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THE PRIDE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

www.thecsusmpride.com

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2008

VOL. XX NO. 9

CSUSM remembers 2007 Southern California wildfires The Pride revisits damages one year later



Photo by Janice Strizver

1100 flags stand on display at the Rancho Bernardo Healing Field in Rancho Bernardo Community Park. Each flag represents one home either destroyed or damaged in last year's fires.

BY SANDRA CHALMERS
Pride Staff Writer

As Southern Californians collectively remember the one-year anniversary of the devastating October 2007 wildfires, students and the community recap their experiences and emotions over the catastrophic events that displaced more than 500,000 Southern Calif. residents.

The 2007 October firestorms involved more than 23 scattered wildfires within Southern California. More than 1,700 homes crumbled to ashes and approximately 330,000 acres burned. The closest fire to CSUSM was the Coronado Hills fire that stretched into the San Elijo Hills and the Witch fire that began in Ramona and grew into an inferno that claimed two

lives as reported by the North County Times.

Now, one year later, CSUSM student, Marilyn Salisbury, recalls how last year's fires hit close to home. "I lived in Ocean-side at the time and I was recovering from surgery. Watching the television was how I got my information and on the bottom of the screen they passed houses that had been lost and I saw my

old address in Rancho Bernardo listed as a lost home. It was such a painful feeling." Salisbury previously lived there for three years.

Salisbury, originally from the Midwest, mentioned that last October's fires were the first time she experienced ashes falling from the sky, "It was like

See Fires, Page 5



Photo by Sandra Chalmers / The Pride

International Education Week

Weeklong events to promote advantages of study abroad

BY TIFFANIE HOANG
Copy Editor

Oct. 20-24, 2008 – International Education Week (IEW) is a weeklong event that promotes the importance and advantages of international education and exchange. IEW is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education in an effort to encourage American students to study abroad and to attract students from abroad to study in America.

International Education Week schedule:

Mon. – Fri.: A display of internationally related materials

See Education, Page 5



Photo courtesy CSUSM Facility Services

Students line up for food, activities, and promotional give-aways during "Thank You for Recycling Day" University Hour celebrations featuring special guest, President Karen Haynes.

Attention all first year students

All first year students must complete their Alcohol Education Requirement by Oct. 31, 2008. Holds will be placed of the records of students that fail to fulfill the requirement on time.

To complete the require-

ment students must log into www.mystudentbody.com and create a username and password. After reading the provided information on the website, students must pass the test provided at the end with an 80% or higher.

The system allows students to take the test twice. If a student fails the test both times, he or she must create a new username and password and start again.

Afterwards, students must send their results to orientation@csusm.edu.

Educational Effectiveness Review a campuswide effort

Phase three of WASC accreditation continues

JACKIE CARBAJAL
News Editor

With all three draft essays available for review, the Planning and Academic Resources team are awaiting the comments and suggestions from the campus community as they finalize the Educational Effectiveness Review for the WASC Accreditation Committee visit next spring.

The WASC certification is comprised of three stages: the Institutional Proposal, the Capacity and Preparatory Review, and the Educational Effectiveness Review. CSUSM is currently in the third stage of accreditation.

See Review, Page 5

Gathered from
noaa.com

WED



Hi 87°
Lo 62°

Sunny

THURS



87°
56°

Sunny

FRI



80°
56°

Patchy
Fog

SAT



Sunny

81°
60°

SUN



Sunny

THE PRIDE

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Editorial

A solution to high parking prices

As redundant as it may be to revisit the issue, parking permit prices have been a focal point of student dissatisfaction for years now.

The fact that this problem has sustained for so long suggests that it is time for CSUSM Parking Service to reevaluate its policies regarding parking permit prices.

As it currently stands, the fee program leaves many of CSUSM's current students footing the bill for a parking structure that they may never get the chance to use. And though it is true that students now enjoy parking paid for by our predecessors, the mystery lies in why the prices for such a basic service must rise at such unprecedented rates.

Parking Services have given many answers to this, but none of them get to the heart of the question.

It is true that Parking Services is self-sufficient and operates financially independent of the school, essentially making parking permits as the primary sources of revenue for parking programs.

