



Photos by Chezare Milo / The Pride



Above: Children at the ELC ride their tricycles.

Left: Teacher Janet Hastert instructs the children.

Below: The children enjoy a mid-afternoon snack.



Referendum saves ELC

Childcare fee approved by 82% of the vote

BY LINDSAY RIEDEL
Pride Staff Writer

The Early Learning Center (ELC) will continue to offer services to students, staff, faculty, and the community after 464 students voted in favor to keep the center open.

A total of 565 students voted in last week's referendum, the ELC passed received 82 percent of the vote on Thursday, October 21. The referendum ensures that the ELC will get student funding to remain in business.

In the past, ASI has provided the means to keep the facility operating, but budget cuts for ASI resulted in the necessity of student contributions to keep the facility open. Students who voted online from October 18-21 decided that an additional \$10 should be added to enrollment fees to finance the ELC.

According to Roy Lee, ASI VP of Communications, the annual budget for the ELC is about \$300,000. Beginning in the spring of 2005, the collection from students will total about \$144,000, and the fees for the parents of the children attending the ELC will pay the remaining \$156,000 of the budget.

"Essentially, the ELC will be running itself,"

See ELC, page 2

Campus debates ballot propositions

BY DANIEL LOWE
Pride Staff Writer

More than 100 students gathered in the Clarke Field house on Thursday, October 21 to watch and engage in a debate addressing four of the ballot propositions up for consideration on November 2.

The four propositions discussed were state Propositions 66, 70, 71, and local Proposition B.

There were eight panelists, one for both sides of each issue. Panelists consisted of CSUSM students, professors, and members of the community.

President Haynes, ASI, and the Academic Senate sponsored the event.

Students enjoyed the free food that was provided during the debate, but many began to leave for classes as the event continued. By the end of the event there were only about 20 people who remained in attendance.

The first debate was over state Proposition 66. Proposition 66 would amend the California Three Strikes Initiative that was passed by voters in 1994.

Professor Valerie Callahan argued in favor of the proposition.

Callahan urged voters to approve the changes to the Three Strikes Statute contained in Prop. 66.

"New convictions must be serious or vio-

See DEBATE, page 2

Business building celebrated

5 million dollar pledge announced to go towards College of Business Administration

BY HEATHER HOFFMANN
Pride Staff Writer

Students, administration and community members came together for a beam signing ceremony hosted by the College of Business Administration to sign their name and leave their mark on campus.

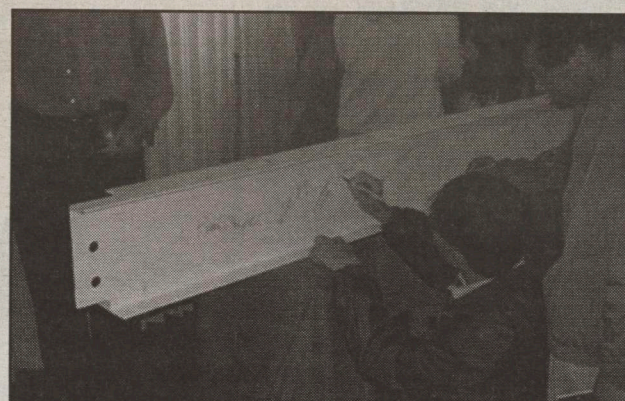
Approximately 170 people gathered in Academic Hall room 102 on Wednesday, October 20 to celebrate the construction of the business building set to open in the spring 2006.

"This is an exciting event. A milestone has been reached and it's time to celebrate," said Cal State San Marcos President Karen Haynes.

After listening to speeches by University President Karen Haynes, Dean of the College of Business, Dennis Guseman, and others who made the building possible, attendees had the opportunity to sign a steel beam that will be placed in the building.

At the event it was announced that a yet-to-be-named donor

came forward with 5 million dollars to name the building, which is the largest gift received by CSUSM for a single project. The name of the building is set to be announced this week.



Photos by Heather Hoffmann / The Pride

Above: Event participants sign the ceremonial beam.
Below: The staff of CoBA signs the beam.



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Opposing campus groups host debate today

BY SARAH COLESON
Pride Staff Writer

The College Republicans and The Progressive Activists Network are hosting a debate today Tuesday, October 26 from 11:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the steps in front of Founders Plaza.

Each group is featuring a guest speaker to represent them in a partisan debate on issues relevant to the upcoming presidential election.

The College Republicans have chosen Larry Greenfield, Director of the Republican Jewish Coalition in Southern California to voice the conservative side, while The Progressive Activists Network (PAN) have chosen James Brown, member of The Veterans For Peace National Organization to voice the liberal side of the issues.

All students are encouraged to attend and participate at the event.

ELC, from page 1

said Lee.

The ELC is not only a childcare center and a place for children to begin learning basic lessons at an early age, it is also a place that employs students and provides internship opportunities.

"We are an essential service for students, students utilize the center that are not student parents," said Moseita Rodriguez-Coppedge, site supervisor of the ELC. "The majority of the children here are children of CSUSM students."

Hilary Gross-Richmond, a senior at CSUSM, is fulfilling her internship requirement at the ELC by helping the preschool class three days a week. Gross-Richmond feels that the passing of the referendum is "a wonderful thing."

"It's the reward of knowing that once you have taught them something or read them a story, they appreciate it and come back for more. It's the reward of their smile," said Gross-Richmond describing her favorite part about working with the children at the ELC.

Currently, the state of California does not require that children attend preschool before enrolling in Kindergarten, but many Kindergarten programs expect children to have a basic understanding of letters and numbers before



Photo by Chezare Milo / The Pride

enrollment.

These expectations put pressure on parents to enroll their children into preschool, which can be a financial strain. The ELC provides the services of a preschool at lower cost.

"I think preschool is important because preschool is somewhere children need to be so they learn how to socially interact and learn the basics to ease the transition into kindergarten," said Gross-Richmond. "The ELC is not just a daycare. Here, they learn sharing, manners, social interaction, patience, ABCs, and counting."

Gwen LaForey-Keating is a preschool teacher at the ELC, but to her students she is known simply as Miss Gwen.


"It's rewarding to see kids

incorporating things they've learned into their everyday routine," LaForey-Keating said. "We give them the full ability to explore." She feels that the freedom that the children are given distinguishes the ELC from most childcare centers.

LaForey-Keating said, "Children and changes don't always go well. It's a relief; I'm glad the center stayed open."

Last semester, The College of Education and ASI were granted \$7.6 million from the First Five Commission to build the Center for Children and Families on a site in the area of the campus police. Construction for the new building will begin next year.

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FHM on campus

BY KATIE POWERS
Pride Staff Writer

Last week Students took little notice of For Him Magazine's visit to campus as rain filled the sky.

For Him Magazine (FHM) set up a booth in front of the Kellogg Library with video games and promotional giveaways on Tuesday, October 19. At 8:00 p.m. in Arts 240, Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) and FHM sponsored the appearance of comedian Christian Finnegan.

Finnegan cracked up the small audience that attended the show.

The comic captured the audience's attention by almost "tea bagging" them. Next he moved on to relationship philosophy.

"Relationships are like yard sales, they look really fun from 100 feet away, but when you get close you realize it's a bunch of shit you don't need," joked Finnegan.

Finnegan cracked jokes for the rest of the hour long show on everything from his "fat-tax" to the Olympics to the upcoming election.

The audience seemed to enjoy Finnegan's wit and slightly twisted sense of humor.

"It was tight! More people should have come, they missed out," said student Angela Jenkins.

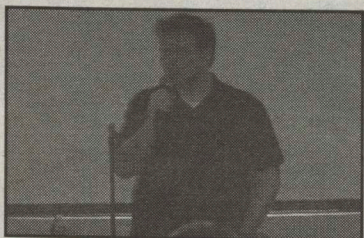


Photo by Chezare Milo / The Pride
Christian Finnegan performs.

People at the event speculated as to why only 24 people showed up for the comedy performance. Most explanations for lack of attendance focused around the weather.

