

NEW MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (2 years - Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor track) Starts September 2012.
Application deadline is April 27, 2012.

- Doctorate in Leadership for Educational Justice (Ed.D.) (minimum 3 years)
Starts September 2012. Apply Now!

Why Redlands?

- Accelerated programs: Credential in less than a year with no requirement changes; earn your Master's in 24 months or less.
- Balances educational theory and practice through fieldwork assignments incorporated into classes.
- U.S. News & World Report ranked Redlands both an A+ School and a Great Price.
- Financial aid available.
- No application fees.
- Small class sizes.
- Supportive learning environment.



RedlandsDegrees.com | (800) 862-8291 | Education@redlands.edu

Apple Valley | Rancho Cucamonga | Redlands | Santa Ana | Temecula

A Sea of Opportunities

SeaWorld is seeking energetic individuals with positive attitudes and commitment to quality to join our team!

Positions start at \$9.25/hr. and include:

- Ride Operator
- Culinary Operations Host/Hostess
- Sales Clerk III
- and many more ...

Learn more and APPLY at
SeaWorldJobs.com



SeaWorld San Diego is an Equal Opportunity Employer supporting a drug free workplace.
© 2012 SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved.

To the seniors

From a super-senior-to-be

FREDRICK MISLEH
STAFF WRITER

It's finally here — graduation, summer, freedom, and sleeping in. No more tests, papers, equations, "What if..." questions, lectures, and stress. For those who have developed an addiction to coffee and/or other sources of caffeine, services are probably available to help wean you off the stuff. That is, unless you were accepted into a graduate-level program of some sorts.

For me, I had too much fun one semester, thus I have to take a fifth year to get my GPA back to a competitive standing. At first, I bemoaned this fate, but I eventually came to a powerful and deeply comforting realization — the economy is still in the dump. Unemployment is still high and the most economically-sound plan at this point is to stay in school as

long as one can.

Suddenly, I was ecstatic about my fate — a fifth year at CSUSM seemed to be a Godsend compared to struggling to find a job in the real world. Continuing on into a Master's or even a Doctorate program isn't too shabby of a plan either, as it will only grant me access to more skills and knowledge employers will find vital once the job market improves.

So, whilst you all "lucky" graduates are toiling under the weight of real world bills and real world unemployment, I and the other "unlucky" souls will be here toiling under the stress of midterms, finals, caffeine addiction, papers, late-night study sessions, and refrigerators fully stocked with all the ale one can stand.

Good luck to you all, and good riddance! Now get out of here!

Tales from the nerd side:

Comic-Con—is it still worth it?

CHRIS GIANCAMILI
STAFF WRITER

Comic-Con has been a San Diego tradition for quite some time now. San Diegans and comic fans from around the world gather for this exciting event every year.

Though Comic-Con can be heaven for some, it also has its share of criticisms.

For example, buying tickets gets increasingly difficult with each passing convention. Comic-Con tries to alleviate the situation by adding more purchasing options such as offering a second chance day

to buy tickets. But offering a second day to purchase tickets doesn't necessarily mean it's going to be easier to buy them. Every time Comic-Con allows the public to purchase passes online, they sell out in minutes.

And with such a popular demand for tickets, crowding and long wait lines are always expected. It's very difficult to navigate through the exhibit hall. Attendees should make sure they have their cell phones fully charged just in case they lose their party.

While the exhibits are fun to hang out at, the panels are also an interesting aspect of the con experience. But the long wait lines sometimes prevent attendees from get-

ting into the panel they've been dying to see. Some Comic-Con attendees wait in the room of a panel they don't particularly care for just to guarantee themselves a spot in a later panel taking place in the same room.