The cost of new parking projects get more expensive as time passes and so it is expected that prices should increase accordingly. In as much as students can understand the need to pay for this vital service at a rate that reflects increasing costs, the underlying reasoning behind the

current system of parking permit increases abuses the fairness of such a system.

Parking permit increases at CSUSM have far outpaced inflation and rising construction costs, making it difficult for current students to understand why they are paying so much more than previous students.

Comparatively speaking, CSUSM students pay far more than students nearby and across California. Parking Services attributes this to the newness of our campus, but how much will this argument carry when we are no longer a young campus and all of these projects are paid off?

In theory, once all of these projects have been paid off and construction completed, the cost of permit prices should drop dramatically. We would like to believe that parking expansion will not be an infinite endeavor, which means that at some point students in the future should be paying less than students do now as these parking projects wind down.

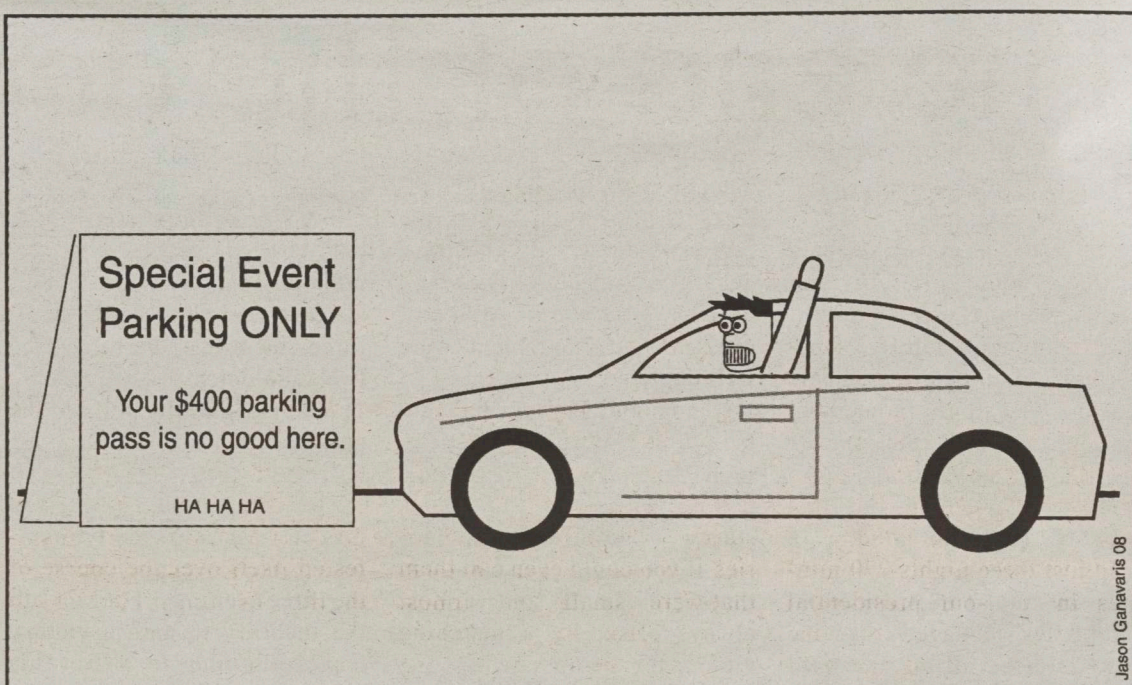
However, a payment plan like this places a disproportionate financial responsibility on current students who will have inherited an unfair share of the monetary burden for parking programs.

Instead of graduating pay-

ments, the system should embrace a long term method of paying for these projects that flattens out parking permit rates indefinitely. It is in this manner that parking projects can be paid for more equitably, with the only increases in permit prices being to account for inflation.

It is both unfair and impractical to expect students to assume such a large financial responsibility for parking if such a responsibility is not fairly distributed.

For this reason, it is critical that Parking Services reevaluate its permit pricing policies in the future to ensure fairness and cooperation.



Jason Ganavaris 08

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Letters to the editor should include an address, telephone number, e-mail and identification. Letters may be edited for grammar and length. Letters should be under 300 words and submitted via electronic mail to pride@csusm.edu, rather than to the individual editors. It is the policy of The Pride not to print anonymous letters.