"It sucks it was on a Tuesday, let alone a rainy Tuesday," said Eric Groset, director of social programming for ASI.

Angela Jenkins thought the small audience was partially due to the lack of publicity for this event.

"I just heard about it today, I picked up a flyer but it didn't have a date on it," said Jenkins.

When all was said and done those that attended the show left with a smile on their faces and sore sides.

Christian Finnegan left San Marcos with sore legs and a smile as well.

"There's lots of stairs. That's brutal, it's brutal here, but it's been great. I hope I can come back at a later date when it's sunny," said Finnegan.

Christian Finnegan can be seen every Friday at 11:00 p.m. on VH1's new series Best Week Ever as well as in his occasional appearances on the Chappelle Show on Comedy Central.

DEBATE, from page 1

lent," said Callahan about the proposition. She stated that Proposition 66 would narrow the definition of serious or violent crimes to exclude petty crimes such as burglary or attempted burglary.

Callahan said because of the three strikes law California has the "highest prisoner population in the nation."

CSUSM student Stephen Keller, argued against Proposition 66.

"It punishes people with no respect for the law," said Keller about current three strikes law. Keller said that the current law doesn't need to be changed and is "not targeting petty crimes."

The second debate addressed state Proposition 70. Proposition 70 would enact a tax of 8.84 percent on the net revenue of gaming.

Community member David Lent argued in favor of the proposition.

"It's time the tribes stepped up to the plate," said Lent. Lent urged voters to vote "yes" on Proposition 70 because, "it would bring two billion dollars to the table for all of California."

Community member and Native American, David Whitehorse argued against Proposition 70.

"It creates a 99-year monopoly," said Whitehorse about Proposition 70. He said that Proposition 70 "does not bring sovereignty or a fair share," for

Native Americans.

The next debate focused on state Proposition 71. Proposition 71 would provide state funding for stem cell research.

Dayleen Coleman, a human development major, argued in favor of the proposition.

"Stem cell research is the best chance to cure many different diseases. The new cures could affect up to 100 million people," said Coleman.

Executive Director of the CSUSM College Republicans Nick Bonomi argued against Proposition 71.

"Those who are going to vote for religious reasons are going to vote against Proposition 71," said Bonomi.

Asking voters not to approve the measure because of its cost to taxpayers. Bonomi said, "Prop 71 costs three billion dollars, plus three billion dollars in

interest."

The last debate was over local Proposition B. Proposition B would reverse a previous proposition that approved the Gregory Canyon Landfill.

CSUSM student, Didi Lund, argued in favor of the proposition.

"The garbage dump is not needed," said Lund. Stressing environmental protection as a reason the Proposition should pass. Lund said, "The garbage dump threatens the San Luis Rey river. It could be polluted."

Political consultant Jennifer Tierney argued against Proposition B.

"Landfills are needed," said Tierney asking voters to deny the proposition. Tierney said, "Voting 'No' does not necessarily mean that it will be built. It insures that it will go through the process."

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**Professor
Veronique
Anover- Associate
Professor of World
Languages
Country: France**

With her ability to speak French, Spanish, and English, Professor Veronique Anover of the World Languages Department maintains a very European lifestyle.

"There's a saying, 'Savoir Vivre' often used in the United States," Anover said. "It is the art of knowing how to enjoy life, to eat a good meal, to enjoy a vacation. One should enjoy life more than so than simply working."

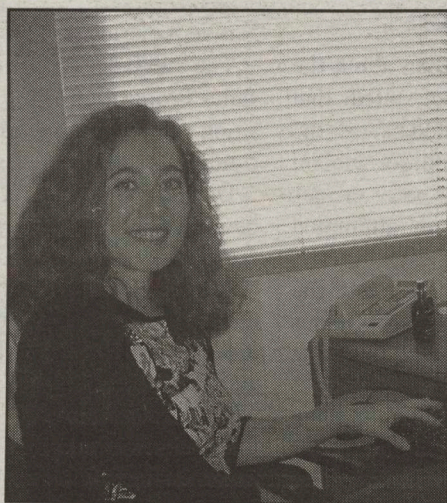
Yet, living in the United States has made it a little more difficult trying to balance both American and European lifestyles.

Anover, who was born in France, has spent many years traveling between both France and Spain attending school as well as visiting family.

"I am as much French as I am Spanish," Anover said. If her family was in France, summer vacations were spent in Spain, and vice versa.

Life was a bit more collective where the government provided state funded health benefits as well as six-weeks of paid vacation for teachers.

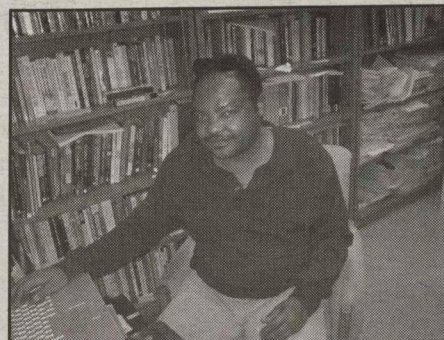
Yet, her love for languages drew her to the United States 14 years ago as she participated in a non-native speaker of



English program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. If anything however, she misses her personal time. "Workaholic is an American word," Anover said.

According to Anover, the lifestyle in which Americans live in does not allow for vacation time. "It's not that we [Americans] don't want to have a vacation, but it's just that the way society is, the priorities are different."

As the French Club's advisor, as well as Associate Professor and Faculty Advisor for French, Anover shares these words of advice to those who share a bicultural experience: Try your best to integrate into the society that you're embracing without losing yourself, your roots.



**Professor Reuben
Mekenye
- Associate
Professor of History
Department
Country: Kenya**

"Life here can be very brutal, a high stress society as compared to a more relaxed way of life in Kenya," said Reuben Mekenye, history professor.

Having been born and raised in Kenya, Mekenye spent many years on the countryside tending to livestock and cultivating corn, coffee, tea leaves, etc until he moved to the city to attend college.

As a diligent college student, Mekenye was expelled for his activities as a student leader tackling various issues such as national issues to issuing statements on behalf of the student community during Kenya's political turmoil.

By that time, he had processed his papers in Lesotho and was admitted to both Canada and the United States after a year.

In 1988, he arrived in San Diego as a refugee through the sponsorship of a Catholic church. In a state of culture shock, Mekenye had difficulty interacting with people and finding his way around.

"You shake hands in Africa," Mekenye said, as he noted that in the United States greetings are very short and informal. It is customary to have a conversation rather than a simple hello.

After a short six month stay, he was awarded a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin, which required much adjustment considering the frigid climate. He longed for the Southern California climate and was later accepted to the University of California, Los Angeles, where he happily returned to a warmer climate. He grew very fond of the education system as it was more democratic, unlike the authoritarian practices of Kenya. "Tests were public exams given by strangers. We all took it at once," Mekenye said.

After many years, Reuben Mekenye still retains what he considers conservative practices of Kenya such as having respect for the elders. "Listen first, do more listening than talking," Mekenye said. "It is expected that the elders are to command more knowledge."

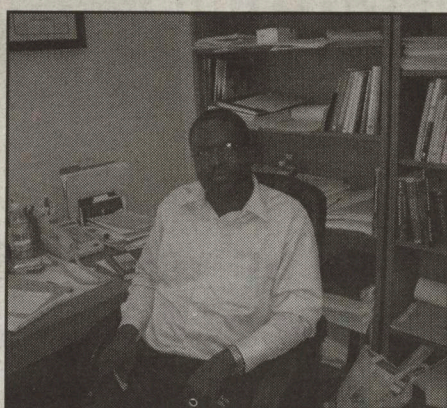
With his vast sense of knowledge, he shares, "Be open-minded. Don't forget where you come from. Your values, you need to treasure them to keep your background and those values will serve you well."