Those of us who reside in San Diego County will have another problem to face—parking. Although you can purchase a parking pass from the Comic-Con website, they're pretty expensive. Each pass costs around \$20 for all day parking for one day. There are cheaper lots around the city, but they are not without walking

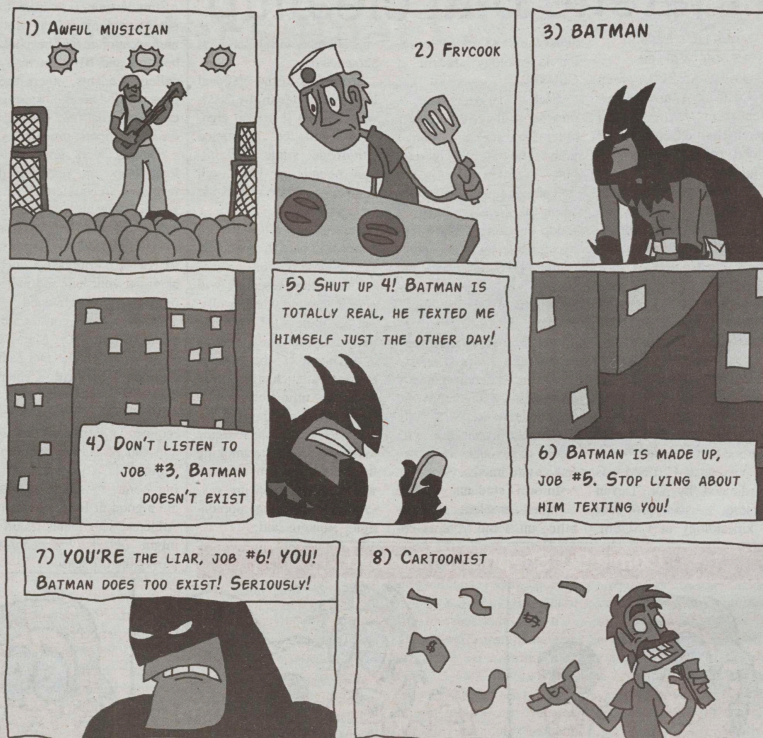
distance of the convention center. Thankfully, Comic-Con offers a free shuttle service that has various stops around the city.

Unfortunately, San Diego Comic-Con tickets are sold out for this year. However, fans should keep an eye out for the big entertainment news and announcements made during that time.

Though Comic-Con has several problems and minor annoyances, it is a very unique scene. Die-hard fans of comics and all-things-nerdy should attend Comic-Con at least once. It's still an incredible experience where you can be around other people who genuinely love the art, the industry, and the wonder of comics.

Comic By: Stephen Di Padova

8 JOBS YOU CAN GET AS A COLLEGE GRADUATE



*Editor's Goodbye

My first year at CSUSM, I didn't participate in anything. I commuted to campus and went home after class ended. I felt that I didn't get the 'college experience.' My second year, I changed that. I went looking for the college paper. I felt that writing for our paper would be a great way to get involved. As it turns out, it was.

Writing for "The Pride" and seeing it turn into "The Cougar Chronicle" has been a rewarding experience. It hasn't been the easiest job. Journalism takes a lot of guts and motivation, but being in a leadership position as the Editor-in-Chief this past two semesters taught me a lot about myself.

I would like to thank my staff for all the hard work and dedication they showed this past year. Without them, this paper would have ceased to exist. The 2011 - 2012 academic year has been a restart up period for our paper. I hope that it will grow to be a staple of campus life as CSUSM progresses. I would also like to thank all the students and professors who have read "The Cougar Chronicle" and given us feedback on it. We appreciate your readership.

This was my third and last year at CSUSM. I'm not graduating but moving on to new and exciting things. I am moving onto Ohio with my boyfriend and transferring to another university. Thank you Joshua for motivating me each editing weekend and for reading the issues I brought home.

I wish everyone a great summer—be safe out there. I also hope everyone at CSUSM reads "The Cougar Chronicle," because we write these articles for you. Good luck to the new Editors-in-Chief, Kristin Melody and Morgan Hall. You ladies will do awesome.

Farewell CSUSM. Remember to work hard, play hard.