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The Pride
Cal State San Marcos
333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, CA 92096-0001
Phone: (760) 750-6099
Fax: (760) 750-3345
Email: pride@csusm.edu
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Bill of Rights The resurgence of the Western

BY BILL RHEIN
Pride Staff Writer

The past few years have brought a revival of the Western genre in American films. The recently released "Appaloosa" owes its success to Westerns from the past few years that have put new life in the genre. Not only is the Western back, but it's taking new shape as well.

The Western film has always been part of America's identity. In the early stages of films, Westerns were frequent in most major film studios. Yet, in the late 1980's, there was a diminishing amount of interest in films by directors such as Clint Eastwood.

The Western almost came back in the early 1990's with "Unforgiven," which won the Oscar for best picture, but the revival would have to wait.

The Western laid dormant for years until it recently began creeping back into mainstream cinema.

In 2008, a hybrid film containing heavy Western influence once again won best picture. The Coen

brothers' "No Country for Old Men" proved the genre still had strength.

Leading up to this, the Western took new shapes in other setting and genres. In 2006, the Western, which has primarily been set in America, came out of Australia with stunning force.

"The Proposition" contained all the elements of an American Western such as outlaws, justice, and gunfights, but it was unique because of its setting in the land down under. The film is high caliber standing on its own and revitalized interest in the genre.

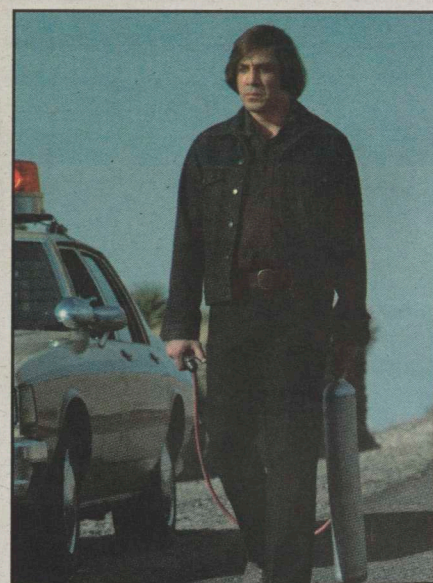
The Western also went into deep space in the TV show "Firefly" and its spinoff movie, "Serenity." Though these works appear to be sci-fi, narrative and stylistic elements mark them as Westerns. They showed that the Western could be popular anywhere. They directly contributed to the success the Western has today.

Recently, filmmakers have treated moviegoers to "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford" and a remake

of "3:10 To Yuma." Both have superb casts and stories.

The interest in recent Western films has proven Americans and viewers around the world are once again interested in the gritty movie. Themes of righteousness, taking a stand for what is right, and selfless behavior have risen to the top.

If this trend of Westerns and great movie making continues, cinemas will contain one delight after another.



Photos retrieved from reelmovienews.com

Rakin' in the dough

Super-athletes distort bigger picture

BY BRIAN MANN
Pride Staff Writer

When people look at some of the salaries of professional athletes, they have to think that, overall, it is a group that certainly is not in need of a bailout.

New York Yankees star Alex Rodriguez makes north of twenty million dollars annually. Manny Ramirez, now a free agent who most recently was a Los Angeles Dodger, will shop his services around this winter and is expect-

ing somewhere in the neighborhood of thirty million dollars a year.

He'll likely get it, draw some headlines, and you'll hear again about how out-of-control salaries in pro sports are.

If you're one of these lucky guys, you probably don't even notice that the economy is struggling.

These players are part of an elite group, though, and are not representative of professional athletes in general. They are the best of the best and are paid accordingly. Their attention-getting salaries seem outrageous and, quite frankly, they are. But it is reflective of their market value.

I heard once that an individual's

market value is "whatever someone is willing to pay them." Fair enough. Because the best players tend to be the highest paid ones, they and their salaries are given the most attention.

These players, however, do not represent the vast majority of professional athletes. Many athletes have a short-lived career.

For Major League Baseball Players, 53% of them will have a career of four years or less and 74% of them will play eight years or less. The current minimum salary is \$390,000.

For NFL players, the average career span is 3.5 years and the minimum salary is \$385,000.