Cultural Corners

Diverse professors from different ends of the spectrum

STORY AND PHOTOS BY PATRICIA GUEVARRA
Pride Staff Writer

**Professor Moses
Reya Ochanji-
Associate Professor
at College
of Education
(Science
Education)
Country: Kenya**



the next generation is embarrassed," Ochanji said.

Ochanji feels lost in terms of what language he speaks since he knows only a little Swahili and his tribal language. Kenyans don't understand him because he speaks with an American accent and Americans don't understand because he has a Kenyan accent.

When he returns to Kenya, he feels a cultural lag, as if Kenyans are always lagging. However, he eludes this to his own possible American value of time.

One of his greatest American challenges is going to a restaurant and ordering food. "I never know what I eat," Ochanji said. There are too many choices that sometimes he just simply wants what he ordered.

Although Ochanji lives in America, he will always feel as if Kenya is his home. "I feel like I'm still there," he said. From his life experiences, he offers these words:

"Realize that you don't belong to either, but you belong to both."

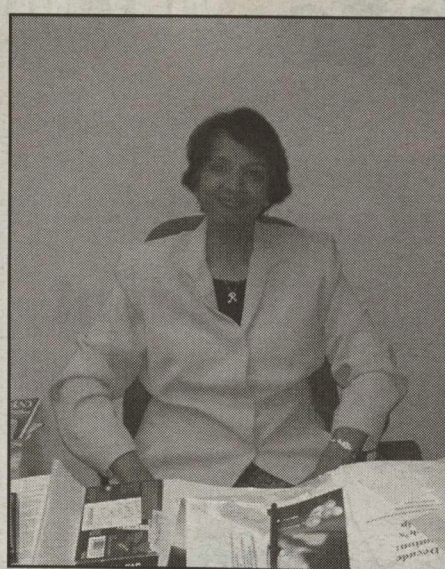
"America must be the busiest place on Earth," said Professor Moses Reya Ochanji of the College of Education.

A Kenyan native, who keeps his ties through political involvement, insists that America is a very busy place, but yet lonely. "You live alone in a lot of ways, socially there's a lot of loneliness," Ochanji said.

He arrived in Syracuse, New York in 1999 to complete his graduate studies in Science Education.

Life in the America is a very different experience than that of Kenya, where one can live without money—"live for months without spending money," Ochanji said. It is a luxury in Kenya to be able to spontaneously knock one a friend's door and carry on a conversation without the feeling as if you are intruding.

Swahili is the national language in Kenya. Among each tribe's own language and English which becomes the language of instruction after third grade. "Local languages are dying because



**Professor
Rajnandini (Raj)
Pillai- Associate
Professor
Management and
Organizational
Behavior
Country: India**

"I always thank my lucky stars that I grew up in two great democracies," Rajnandini (Raj) Pillai said, as she shared her experiences of growing up in Bombay, India.

Life in America is not too far from what it was in India with its western exposure and democratic society. American movies with actors such as Clint Eastwood as well as several American magazines brought about a more advantageous integration for Pillai. "We grew up with English language. You felt as if you knew what it was like (in America)." Pillai sought greater opportunities than the traditional route of women in India, which usually led to marriage. With her parents' support, she left for the United States to continue her studies in 1988.

She arrived in Buffalo, New York where she attended the State University of NY to continue her Ph.D. in Organi-

zational Behavior with an emphasis in Leadership.

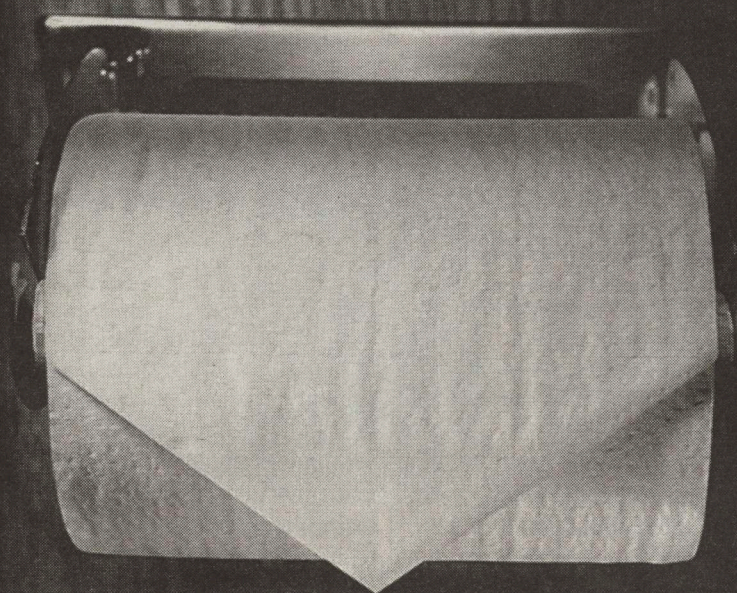
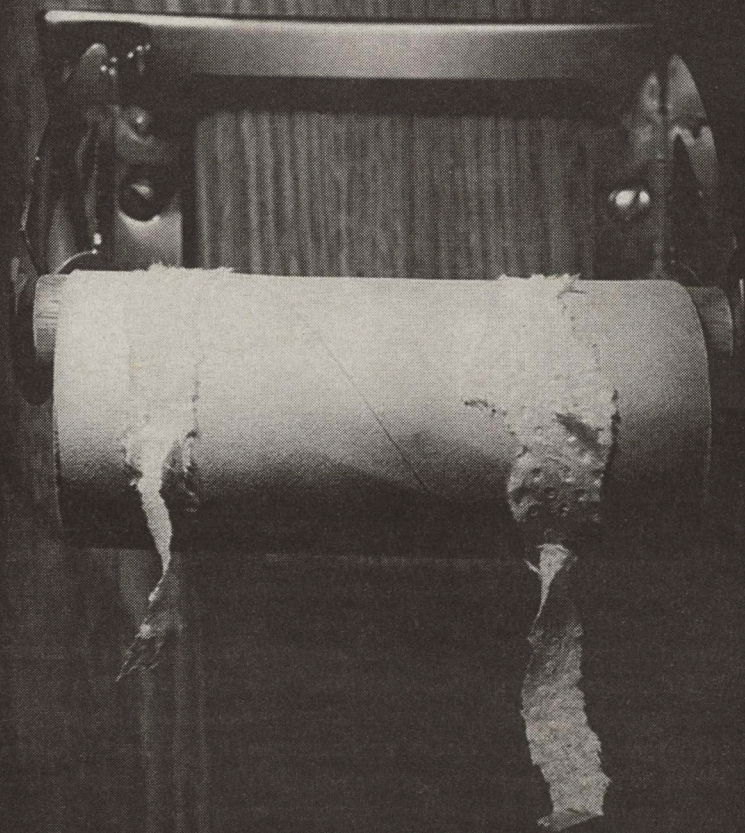
Upon her arrival to the New York, Pillai had been forced to become a self-reliant individual. No longer did she have servants doing her laundry, cooking, or maintaining the house as they did in India. "In India, you never did anything; you always had servants to do so much labor," said Pillai.

In addition, she had her first encounter with snow. A very cold Buffalo, New York left Pillai feeling as if she had seen more than enough snow for her lifetime.

Pillai feels very fortunate to live in two cultures as it enriches her teaching. She continues to attend Indian functions such as the upcoming Diwali, Festival of Lights, which is similar to Christmas with its display of beautifully lit homes.

"You should retain the best of the country of origin and absorb the best of the adopted country," said Pillai.

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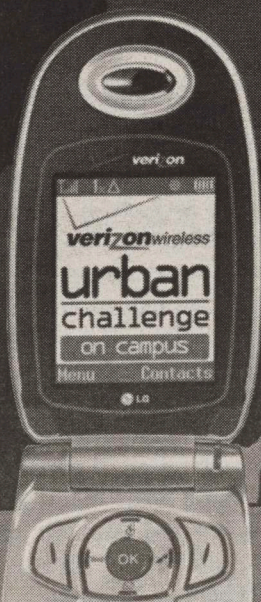
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Urban Challenge on Campus

CSUSM golf superstar

All-American golfer with bright future

BY HEATHER HOFFMANN
Pride Staff Writer

Golf isn't just a sport for CSUSM sophomore Jennell French; it's a way of life.