—Ashley Day

Don't forget to relax

REBEKAH GREEN
STAFF WRITER

Money is always a big issue for most college students these days. So, it's no question that people are doing what they can to earn the extra buck. Many, including myself, will be searching for jobs over the summer to get the extra cash for the following semester, gas or other necessities. We worked during the semester in and outside of class, but it's important to remember to have a summer "vacation." Even if you don't plan on going on any trips, just taking the time to relax at home is a good idea. It's easy to grow accustomed to working hard once you start. Ironically, it's then difficult to find time to relax. Maybe summer's the time to get started on that reading list you put off. Or visit/chat with the friends you don't get to see during the semester. It's time to pick up hobbies that were sacrificed for studying. It's time to make plans with friends or to have spontaneous fun. Unlike winter break, summer is a slow season, so catching up on things and with people is a common activity. If your schedule looks packed this summer, try to organize for time to stop and breathe. Remember that it is okay to relax every now and then. You made it through another semester and you deserve it.

A graduation speech

KYLE M. JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Class of 2012:

Today, I feel that I am justified in using the phrase, "We did it!" While it is cliché and overused, the fact is that we have graduated from college, and for that we can be proud of ourselves. We did it!

"It," however, is not just the solitary act of graduating; "it" refers to every individual act that it took to get to this point.

"It" is the incredible amount of hours spent in the classroom, and the even more incredible amount of hours invested in schoolwork conducted at home, in the library, in between work shifts, everywhere imaginable.

"It" refers to the struggle to find the necessary classes in specific time slots to fit your schedule.

"It" refers to the tuition increases, which took place even after you had already paid off your semester fees.

"It" refers to paying seemingly ludicrous amounts for a parking permit, even on semesters when you only attended class two days a week.

"It" refers to overpriced textbooks.

"It" refers to showing up

to class, only to realize that you didn't check your email where your professor reported that he or she wouldn't be coming to class.

"It" refers to showing up to class when the professor didn't even send out an email to say he or she wouldn't be in class.

"It" refers to the fact that attending a school built on a hill requires the ascension up countless flights of stairs of varying length and steepness. (However, we now possess defined, youthful calves to show for it.)

"It" refers to the dreaded midterms, finals and exams, for all classes, which all seemed to conveniently take place during the same respective week.

But, "it" was not all bad.

"It" was that sense of accomplishment as you witnessed your Academic Requirement Report gradually filling up, semester after semester.

"It" was feeling touched by a professor's desire for you to learn.

"It" was that sense of understanding gained regarding your purpose in the classroom.

"It" was those people you met, grew close to and endured alongside in the classroom. "It" was checking

your report card to find passing grades.

"It" was learning alternate routes through campus to avoid those asking, "Are you registered to vote?" (By the way, if you're not registered, visit sos.ca.gov)

"It" was having a professor who posted on Cougar Courses as many excerpts from the textbooks as they legally could.

"It" was all of these things; a combination of moments that contributed towards your feelings of stress and anxiety, but also accomplishment; feelings of doubt and hesitancy, but also purpose.

And here we are, with something to show for it, something for which we can be proud.

At the end of my junior year, I wrote an essay for myself, entitled, "The Best Years of Someone Else's Life." It chronicled my college experience up until that point, and questioned the frequent claim made by some referring to college as the best years of their life. I hadn't felt that and I wondered why.

Was it because I spent three years at a community college before transferring? Was it because I wasn't involved in any clubs or fraternities? Was it because I commuted

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2012

to school? Was it because the school itself had been labeled a commuter school? All these questions and more led to my further curiosity and I summed up the essay with the conclusion that maybe what I needed was to get involved; meet more people, attend school functions, anything that could contribute towards the so-called "college experience."

At the start of my senior year, I began writing for the student newspaper. It was during my run as a volunteer staff writer for the paper that I began to feel a sense of purpose at school. I invested more of my time into making deadlines than I invested in my coursework. And somehow, my grades rose significantly. I felt productive for the first time in a really long time.

It made me feel good about myself by instilling within me a step towards finding out why people call college "the best years of their life." I began to imagine the potential of the experience, had I begun that kind of involvement upon first entering campus. I imagined it would've been a drastically different experience.

If there is anyone reading

this who is feeling discouraged from the college life for any reason, I can confidently say that you can find motivation in putting yourself out there to tackle such and similar endeavors.

Motivation is a necessary ingredient to pursue a college degree. Without motivation, you have no desire. Without desire, you have apathy or less. And with that, you cannot accomplish much.