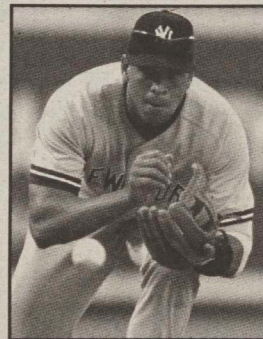
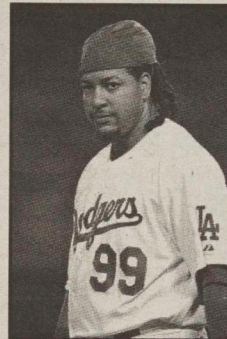
For NBA players it is 4.8 years and \$442,000 (espn.com).

Most players with short careers are making much closer to the minimum than the tens of millions that go to the best players. Professional leagues in every sport are full of players like this, just trying to play as long as they can.

Granted, the low-end pay scale looks quite attractive to most everybody in the "real world" but because the money is made in a relatively short amount of time, most players will have to work like everybody else once their career is over.

Perception is

fueled by the media attention given to the few players who obtain enormous contracts while the "rank and file" players are largely ignored. This reality dispels the notion that athletes make tens of millions and play 15 years and when it's over, life is a picnic.



Photos retrieved from latimes.com / askmen.com

The end of the debates

BY BEN ROFFEE
Managing Editor

Last Wednesday's debate between John McCain and Barack Obama was an unimpressive punctuation to a frustrating and uninspired debate season. No single moment of the debates gave me greater joy than when Bob Scheiffer said, "This concludes the final debate". That's not good.

In just three nights-270 minutes in total-our presidential candidates managed to wipe away almost all of the zeal and excitement from the most anticipated stretch of the presidential campaign.

If there were any profound or decisive moments to be taken

from these debates, they were entombed by hours of ineffectual sparring between the two candidates. By the third debate, all of the topics had been covered and all stores of intrigue and excitement were well depleted.

Obama and McCain fell into a circular pattern of discourse, with almost every exchange ending where the candidates started. The infrequent victories-if you could even call them that-were small and almost always offset by a matching victory for the opponent.

As predicted, McCain excelled in foreign policy and Obama on the economy. The debates proved nothing new and contributed little to expanding

the political dialogue in this regard.

Even as punditry across the board called the debates draws, polls taken in after the debates all gave Obama victories in all three meetings between the two candidates.

Who is right, the polls or the pundits? In many ways it's both.

The concept of "a tie is a loss" for McCain clearly manifested itself over the course of the three evenings. For McCain the inability to gain a victory leaves nothing to offset his downward spiral in the polls, or Obama's steady rise for that matter. McCain will have to dig elsewhere if he expects to win the election at this point.