Being an All American golfer doesn't come easy, she practices with

"I eat, sleep, and think about golf 24/7," said French.

her team five times a week, attends yoga twice a week, and weight trains once a week.

"Playing everyday really makes an improvement," said French. "I eat, sleep, and think about golf 24/7."

French has been golfing for ten years. Her whole family plays golf, so it was easy for her to fall in love with the sport. She has dreams of playing in the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) like her idol and former babysitter Leta Lindley, and will try for her pro-card when she's finished with college.

"I wouldn't be doing it, if I didn't love it," French said. "I love golfing in college because as an individual you can succeed, but at the same time you help your team."

French's commitment to golf has paid off. She placed in the top 15 and earned an All-American title at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) tournament last year as a freshman.

It is early in the season, but French said she expects "to improve every year" so golf fans can expect great things from her this year.

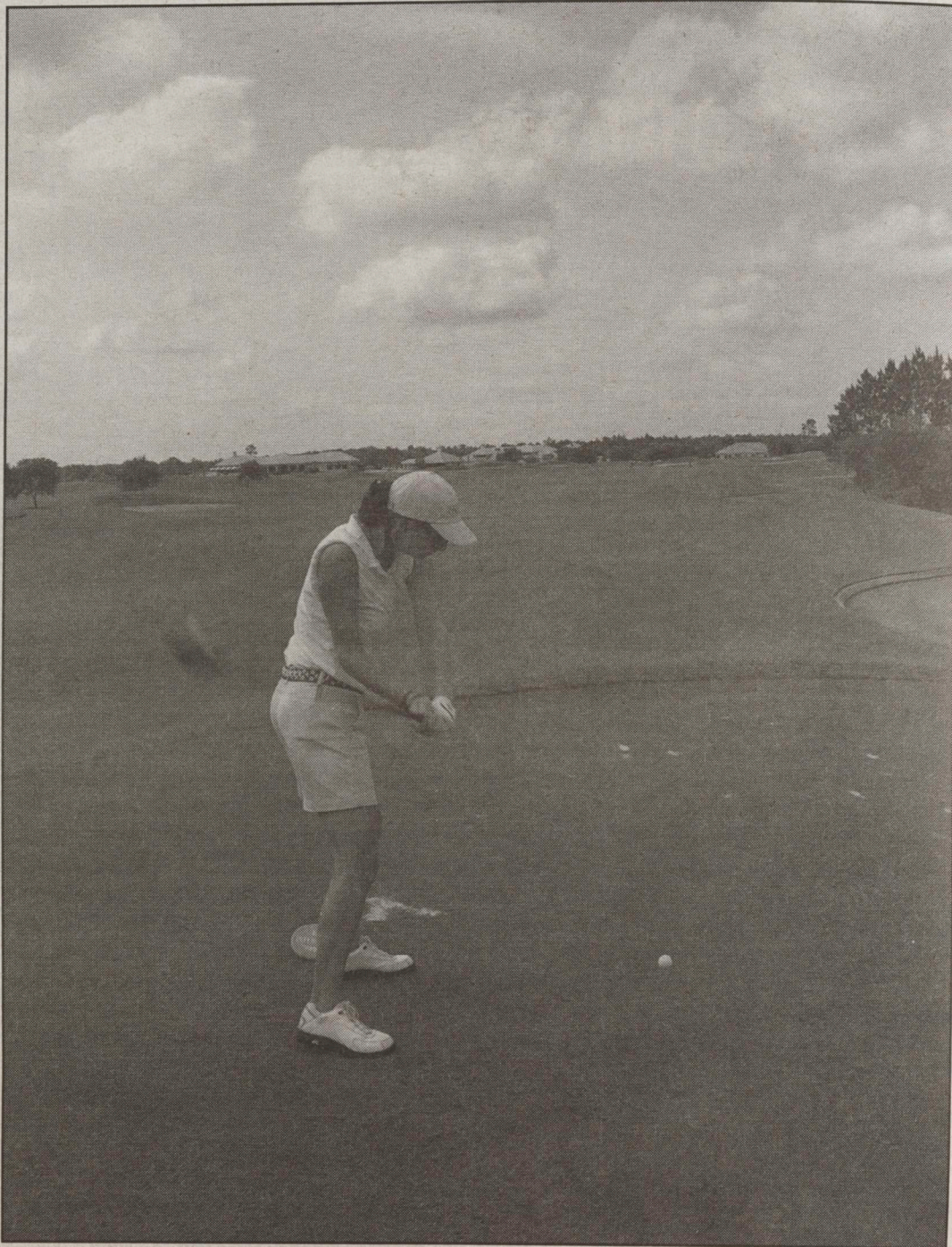
As for the rest of the team, "They are a young team made up of mostly freshman and sophomores and although they are doing great this year, the team will strengthen and improve in the years to come," French said.

Golf is a spring and fall sport, unlike other college sports which usually only play for one semester.

The first tournament of the fall season was the Grand Canyon Tournament at the end of September. The team placed fourth out of forty-five teams and individually French and her teammate Kyle Safford placed in the top five.

Golf is one of three intercollegiate sports supported by CSUSM. It is part of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) which is like the NCAA for smaller schools.

The golf team has averaged about three tournaments a semester; the last tournament of the fall will take place November 7-9 at Cal Poly SLO.



Jennell French drives ball into open range.

Photo courtesy of Jennell French



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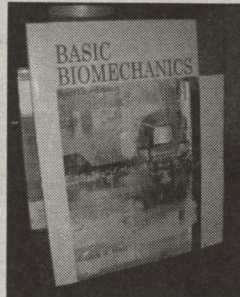
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The joy of studying body movement

Physical education and kinesiology: If you didn't know, now you know

BY MARIBEL MAYO
Pride Staff Writer



Stress, throbbing headaches and sleepless nights... this describes the average life for a college student.

On top of trying to finish assignments, doing last minute

revisions, and finding parking, deciding on a major is just as stressful. Cal State San Marcos was once limited on the number of majors offered, but as a growing university, more and more majors are finding their way to our campus.

This semester a new major is in the process of becoming official; physical education and kinesiology, the study of the anatomy, physiology and mechanics of body movement especially in humans.

The physical education and kinesiology major is intended to prepare students interested in the single subject teaching credential in physical education. The major is targeted to those who are also interested in pursuing careers in advanced degrees in physical education, kinesiology, exercise science, sports medicine, physical therapy and rehabilitation.

Those who are involved and currently taking classes are interested in starting a new club on campus to help build a foundation for the major.

dation for the major.

Andre Tungcab, a current kinesiology student is excited to be in a new major that is fresh and able to grow. "It's a different class where you're able to see how the body works," he said.

This semester, there are three official classes that are being offered, Kine 208, a hands-on lab class designed to practice movement in the field house, Kine 300, which studies the biomechanics of human movement, and Kine 301, which studies motor control.

"Being in the major as it develops, there are certain advantages and disadvantages," said Tungcab. "An advantage to the program is that the field house has just opened, and kinesiology is a major that is open and able to branch off into a lot of different fields. The disadvantage is that it's a new program and it's not well known."

This semester, there are currently two professors teaching the classes: Todd Astorino and Laura deGhetaldi. Head of the department is advisor Dr. Nichols.

"The teachers who are running the program are really positive and encouraging," Tungcab said, "especially with being one-on-one to guiding us in the right direction." There has been a lot of positive feedback from students currently enrolled in these classes. For those interested in sports and activities, or for those who come from a background of sports and share an interest, classes are available and open to all students and staff here on campus.

Jock Talk With Josh

BY JOSH SANDOVAL
Pride Staff Writer



I think it's safe to say that the 86-year old curse of the Bambino is finally over for the Boston Red Sox, right?