You can apply that same theory to life after college. Whether it is in graduate school, finding a job or taking the time to explore the world around you, you must be motivated.

This graduation, while it has felt like a long time coming, is just the beginning. Now we must set out into the dark and scary world. But it doesn't have to be ominous and foreboding.

As a lover of film, I tend to reference movies frequently. So, I'll leave you with this quote said by James Dean's character in "Rebel without a Cause."

"Life can be beautiful." Set out and do your best to make it that. In us is the ability to conquer and restore the world.

Letter to the Editor

The article written by Jessie Gambrell, [Should CSUSM take César Chávez Day off?] was a great piece that should be considered thoroughly by the leadership at Cal State San Marcos. I, as a student, was wondering why we don't recognize Presidents Day. I am a veteran, and I believe that our founding fathers, such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and even Abraham Lincoln, all should be recognized on Presidents Day. Once again, [César] Chávez is an inspirational activist who should receive recognition—not overshadow Presidents Day. This country was founded on principles, values and courage to break away from one of the biggest monarchs this world has ever seen. CSUSM should recognize Presidents Day for years to come and appreciate the freedoms that exist today.

-Shane Schneider

NOW HIRING

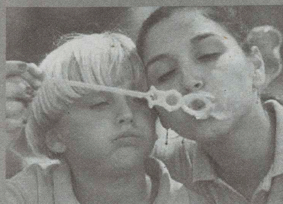
TERI
TRAINING EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Celebrating 30 Years of Excellence

Caregivers & Child Care Workers:

Provide care, supervision, training to individuals with autism, developmental disabilities and special needs.

Salary: \$9.00 - \$11.00/hr based on Education & Exp.



We believe every individual with autism and other developmental and learning disabilities has the right to lead a valued, meaningful, and fulfilling life of uncompromised quality in their community.

- PT or FT
- Flexible Hours
- On the Job Training provided
- No Prior exp. Required

Job Requirements:

HS/GED, acceptable driving history & criminal background check, CA Driver's License & reliable transportation.

Please visit our careers website to apply: www.teriinc.org

Are students incidentally "glorifying" Kony?

Kony 2012 signs inundate our campus

JESSIE GAMBRELL
STAFF WRITER

On April 23, chalk and signs were put up all over campus essentially "glorifying" Kony. "Kony 2012" the poster says, along with a picture of Joseph Kony, a war-lord from central Africa. This sign was first made to promote the short film, "Kony 2012" from the makers of "The Invisible Children," a different short film documentary that shows the cruel world of children being abducted by Joseph Kony to become soldiers in his army. This film was a huge hit and had a huge following.

"Their original documentaries were great, I just don't know what this (Kony 2012) does. I have heard that it is a scam," said student, Tyler Alred.

The documentary, "Kony 2012" depicts how the Invisible Children organization intends to capture and get rid of Kony. The signs and other propaganda are a means to raise money for "the cause" of "capturing" Kony at last. But there has been much speculation as to where exactly all this money is going.

"I kind of think that it [Kony 2012] is a scam. The

money, where does it go? I don't know what is going to do for us catching him," said freshman, Ryan Vaikus.

One of the three film makers of "Kony 2012," Jason Russell, was discovered, Thursday, March 15, on a street corner in downtown San Diego, naked and having an alleged "meltdown" in public. He was arrested and is being treated medically for the incident. This among other "sketchy" instances give reason to doubt the validity of the Invisible Children organization. But this incident also helped the "Invisible Children" and "Kony 2012" videos become more viral, since everyone wanted to know everything involved with the scandal.

"I heard it was the most viral video, it seems like a big 'trendy' topic. The writing all over the school though, definitely made me more annoyed with it," said CSUSM staff member, Nick.

The signs all over campus, I believe, were at first well intended, but now it seems to be making. Some of the chalk on our school grounds even



says, "Kony - 2012. Make him famous!" I am not sure who wrote these or if they are even affiliated with the Kony 2012 team, but this I do believe is not what they meant to say. We do not want to "glorify" someone who is a mass-murderer and communist and by saying, "make him famous" no matter how they meant it, is glorifying him. Uninformed students might support who they believe to be a good person for the sake of our misleading public media. I hope that we can see and realize that something has gone wrong and we need to change this.