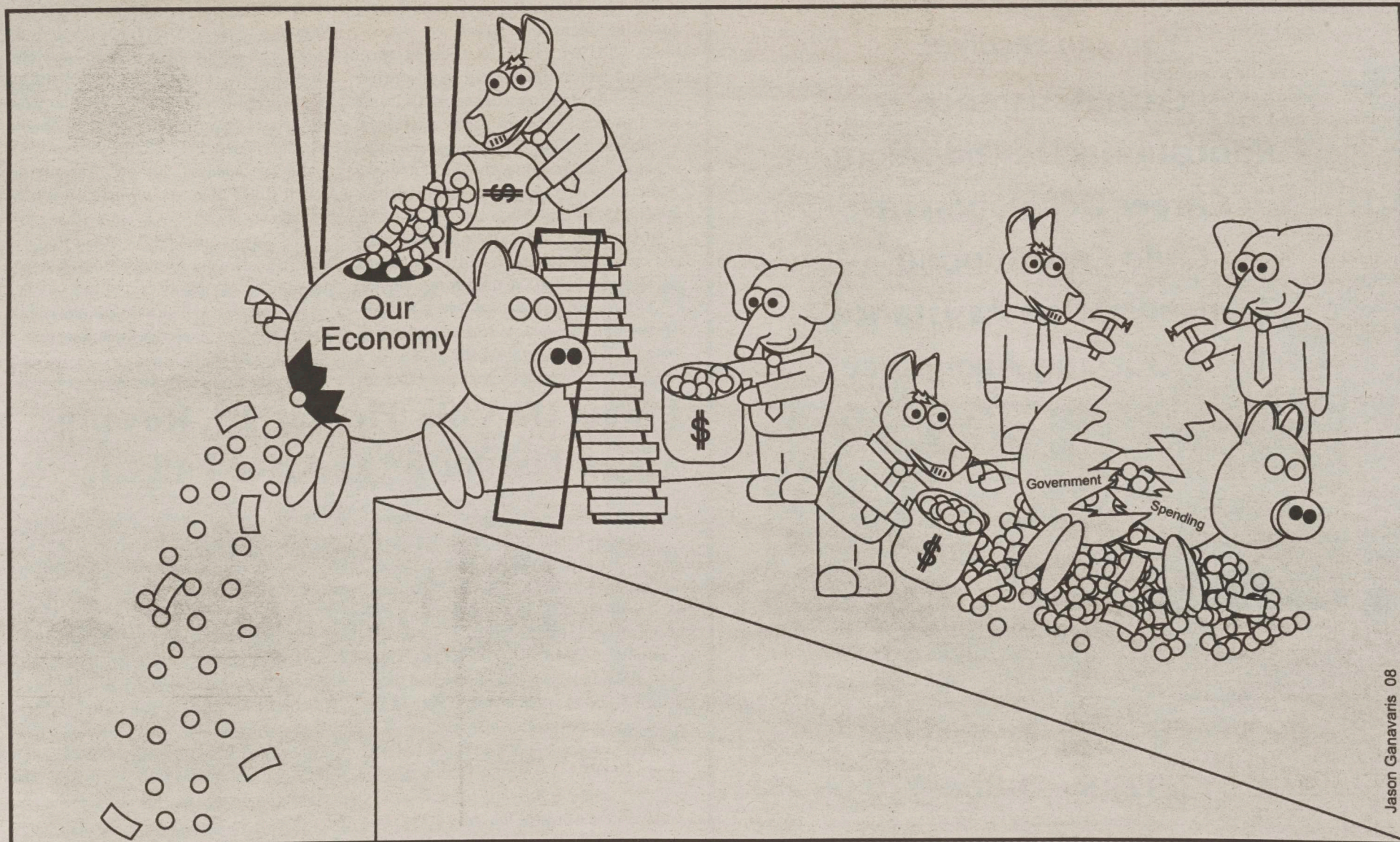
Throughout the course of the debates, McCain seem annoyed and sometimes even angry to be sharing the stage with Obama.

His attacks were relentless and admittedly successful at times, but most often they seemed only to splinter against Obama's own Spartan-like defense.

McCain's horrendously veiled attempts to project himself as a candidate of change and progress evaporated in a hail of erratic condescension, only worsening his image as an irritable and grumpy old man. Those pained laughs and frightening grins (as much as they might have scared the kids) may end up haunting McCain even more.

And thus it was McCain's performances in part that won Obama the debate season. Obama was poised, collected, and yes even unbearably stale, but it ultimately proved to be enough to overcome McCain's frantic clawing. His clam-like demeanor, however, likely did little to cement his support with undecided voters.

Even so, there are inklings of pride to be drawn from this painful series of presidential debates for the two candidates. McCain proved he could hang with the best of orators and Obama proved he could be resilient against even the fiercest of attacks. But still, for such a historic election, the debates were quite a let down.



Sports Notebook Around the world of sports

BY BRIAN MANN
Pride Staff Writer

NFL

It was a busy week for the Dallas Cowboys and their fans. Quarterback Tony Romo broke the pinkie finger on his throwing hand during a loss to the Arizona Cardinals. To allow the injury to heal, he would have to sit out four weeks. However, it was reported by ESPN.com that Romo met with coaches and medical personnel for the team and told them he would like to play through the injury. He was the backup quarterback for their most recent game. Brad Johnson started. The Dallas Cowboys made a trade with

the Detroit Lions to acquire wide receiver Roy Williams. To acquire him, the Cowboys gave up a first, third, and sixth round pick in the 2009 draft as well as a seventh round pick in 2010.