The spirit of the Bambino dealt the Sox a blow in the American League

Championship Series by spotting the Yankees three games. Then in game four and five with Mariano Rivera on the mound for the Yankees; the so called best closer in playoff history ends up taking one to the groin on consecutive nights as the Red Sox came back and stole two wins.

Then when the series moved back to New York for the final two games no one gave the Sox a shot since after all they were entering the most sacred of baseball stadiums in the frightening atmosphere of the Bronx. However, somehow they were able to put away the Yankees in game six as Curt Schilling's ankle was literally turning his white socks into "red sox" as he was bleeding throughout the whole game due to a loose tendon being stitched to his skin.

The following night the Sox put the Yanks away and in doing so they made it to their first World Series since 1986 to face the St. Louis Cardinals who are making their first appearance since 1987.

Then in game one of the World Series the Bambino tried to literally trip up the Sox again as Manny Ramirez looked like he was running on ice in left field as he made two errors which lead to the Cards tying the game at nine.

But the Bambino's attempt was about as



Image courtesy of <http://boston.redsox.mlb.com>

successful as a J-lo marriage when Mark Bellhorn hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the eighth inning to give the Sox the win.

The Bambino has been creative in his attempts to send tears throughout Boston for an 86th consecutive season, but he has not been successful yet and do we really want the Bambino to fail?

Everyone says they want the Red Sox to win or that they think this is the season for the Sox since they have dodged all those previously mentioned bullets from the Bambino, but deep down I know that no one really thinks the Sox will win.

I mean if the Sox win the World Series what will baseball fans have to look forward to next year? It's a tradition that the Sox are supposed to find a new way to implode so even though the Bambino hasn't been successful in his attempts to this point, you just wait because he will make an appearance in this World Series and he won't strike out.

Drop me an E-mail at Sando026@csusm.edu to send your praise for when my Red Sox prediction comes through or if by some miracle the Sox win the series you can send your criticism.

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How to vote

Some tips on voting without reading the cumbersome political literature

BY PHOENIX LINDGREN
Pride Staff Writer

Congratulations my fellow students who refused to be intimidated by the mere size and thickness of the California voter registration card. You checked the boxes, filled in the blanks, and got it in the mail in time to count yourselves among the elite: students who are registered to vote!

By now you're receiving an avalanche of junk mail -- 'yes on this,' 'no on that,' 'vote for me' -- and somewhere between those slick, four-color, multi-million dollar efforts to influence your vote are the decidedly unslick materials the Secretary of State sends that form the backbone of any informed voter's decision-making process: the Sample Ballot and the Official Voter Information Guide (and it's trusty assistant, the supplement) -- approximately 260 pages of reading that makes "Hamlet" seem light and frothy in comparison.

Don't despair dear voter-to-be, this is not a test; it's voting. Nobody but the most anal retentive, Mensan lawyer actually reads every page, and neither will you. In fact, it's perfectly okay to simply walk into your polling place next Tuesday, get your ballot, and vote only for President of the United States. Other than deciding who you're going to pick (and nothing in the Secretary of State's materials will help you on this one) it's hardly any work at all. The only reading requirement will be to read the back of your Sample Ballot to see where you're polling place is, and then carefully reading the names under "President of the United States" so you don't pull a Floridian and bubble in the wrong one.

Like it or not, the President is not the only thing you can vote for that will have an impact on your future: there's a senator on the ballot this year, an assortment of judges, college and hospital board members (depending on where you live), and we can't forget those wonderful proposi-

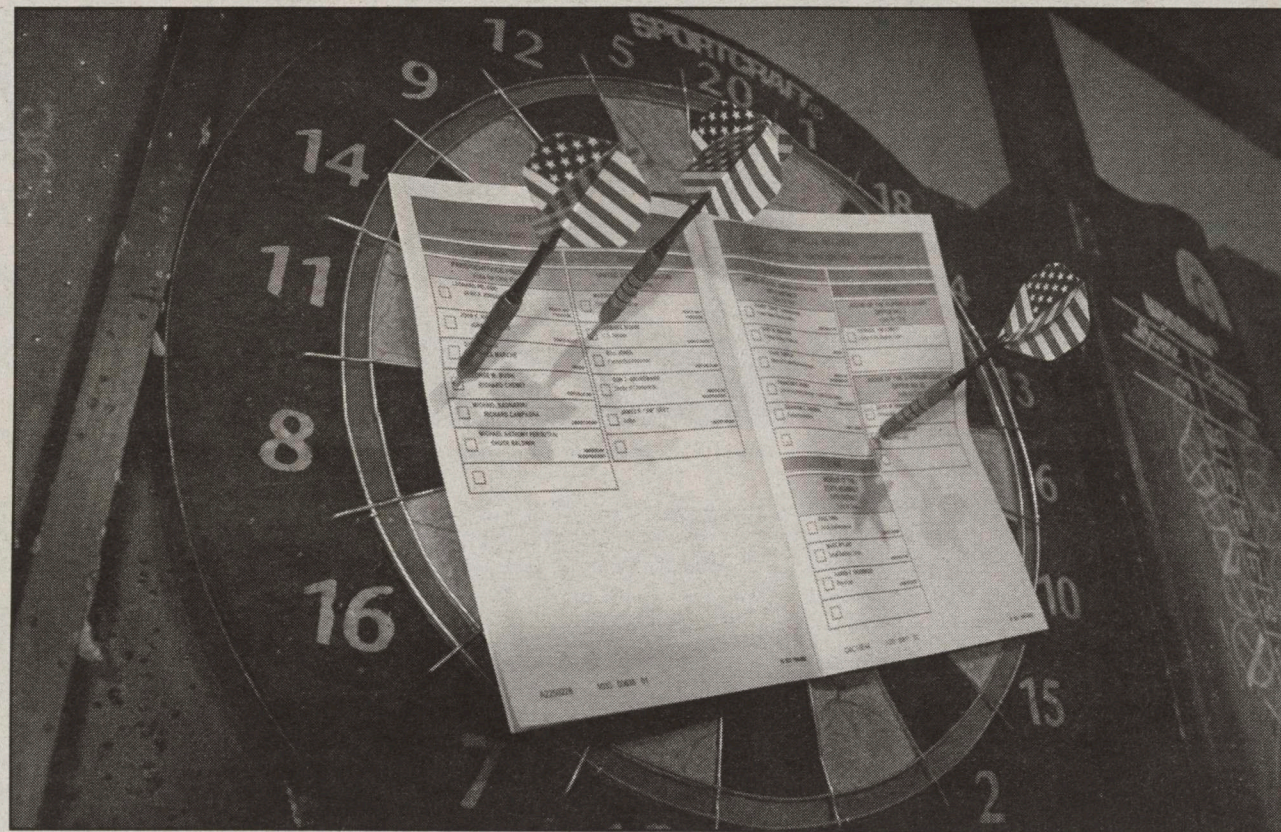


Photo by Phoenix Lindgren / The Pride

tions, which often have the potential to take money from you for years to come.

My strategy for choosing how I'm going to vote is fairly simple. For the people part of the ballot, I vote for people I know and like (for example Bush, Boxer, and Cunningham in this election), and either women or Republicans in positions I don't know anything about (judges, boards, etc.). On the propositions, I mostly end up analyzing who has signed the arguments for and against, and that usually tells me enough about the proposition to make my choice. The people and groups who sign the proposition arguments all have agendas, so I just look for endorsements by groups whose agendas match mine (e.g. AAA because I like to drive, UCAN because I like to consume, Jarvis Taxpayers because I don't like to pay taxes, and League of Women Voters because they're really smart and analyze everything). I realize that I may be revealing myself to be less informed than my fictitious, anal retentive,

Mensan lawyer -- or any eighth-grader with a demanding civics teacher -- but I figure in doing so I may be helping to free you from the belief that voting is too much work; like college, it's as much work as you choose to put into it.