Fall into step with Off Centre performance

JESSIE GAMBRELL
STAFF WRITER

This year marks the tenth year for the faculty and students producing "Off Centre," an annual production beginning in 2003. "Off Centre" consists of three different "lectures" of three to 10 minute contemporary dance performances from the dance workshop held by Dr. Karen Schaffman.

The performances will be presented in groups. The first performance by eight students will be hosted by Dance 301 instructor, Anya Cloud. The second by instructor, Nancy Boskin-Mullen will be a piece entitled, "I am Sam," being a more family dynamic type of scene. The third and largest yet for CSUSM with 25 students will be "Ballet Folcloico," having two pieces on Cesar Chavez plaza.

"It is a very different show this year. It is very kinesthetic with many unique pieces. This year I would say that there are about 60 students participating in the Off Cen-

tre performances. This is the 'mainstay' for the dance minor," said dance instructor, Dr. Karen Schaffman.

The performance will be held on Thursday, May 3 and Friday, May 4 at 7 p.m. in Arts building, room 111. There is a \$5 suggested donation that will go toward the Dance Foundation. It is estimated that the

"It is a very different show this year, it is very kinesthetic with many unique pieces."

- Dr. Karen Schaffman

shows will be sold out in since almost every show has sold out since it first started. All lighting will be conducted by Professor Karin Filijan's TA 305 class, making the production a "student run" presentation.

"I am super excited. This will be my first spring dance performance, so it is a lot of work, but I think it will pay off. We have a lot of really good pieces this year," said dancer and choreographer, Sarah Taylor.

The dances will be contemporary, which is defined as "postmodern sensibility, body awareness, and a blend of different dance practices combined," according to Dr. Schaffman.

Students raise money to keep art in San Diego classrooms

MORGAN HALL
STAFF WRITER

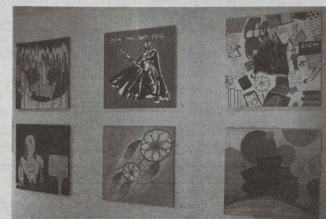
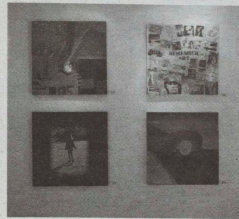
Instead of spending their Friday night enjoying a movie or out with friends, the students of VPA 380-17 attempted to keep art alive.

"It was amazing that everyone worked together and the event turned out to be a big success," participant Brenton Lake said.

Starting on Friday, April 20 and ending April 21, the CSUSM students of "Art and Social Change" organized, hosted and curated a student run art show themed "Keep Art Alive," where works of art provided by students from High Tech were auctioned off to the highest bidder.

"I'm amazed with the amount of money we raised. I think for sure, that was our biggest accomplishment," participant Tiffany Jackman said.

By the end of the event, the class had auctioned off all 26 student art pieces and raised just over \$800 to be donated to the CSUSM based CenterARTES organization which is headed by Dr. Merryl Goldberg and supports and encourages arts education and arts advocacy in San Diego County schools and communities.



The "Keep Art Alive" event had a live band, several raffles, free food and several different types of student artwork. Students and parents from High Tech High and CSUSM, San Marcos community members and even Jim Eubank, the original founder of Restaurant Row, came out to donate and support the event. Photos by Morgan Hall.

Planning began late February with the help of Marilyn Huerta when the CSUSM art gallery in Restaurant Row had an open space to display student work. After guidance from their professor Kristen Moss, the class decided to partner with a group of art students from High Tech High to display and auction off their artwork. Planning took place during the Tuesday and Thursday class meetings and on the Cougar

Courses forums.

"I think it was pretty ambitious of our class to plan an art gallery event and work with teen art students outside of class, while still juggling homework and [our] personal lives," participant Laura Musgrove said.

To make sure that each member of the class could contribute to the event, the students formed several different committees, which had a select group traveling

to High Tech High to work with the students one-on-one and give advice on student artwork, ideas and concepts.