Following up on a note from last week, Dallas Cowboys cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones was handed what the NFL termed "at least" a four game suspension due to his most recent off-field incident. He reportedly got into a fight with a bodyguard that the team had assigned to him and was under the influence of alcohol, a violation of his probation terms. No charges were filed. Jones missed all of last season due to suspension from the NFL.

Kansas City Chiefs running back Larry Johnson was charged with assaulting a woman, stemming from an incident five months ago. It is the third time Johnson has been charged with assaulting a woman.

MLB

The Philadelphia Phillies advanced to the World Series after defeating the Los Angeles Dodgers four games to one in the National League Championship Series. Rancho Bernardo High alum and San Diego native Cole Hamels was named the Most Valuable Player in the series.

The San Diego Padres acknowledge that they are open to trading ace pitcher Jake Peavy, if offered the right package

in exchange.

Boston Red Sox third baseman Mike Lowell underwent surgery on his right hip. He expects to be ready by the time spring training starts in late March or early April.

NHL

New York Rangers prospect Alexei Cherepanov, 19, collapsed and died during a game on October 13th. The cause of death is undetermined and being investigated.

NBA

Minnesota Timberwolves point guard Sebastian Telfair was suspended for three games by the NBA for pleading guilty to criminal possession of a weapon.

Press Releases

Men's Soccer Plays to 0-0 Tie with Pomona

Cougar men's soccer played Cal Poly Pomona to a scoreless tie on Saturday, in front of the home crowd at Mangrum Track & Soccer Field.

CSUSM is now 6-6-2 on the year.

A somewhat lackluster effort from both sides led to the result. The normally very active Cougars took only 10 shots to Pomona's 9, and neither team consistently put together any kind of sustained offensive attack.

However, both teams did have their chances. CSUSM got what appeared to be a goal in the early second half, but it was called back late due to a foul. Forward Brandon Zuniga had an excellent one-on-one chance, and midfielder Chris Wyatt put a couple of dangerous shots on net, forcing Pomona keeper Thomas Ryan to make a couple of big saves.

But it was Cougar keeper Tashi Nakanishi who made the game's big-

gest plays. Though he wasn't required to make a save through the contest's first 100 minutes, Nakanishi was flawless in his decision making throughout. Then in the game's final 2 minutes, he made a pair of brilliant saves – the first on a clear shot from the top of the box that he knocked over the crossbar, and the second a diving stop on a header following the subsequent corner – that preserved the tie.

"Tashi was the player of the game," commented Head Coach Ron Pulvers. "Those two saves were world class."

The defense in front of him was also solid, with Curtis Marcikic and Troy Skomra playing particularly good games, being sound with the ball and blocking numerous shots.

CSUSM will host San Bernardino this Sunday in its second-to-last home game of the season.

A program for American Indian families

Tribal TANF



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Career Development
Child Care Stipend
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K-12 Clothing Allowance



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San Diego

Escondido

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1-866-428-0901

Women's Soccer Looks Great in 3-1 Victory Over Pomona

Cougar women's soccer turned in one of its finer efforts of the season on Friday, defeating Cal Poly Pomona handily, 3-1.

The win moves the #12-ranked Cougars to 10-2-2 on the year.

Playing under the new scoreboard down at Mangrum Track & Soccer Field, CSUSM came out looking spirited and generating plenty of offensive chances. Senior forward Katelyn Krauss and freshman forward Lauren Johnson were dynamic up front, creating mismatches and keeping the pressure on. After Krauss had a goal nullified due to offsides in the 15th minute, she came right back on a virtually identical play and cashed in during the 24th. Johnson fed Krauss the ball at the far top corner of the box, and Krauss drove a beautiful shot into the near side netting for her team-leading 7th goal on the year.

CSUSM would expand its lead early in the second half. After a scramble in front of the CPP net and a couple blocked shots, Johnson was finally able to get off a clean one that beat the keeper to the corner.

But with the game seemingly well-in-hand, things got a little bit dicey late. Pomona's Cody McClure was taken down in the box in the 78th minute, and Brittany Garrett finished off the resulting PK, making it a 2-1 game. But the Cougars would prevail, with super sub Taylor Schurman capping off the win with a goal off a loose ball in the 82nd minute. Coach Ron Pulvers' club held on for the 3-1 win.