Now nothing, knave voters, is more boring than sitting alone and reading through all this stuff by yourself, so get together with some friends, take an hour or two to go through the ballot, and figure out what choices make sense for you. Mark up your Sample Ballot and take it with you to the polls (you wouldn't leave the answer key at home if you could bring it to the test, would you?) If you make a mistake while voting, don't be embarrassed, just ask for another ballot.

Whether you invest the time to figure out all the propositions, or you just want to cast a vote for president, it's all good. Be as informed as you have time for, and vote!

The Passion of Mel Gibson

BY ALFRED CHU
Pride Staff Writer

Mel Gibson: the man, the artist, the icon. Whatever you want to call him, he has ranked number one on the Forbes annual celebrity power list of 2004. His total earnings are an estimated \$210 million, mainly from his controversial film "The Passion of the Christ."

First and foremost, I consider Gibson one of the rare true film artists. He deserves to be number one. Not like Britney Spears that ranked number one in the 2002 that can't sing but only sell T&A. Gibson has the talent and the vision to make any film a critically memorable multi-million dollar success.

When every mainstream studio and distributor declined to endorse and promote "The Passion of the Christ," he funded the estimated \$25 million budget himself and found Newmarket Films to distribute the film on an independent level. He wasn't about to trash twelve years of his research. He obviously has generated a lot of profit for the big studios and it must have been disappointing for him to be shut out in the cold. This is Hollywood's tragic irony. They send you out as sheep amidst the wolves. Having seen the box office results, I'll bet the studio executives are kicking themselves if they haven't done so already.

"The Passion of the Christ" grossed \$370 million in the United States and a little over \$600 million worldwide. It was released on February 25, 2004 and held the number one spot for the weekend gross for three consecutive weekends. It re-entered the number one weekend gross the weekend of Good Friday (April 9). This is a rarity in Hollywood. It is also estimated that the film will earn another \$150 million from the DVD sales which will rank him high in the 2005 power list.

Gibson has mastered every role he has taken. From the womanizer in "What Women Want," to the suicidal goofball in the "Lethal Weapon" series, to the vengeful thief in "Payback," to the slick gambler in "Maverick," to the faithless widower in "Signs," to the legendary Scottish hero in the brilliant "Braveheart." So it's safe to say he has excelled every genre of film. Not only that, he developed convincing chemistry with every one of his leading ladies and other costars.

This opinion wouldn't be complete if I didn't at least briefly critique "The Passion of the Christ." Artistically, Gibson takes the unbiased direction. He's not making the film to serve or satisfy anyone. Is it historically accurate? No one can be the judge of that. Not any religious figure/group or historian. Many fail to realize that fact. With any film based on a true story or event, some facts are purposely excluded and/or changed for entertainment purposes, the reputation of parties involved, privacy issues, etc. Given "The Passion of the Christ" as well as "Braveheart" as an example, the events were told through many generations and may or may not have been documented accurately. This is a film, not a documentary.

So what's going to happen to Gibson now? Every studio will be drooling and fighting over his future projects. Gibson has expressed an interest in making a film about the Maccabees and the Jewish faith. He has earned his place in Hollywood history. He has earned his place as number one. In the film "Ransom," he said "Many people acquire their fortune. But not me, I built it, from the ground up and no one is taking it away." This holds true.

Slicing through the political rhetoric

BY DANIEL LOWE
Pride Staff Writer

Vote! Vote, but don't bother to be informed. That's right, read this article and then forget about reading any more about the elections. Why? The informed voter is a myth. Politicians themselves don't even know the issues. How can we as voters possibly know the issues? Many key issues are either completely unsolvable, or are unsolvable by a normal citizen. Either people just don't know, or in order to know, you'd have to spend half your life researching it.

Let's focus on some of the issues of the presidential race as an example.

Is the President's plan in Iraq working?

Kerry again attacks President Bush by saying in a debate, "I have laid out a different plan because the president's plan is not working." Kerry has senators on his side and Bush has Iraqi officials on his. Both are experts. Who are we supposed to believe if the experts disagree with each other? It's just one person's word against another. Are we supposed to go to Iraq to find out ourselves?

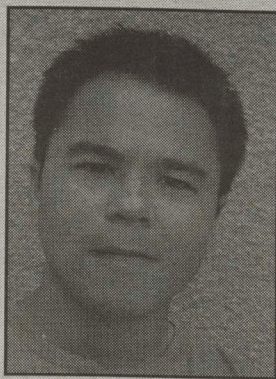
Does Kerry have more credibility with other nations than Bush does?

Kerry contends that we need a new president with fresh credibility. No foreign nation is going to tell us, "It's not the war, it's your leader."

No French or Russian president is going to tell us, "Oh actually I really dislike Bush as a person, that's why we're not helping you." This issue is unsolvable. Even Bush and Kerry cannot know the answer to this question. How are we supposed to vote on it?

Fact checking articles such as CNN's Fact Check are sometimes helpful, but usually it makes more of a mess than before. For example, Bush claims that Kerry has voted 98 times to raise taxes. CNN's Fact Check clarifies this by saying, "The number is somewhat inflated because it includes all votes on a given piece of legislation, including procedural votes and votes to end debate." So is 98 a lot or not? Is there any way to find out without having to look up all the different types of procedural votes and sort them out with Kerry's voting record? Just tell me if 98 is a lot or not!

Those are just a few of the issues in the presidential election. Not to mention there's congressmen, senators, mayors, city council, many propositions and other issues to research. Usually it just becomes a case of "Who am I going to believe?" Don't be fooled by all that "informed voter" hype. It's just another tactic to get your vote. They want you to be informed about their side of the issue. The more you research an issue, the more you realize that nobody knows the answer. The more you know, the more you realize how much you don't know.



By JASON NICHOLS
Pride Ombudsman

OMBUDSMAN'S *Notes*

By the time you read this puppy, I'll have attended a wedding in Vegas (not mine!), and had oodles of inebriated fun playing 6, 8, and '10 the hard way' at the craps table. In the spirit of matrimony and frivolous monetary spending (both somehow connected), I'm gonna take a Prozac-suppository spin on things and speak nothing but happy-la-las on the Pride. Enjoy.

Oooh. Ahhh. Yeah. Moore. Oh yeah, Moore! Don't stop! I want Moore! Moore! Moore! I don't think our little paper can get enough of him. And the fact that Moore was repeatedly quoted as trouncing our school's admin, that's great! Let's all raise hell and collect the 50 Benjamins!

Oh yeah! And Nick Bonomi! Go on with your bad self! If the College Republi-

cans were the 'Royal Order of Water Buffalos,' he'd be Fred Flintstone. I love that he gets in this paper more than most of our writers. Do our editors get checks in the mail from Mr. Bonomi? I don't know, but I love him all the same. And that massive front-page picture of Bonomi four papers back...I have it above my hope chest. Phoenix says it best in her article, "Republicans are just too damn attractive!"

And the Protest article, how great was that! A protester is almost run over by a motorist?! What an action sequence! I assume the motorist wasn't a Republican. They're kinder, gentler drivers. And the quote just after the attempted murder-by-bumper that read, "I felt a little uncomfortable, it was weird being in the middle of a protest, but everyone was being really nice." Talk about grace under fire.

Speaking of grace, have you noticed how sharp the Pride's been looking? I think the Pride's PCs going on the

fritz was the best damn thing to occur. Jason Encabo has cleaned this puppy up so well, I can actually see the graphics, pictures, and make out the 'paws' that go with every film review.

Plus the ads! Verizon has a full-page ad now! A full page dedicated to "Can you hear me now?" Mo' adds means mo' money! I won't see any of it, but that's cool, we still get a better paper. If we get enough of these ads, we might one day see this paper in Technicolor. Oh, the beauty that goes with pastel skin tones...

...and pastel clothes. The fall fashion frenzy article was so frickin rad. All those styles from the 70s and 80s are coming back! Bitchin. I get to look like a member of the Brat Pack again. I hope they bring back the rolled up pant legs and socks with cotton balls! Man, I miss the days of the mullet. Business in the front, party in the back!