"Knowing that all of their work was bought is really going to make them feel great and physically see the importance of art," participant Kevin O'Neil said.

The money raised will be formally presented to Dr. Goldberg before the end of the semester.



Top 5 movies for the recent college graduate

KYLE M. JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

1. **"Reality Bites" (1994):** While it is often marketed as a romantic-comedy, this film follows aspiring documentary filmmaker Lelaina (Winona Ryder), as she seeks to make meaning of her post-graduate life with the help of her friends and roommates. With an honest plot and a great supporting cast (Ethan Hawke, Ben Stiller and Janeane Garofalo), "Reality Bites" stands as one of the most important films of the 90s.

2. **"The Graduate" (1967):** Considered incredibly risqué at the time of its release, this classic stars Dustin Hoffman as Benjamin Braddock, a recent college graduate with no idea what to do with his life. Ignoring the pressure from his parents to take his future more seriously, Benjamin spends his free time having an affair with the middle-aged Mrs. Robinson, and lounging in the pool. When Mrs. Robinson's daughter comes to town, and Benjamin is encouraged to date her, things get more complicated than they already are.

3. **"Into the Wild" (2007):** This film tells the true story of Christopher McCandless, a recent college graduate who donates his savings, abandons his car and destroys his identification before venturing out to hitchhike across the United States towards his ultimate goal of isolation in the Alaskan wildlife, away from society. The lives he touches and the beauty he explores contribute towards an incredible journey with a devastatingly, tragic ending.

4. **"With Honors" (1994):** While the graduation doesn't come until the ending, this film is a notable one for recent college graduates. Brendan Fraser stars as Monty, a Harvard undergrad whose thesis makes its way into the hands of local homeless man, Simon (Joe Pesci). A deal is made: for every favor Monty performs for Simon, he can have one page of his thesis back. What follows is a mentor-pupil relationship between the two, which promises life lessons and profound wisdom.

5. **"St. Elmo's Fire" (1985):** Featuring many members of the 1980s "Brat Pack," this film tells the story of a group of friends who struggle with their friendships, romantic relationships and futures following college. While the acting is at times melodramatic, the themes are sincere and the relationships are honest, providing an array of characters with which to identify.

Book Review: "Girl Walks into a Bar..." by Rachel Dratch

JULIANA STUMPP
STAFF WRITER

In her autobiography, "Girl Walks into a Bar..." author Rachel Dratch offers an entertaining and humorous read to enjoy during free time or over the summer.

Many memoirs nowadays usually include some sort of scandal being exposed about their childhood or a rough time in that individual's life. However, Dratch's book includes universal situations such as dating and her "midlife miracle," a recount of her experience being pregnant at forty years old.

A regular performer on "Saturday Night Live" from 1999 to 2006, Dratch played recurring characters like "Debbie Downer" and

Boston teen "Denise" alongside Jimmy Fallon as "Sully."

After leaving the sketch show, she auditioned for a role on "30 Rock" with "SNL" cast mate, Tina Fey. However, Dratch found it difficult to find work and was commonly hired for unwanted roles, such as secretaries or lesbians, or both. Still, she has made some cameos in Adam Sandler movies such as "Click" and "Just Go With It."

Dratch also illustrates her experience meeting her husband, John Wahl, after she was ready to give up on her dream of falling in love and having a family.



In "Girl Walks into a Bar..." Dratch proves that even though her personal life has gone through many changes, she still is able to entertain years after her "SNL" days.

Rambo Tutoring

Quality Math Tutoring at Affordable Prices

www.rambotutoring.com

760-291-7087

Dropping

JULIANA STUMPP
STAFF WRITER



Silversun Pickups – "Neck of The Woods"
Following the success of the band's previous album "Swoon" (which earned them a Grammy nomination), their third studio album "Neck of The Woods" is due for release on May 8. The first single off of the new album, titled "Bloody Mary (Nerve Endings)," is released on Youtube.

Carrie Underwood – "Blown Away"
"Blown Away" is the fourth album by "American Idol" winner, Carrie Underwood. The album's first single, "Good Girl" was released in February.