Which reminds me, how sweet the smell of 'eau de

toilette.' I would never have imagined that an article could be written about the pump and dump, but Polly flushed it out with 'flying colors.' And how appropriate to place her article under mine. Toilet humor meets the toilet.

And to load up for the toilet, Chef Dawson feeds the UVA residents. First mold and fire alarms, now food?! I want to live there! Plus I'd be only a hop, skip, and jump from the free counseling at the Student Health Services. After this article, I'll be asked to take advantage of the service for sure.

And if I don't make it there, I can feel good that Michelle Robinson says mediocrity is okay. Then I'll get to eat a banana and pose for the Pride next to our lovely (even when frowning) Chrissy Baldwin. Don't let the fact that she's an editor make you think I'm just saying that to suck up. I love bananas.

And I love Josh. I've made two jabs at him in this grey

box, and he came back with a left hook that had me floored. His article on Caminiti's unfortunate passing was one of the sincerest, best damn articles I've read! I asked that you 'Make me love you Josh,' and well...what are you doing Friday?

Don't worry, I'm an easy and cheap date, and we can go see "Team America: World Police." Phoenix gave it 5 paws. And whatever Phoenix says, I do. Like I told her, she's the only Republican I love to listen to or read. Don't worry Bonomi, there'll always be a special place for you in my heart.

This concludes my happy-la-las. The Prozac is wearing off. But, if I win big in Vegas, the first round of Venti ex-laxes are on me. (Don't bet on it.)

I hope this was as good for you as it was for me. And please respect me in the morning at nicho028@csusm.edu or pride@csusm.edu

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



I am unbelievably proud I go to a school where so many students take an active interest in politics. My issue however is to point out the uselessness of activism without education. On the day of Michael Moore's appearance, I went to the Clarke Field House to watch "Farenhype 911." While it made a few good points, it also failed to contradict what I believe was the very thesis of Moore's movie: That there

was no evidence of the link between Iraq and 9/11. The movie, point by point argued against assertion's made in Moore's movie, but conveniently forgot to address the number one issue... that Osama Bin Laden HATES Saddam Hussein and would rather collaborate with Halliburton than Iraq. More interestingly, I was the only one I knew of at the screening that had actually seen "Fahrenheit 9/11," which begs the question: How do you know you disagree with a movie

you haven't seen. I also want to comment on the "protestors" at Moore's event who, on their signs, encouraged me "not to pay for lies." When their tax dollars are being spent to massacre people and convert Saddam's torture chambers into our own, I don't stand in front of their TV's with posters which claim "Bill O'Reilly is ugly." I was horrified to see that photo of one protestor whose sign read, "Michael Moore is fat." Did he really take a night off from shooting beer cans

to show up at this event? Oh, is he the forward-thinking political activist who will save me from my ignorance to show the link between George Bush's vision for a peaceful world and Moore's unhealthy BMI? Michael Moore may not use his treadmill, but at least he uses his brain, which is more than can be said for those who swallow everything they're fed from a government who lives in constant fear of the humanitarian enlightenment of its people. In closing, allow me to

say: The kind of ignorance which drives people to "protest" my right to question authority when innocent people die is the same ignorance that got innocent people killed on September 11th. The point of education is not answering questions but questioning answers. THINK- it's patriotic.
Laura Harvey
CSUSM Junior, History Major



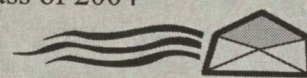
Dear Editor,
While watching the Presidential Debate, I was extremely dismayed at the mention of raising the Federal Minimum Wage by Senator John Kerry. Does Mr. Kerry realize that by raising the minimum wage you do not make living any more affordable for the lower class, but instead

make it less affordable not only for them, but the lower portions of the middle class as well? Most middle class employees and small business owners will not earn more because their employers will not be inclined to give them a raise, but the cost of products that they produce and purchase will rise. The costs of products will rise proportionally to the

increase in minimum wage because the most expensive component of any product is the labor. For any business to continue to earn a profit it must therefore raise its prices as well. Raising the minimum wage is nothing more than a means of creating inflation and increasing the divide between the "haves" and the "have nots." Senator Kerry lacks the

understanding of good monetary and fiscal policy. When you go to the polls on November 2nd, please take the time to understand what each candidate is offering. President George W. Bush is offering Americans the opportunity to do more for themselves, while Senator Kerry is offering expensive government programs that we and our

children will be required to pay for now and in the future. America became the superpower that it is through the personal hard work and determination of its citizenry, not through government programs and federal handouts.
Thank you,
Jeremy J. Johnson
Class of 2004



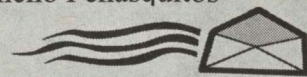
To the Editor:
A friend and I attended the Michael Moore rally Tuesday night. As our car slowly approached the fairgrounds with 10,000 other amazingly patient and peaceful audience members, we were forced to pass by a smattering of frightening and threatening individuals yelling at our

car windows. Their primary message seemed to be "You should be ashamed." I have been puzzling over this ever since as I contemplated their words screamed with hatefulness. Why am I supposed to be ashamed to hear a speaker who advocates for the right to free speech? Is it protecting the environment, another topic mentioned by Moore that should shame me? Was it being with a

group of 10,000 people in a respectful gathering in which no one had to sign a loyalty oath, as people must do to hear the president speak? Was it Moore's commendation of the brave members of the military who are fighting for our country that I should be ashamed of? Maybe the hope he expressed for a speedy end to the war and turning Iraq back over to its

citizens that I should be ashamed of. Possibly these negative individuals want me to be ashamed that our president has sold out to the NRA and allowed automatic weapons to be purchased again in our country making the streets less safe for the police and the average citizen. Now THAT I AM ashamed of Congress for allowing. Do the angry individuals want me to be ashamed that

they prefer a duty shirker to a true military hero? Michael Moore expressed true patriotic ideals. The hypocrisy shown by these protesters is astounding. They are the ones who should be ashamed. Thank you for bringing Michael Moore to San Diego.
Ann Morgan
Rancho Penasquitos



Dear Pride,
I am writing to respond to Claude Sayf. If you go to an event and attack a nation such as Israel one of only two democracies in

the middle east, you aren't going to get a positive reaction. Even the liberal side of the panel sided with the College Republicans. Get over it and come to our next event. Actually I invite all

CSUSM students to come and see our Presidential Debate between the Director of the Republican Jewish Coalition and the President of Veterans for Peace. This event is happening Tuesday Oct

26th from 11am-1pm on the steps of Founders plaza. This event will show both sides of the story unlike the Michael Moore event at Del Mar.

Nicholas J Bonomi
Executive Director

CSUSM College Republicans
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Oceanside, 4171 Oceanside BL (760) 941-8548
Encinitas, 421 Santa Fe Dr. (760) 942-9632
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

10/26

PAN Election Debate
11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Mezz.

Medieval Round Table
Meeting
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
ACD 303

Economics Club Weekly
Meeting
12 p.m. to 1 p.m. ACD
305

PAN Weekly Meeting
1 p.m. to 5 p.m. UNIV
444

Jam Control Meeting
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. ACD
101

10/27

Accounting Society
General Meeting
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. LIB
3010

M. E. Ch. A. Conference
Meeting
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. UNIV
451

Pre-Law Society Meeting
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. UNIV
449

Phi Alpha Theta/ History
Club Meeting
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. ACD
404

COMM Society Meeting
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. ACD 319

College Democrats
Meeting
5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. ACD
310

WSSA Meeting
5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. ACD
308

CLIMB Professors Raj
Pillai and Jeffrey Kohles
Presents Leadership

Discussion

7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.
Clarke Field House/USU

Study Abroad
Information Meeting
12 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. ACD
311

10/28

Pre-Law Society Meeting
8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. LIB
3013

PAN Meeting
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
UNIV 337

Tau Kappa Epsilon
General Business
Meeting
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
COM 306

Priority Christian
Challenge Meeting
6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. ACD
102

Panhellenic Meeting
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. ACD
301

"Wiping the Tears of
Seven Generations"
American Indian Film
Festival
4 p.m. ARTS 240

Richard Sulpizio of
Qualcomm is "In the
Executive's Chair"
11 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.
ACD 102

10/29

Anime Project Alliance
Meeting
4 p.m. to 10 p.m. UNIV
100

Authors to Discuss the
Other Side of San Diego
9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Kellogg 1108

10/31

HALLOWEEN!

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BOOK

Review:

AMERICA (The Book)

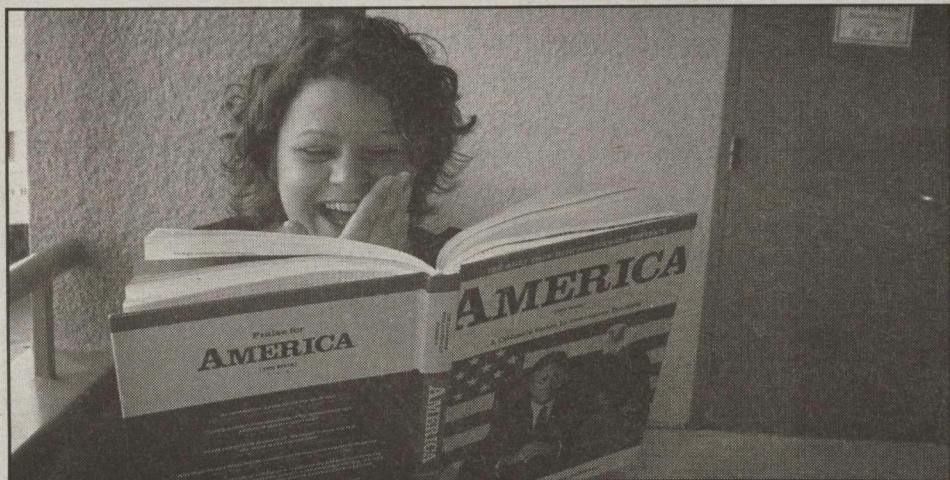


Photo by Phoenix Lindgren / The Pride



By ELIZABETH BALDWIN
Pride Staff Writer

The writers of "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" have rewritten history in their new best seller, "America (The Book): A Citizen's Guide to Democracy Inaction."

The book is written as a textbook, the kind of history/government book that we all were forced to read in public school. Everything that you thought you knew about American government—politics, media and even what will happen in the future, is outline chapter by chapter.

Well, enough about the structure of "America." Even if you hated history or

government in school, you will still enjoy "America." This book will provide you and your friends hours upon hours of enjoyment. One reason, among many, that I like this book so much is how you do not have to read it page by page. "America" is the kind of book that you can open up to any page and find something that is absolutely hilarious.

Another great feature of "America" is the awesome pictures and fun exercises at the end of each chapter. This is great for college students that already have enough reading to do for their classes. For those of you that want to learn more about the



Supreme Court Justices, you can go to pages 89-99 and "dress" the nine naked judges with their correct robe.

Anyone interested in going into journalism can turn to pages 142-143, Steven Colbert's "Guide to Dressing and Expressing Like a TV Journalist," where Colbert explains just how to properly conduct an interview. According to Colbert, "The most important skill a news interviewer must master is the reporter reaction shot cutaway."

For those history fanatics on campus, there are plenty of submissions from dead

people to keep you turning the page. My favorite is the Foreword written by Thomas Jefferson (a.k.a. J.T.). Who knew that even though Jefferson has been dead for over a century, he still "loves the mochachina?"

I could give you hundreds of reasons why you should go buy this book, but really, all you need to do is find a copy, flip through it for just a second, and you will be sold immediately. If you cannot find a copy to review and you just don't want to drive to the local bookstore for nothing, stop by The Pride Office at ACD302A sometime and take a look at ours!

Looking back at:

Talib Kweli: The Beautiful Struggle



BY JAMARR PATRICK
Pride Staff Writer

Okay let's get this out the way — GO BUY THIS ALBUM! It's worth it, trust me.

With that being said, let's discuss the music. It doesn't matter whether you like hip hop or not. If you are a fan of music then you should gravitate towards Talib Kweli's latest CD: *The Beautiful Struggle*. A few months ago the early version of this album ended up on the internet and street cor-

ners alike so Kweli went back to the gym, trained harder, and came out with a sure fire first round knockout.

On the opening track "Go Hard," Kweli does just that. Rhyming with the tenacity of a starving pit-bull, you can hear the hunger in his voice as he drops more knowledge in one verse than many of his peers will in an entire career: "people ask me how we wearing diamonds/when there's little kids in Sierra Leone

losing arms for crying while they're mining".

On this offering, Kweli takes listeners on a great journey of knowledge, pain, love, politics, religion, and fun. With assistance from producers, three of which are well known (The Neptunes, Kanye West, Just Blaze), Kweli does something that he has not done before; he simply makes music that has no limitations on it. It's not conscious or underground, it's just music.

When you play this album you will be moved by it. Either your soul will move by the spiritual vibes of "Around My Way" or your arms might move when you tell someone to "Back Up Offa Me."

On the album's most inspiring and greatest track "I Try," Kweli enlists Mary J. Blige to add the final punch to one of the best songs of the year. I won't spoil the content of the song for you, but trust me, if you don't hear this

song you are missing out.

Kweli also takes time to speak to the ladies in a positive and smooth manner (which is uncommon in hip hop these days) on the songs "We Know" features Faith Evans, "Black Girl Pain", and "Never Been In Love".

The only problem spots for the BK MC are that the album only clocks in at 53 minutes. Some might feel this is too short but others may feel it's just right because of all the knowledge that is packed into the 13 songs. There are two album filler tracks that could have been replaced. The club themed "A game" and the "Planet Rock" influenced "We Got The Beat" should have been scrapped for collaborations with his Black Star partner Mos Def.

Overall there is no struggle within this album. The second word in the title describes what the album is perfectly: beautiful.



CD Review

Horoscope

Aries- (March 21-April 19) Remember that it takes a lifetime to build a good reputation, and only a second to ruin it. Also remember that the same is not true about a bad reputation.

Taurus- (April 20-May 20) Get ready for some difficult times. You already know most of the problems you will soon face. You can't avoid them, so you might as well prepare for them.

Gemini- (May 21-June 21) We all know that it takes different strokes to move the world. The best thing

you can do is learn to be okay with all those other strokes, even if you don't agree with them.

Cancer- (June 22-July 22) Only good things come from love. If you disagree with this statement, you might want to rethink your definition of love.

Leo- (July 23-Aug 22) To avoid recurring headaches, stay away from chocolate and nuts. It will also help if you maintain a regular eating schedule.

Virgo- (Aug 23-Sept 22) You will have to choose between doing what's right

and doing what's easy. Please do what's right. Please.

Libra- (Sept 23-Oct 23) Nothing is more stifling than the fear of change, but some of the worst mistakes can be chalked up to changing what was already good.

Scorpio- (Oct 24-Nov 21) Don't be afraid to say what's right. Just make damn sure it's right.

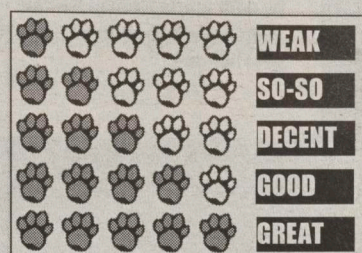
Sagittarius- (Nov 22-Dec 21) This week, you will have the opportunity to throw caution to the wind. Let 'er fly! Great rewards

often come with great risk.

Capricorn- (Dec 22-Jan 19) Your beliefs will be brought into question soon. There's no need to become defensive. Just be prepared to explain yourself.

Aquarius- (Jan 20-Feb 18) Putting your life into perspective will relieve a ton of weight off your shoulders.

Pisces- (Feb 19-March 20) Just because you know something is impossible, that shouldn't keep you from trying.



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