"Men In Black"
With "Men In Black 3" coming soon, this blu-ray release of the 1997 sci-fi comedy is released just in time for fans. The film follows Agent J (Will Smith) and Agent K (Tommy Lee Jones) as they take on extraterrestrials threatening the future of Earth.



"New Year's Eve"
This film follows the stories of various people and their relationships in New York on New Year's Eve. The ensemble cast includes Michelle Pfeiffer, Robert De Niro and Halle Berry.

THE COUGAR SHUFFLE

BRANDON TORRES
STAFF WRITER

With the stress of finals in our foreseeable futures, sometimes we forget about the fact several of our fellow Cougars will be leaving us. There are several songs that capture the essence of the friendships that students establish with one another here on campus. Sharing these songs with our graduating Cougars and celebrating the legacy they've left behind is a great way to show your appreciation for everything they've done, and what their friendship means to you. Sorry, no trite Vitamin C here.

"My Best Friend" by Weezer – In this track off of Weezer's album "Make Believe," Rivers Cuomo lets loose his adoration for his best friend in an up-tempo beat that has you catching yourself humming along. Sharing this song with a graduating senior is the perfect way to show your love for them and let them know they will be missed.

"Good Morning" by Kanye West – For our seniors looking to attack the world and start their new lives, "Good Morning" off of Kanye West's album "Graduation" offers the motivation they need. By rapping about how life is more than just a college degree, West's song offers inspiration for graduating Senior to take control of their future.

"Sing" by My Chemical Romance – My Chemical Romance's anthemic song off their album "Dangerous Days: The True Lives Of The Fabulous Killjoys" encourages individuals to embrace their identities. Letting your voice be heard is the exact message every graduating senior should hear.

"Graduate" by Third Eye Blind – More than just about graduating college, Third Eye Blind's coming-of-age song tells the story of an individual graduating emotionally.

"Moment for Life" by Nicki Minaj – Four hard years, and our graduating class has finally set out what they've set to do. Nicki Minaj's melodic song details all of opportunities that lie ahead of an individual, which is the perfect motivation for our seniors to go out and impact the world.

The comic book corner:

Assembling the Avengers

As the official release date of "The Avengers" movie comes close, fans are given the opportunity to read more into the characters. Last March, Marvel published the first issue of "Avengers Assemble," a brand new monthly series featuring the same team in the movies, but in the mainstream Marvel Universe (Earth-616). Artist Mark Bagley and writer Brian Michael Bendis created a new saga for the



cast. Currently, issues one and two are on the shelves with the third releasing the week after the movie premier. Though it is the same cast, the Ultimate Marvel Universe (Earth-1610) has a more accurate comic version to the cinematic crew. Whether you want to read from Earth-616 or Earth-1610, there is a massive selection of comics featuring the characters of the Avengers movie.

The Countdown to Free Comic Book Day Begins!

Every year, comic book readers wait in anticipation for Free Comic Book Day (FCBD). It is always the first Saturday of May, which is May 5 this year. The annual tradition that started in 2002 is a national celebration of comics; everyone from the industry participates in the festivities. This year, publishers created very exclusive FCBD issues and previews. The list of titles includes some from DC and Marvel while others are from independent publishers. To find out what the

FAITH ORCINO
STAFF WRITER

FCBD 2012 books are and where you can get them, visit freecomicbookday.com. Not all shops will have the same offer during FCBD, so check with them on what they have planned beforehand.

**FREE
COMIC
BOOK
-DAY-**

Callers Needed

Setting Appointments for In-Home Estimates
Weekday Evenings & Saturday Mornings
Office location is just minutes from CSUSM
Perfect job for college student!

760-735-2830

Get CASH for your textbooks, at
Off-Campus Books



1450 West Mission Road
San Marcos, CA 92069
(760) 598-2665
We buy books year-round

SELF-STORAGE SPECIAL!
(760) 743-1700

50% OFF
5X5 OR 5X10 UNITS
FOR THE SUMMER!
(OFFER VALID MAY-AUGUST)

PRIVATE STORAGE SYSTEMS
2421 BARHAM DRIVE
(FROM CSUSM JUST HEAD EAST ON BARHAM)

WWW.ASTORAGEPLACE.COM



HIT SUMMER MOVIES OF 2012

May 4 - "The Avengers"

May 11 - "Dark Shadows"

May 16 - "The Dictator"

May 18 - "Battleship"
& "What to Expect When
You're Expecting"

May 25 - "Men in Black 3"

June 1 - "Snow White &
the Huntsman"

June 8 - "Prometheus"

June 15 - "Rock of Ages"
& "That's My Boy"

June 22 - "Abraham Lincoln:
Vampire Hunter"
& "Brave"

June 29 - "G.I. Joe: Retaliation"

July 3 - "The Amazing Spider-Man"

July 20 - "The Dark Knight Rises"

Aug. 3 - "The Bourne Legacy"
& "Total Recall"

Aug. 17 - "The Expendables 2"

Student A: "Some Words of Encouragement" by Faith Orcino

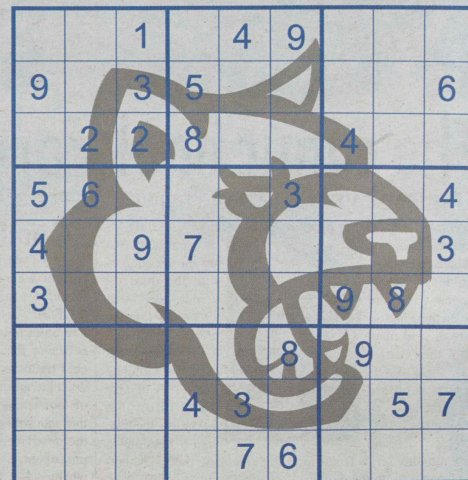
Chronicle Crossword
[Graduation]

Down

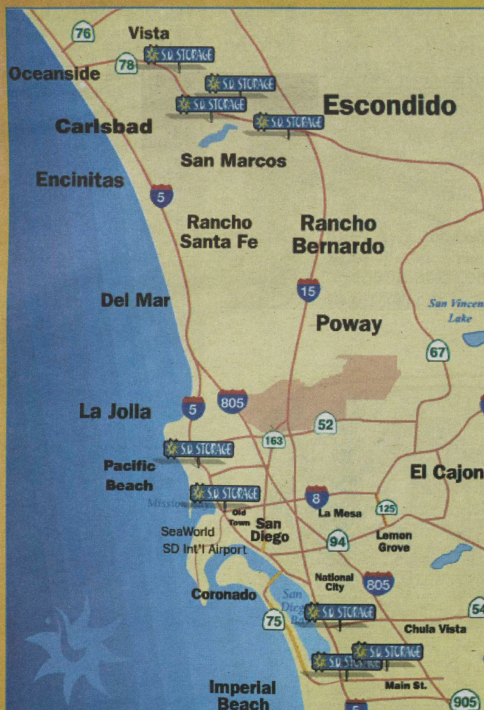
- 1) Graduation garb.
- 2) Ceremony of completion.
- 3) Side on which tassel is worn on a handed diploma.
- 6) Certificate of completion at university level.
- 7) Another word for work.
- 8) Graduation head wear.

Across

- 1) Average grade earned.
- 4) Another word for done.
- 5) Certificate of completion.
- 9) Expression of success or good fortune.



Sudoku



Call our friendly professionals for more information!
10% STUDENT DISCOUNT ON TOP OF OUR
OTHER GREAT SPECIALS!

Take your stuff
and **STORE IT!**

- NORTH

SAN MARCOS

185 N. Pacific,
San Marcos, CA 92069

760-471-0133

- SOUTH

SAN MARCOS

560 South. Pacific,
San Marcos, CA 92069

760-471-2691

- ESCONDIDO

1510 E. Mission Road,
San Marcos, CA 92069

760-743-4076

- VISTA

2430 S. Santa Fe Ave.,
Vista, CA 92084-8001

760-727-3470

BRING THIS COUPON IN AND
**RECEIVE A
FREE LOCK!**

S.D. STORAGE

TRUSTED... CONVENIENT... AFFORDABLE.

BOXES AND MOVING SUPPLIES

CLOSEST TO SAN MARCOS AND ESCONDIDO - www.sdstorage.com