"We played quite well," noted Pulvers. "We're gearing up for the post-season and stepping up our play."

The Cougars will be at home once again this Sunday to take on San Bernardino.

Linnel De Villa Ties for 2nd, Roxanne Mejia Ties for 5th at Aztec Fall Classic

A pair of outstanding individual performances highlighted the Aztec Fall Classic for Cal State San Marcos women's golf, as Cougars Linnel De Villa and Roxanne Mejia both notched top-5 finishes, while the team as a whole finished fifth.

Held at par-72, 6,072-yard Salt Creek Golf Course in Chula Vista, the two-round tournament featured seven teams. Host school San Diego State posted a team total of +42, winning by a single shot over North Dakota State. CSUSM took fifth with a score of +53.

But for the Cougars, the story is the performance of the two sophomores. De Villa

got off to a great starting, shooting a first-round 73 to lead the event by herself after day one. She stayed in contention throughout day two, eventually shooting 77 for a total of +6 (150) and a tie for second.

Meanwhile, Mejia put together two solid rounds to get herself into the top-5. She followed up a first-round 76 with a second-round 77 to shoot +9 (153) and tie for fifth.

The individual tournament title was won by North Dakota State's Amanda Miller at +3 (147).

Also competing for the Cougars were Stephanie Cole (T-25th; 163), Natalie Todd (T-29th; 164), and Jennifer Conway (37th; 179).

From **FIRES**, page 1

snow falling." Though academically, Salisbury claimed it was nice to have a week off school, "We were one week behind so, it meant one less paper to write."

Brian Dawson, Director of Student Housing, made an effort to keep a calm atmosphere for students living in the University Village Apartments (UVA) during the fires by providing community dinners and even took in displaced families and non-resident students in, according to Margaret Lutz, the public information officer at CSUSM.

CSUSM's Emergency Management Team has jumped into action by creating an informative website that shows systematic directions to avert dangerous situations. From fire safety to tsunami warnings, the website features emergency procedures that student have quick and easy access to.

The website also displays CSUSM's new cell phone emergency notification program that allows students to register personal cell phones to receive emergency notifications from the university. www.csusm.edu/em.

One of the most remembered moments during last year's firestorm was when KMFB CBS News 8 Features reporter, Larry Himmel, watched his home burn to the ground as he covered live footage of the October 2007 fires. His home in 4S Ranch, located in Rancho Bernardo, was one of many of the areas that was at high fire

risk and consequently suffered major damages.

"There is no more fire season

"There is no more fire season as we know it, the fire season is now all year-round"
- Gov. Schwarzenegger -

as we know it, the fire season is now all year-round," Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said

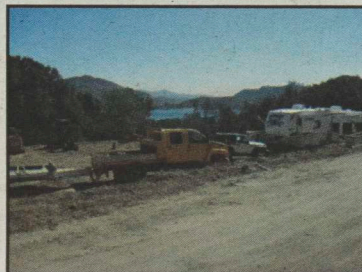
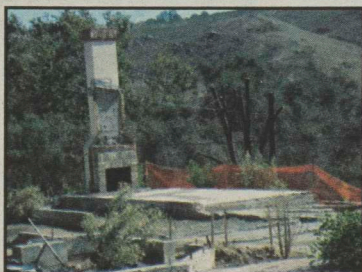
earlier this year concerning California and its constant struggle to prevent fires and stay prepared to battle flames at any time of the year.

New dirt barriers around neighborhoods that may be at high risk for fires have proven to save homes from destruction in the recent Juliet fire in Oceanside that lead to the evacuation of over 1,000 residents from the Camp Pendleton area early last week. This 300-dirt barrier between homes and brush hillsides is a newly implemented fire prevention method.

Though a year has past, many

homes that were lost are still barren lots of dirt. Near Lake Hodges, in Escondido, damaged homes by the Witch fire are still only in the primary stages of rebuilding, while others show no progress.

Delayed building permits may be the cause, or some may still dealing with insurance policies. Whatever the delay may be, the San Diego Regional Disaster Fund is accepting donations to help displaced families recover from a nightmare that seems never ending. For more information, visit www.sdfoundation.org.



Photos by Sandra Chalmers / The Pride

Family PACT Update

The Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicaid and State Operations announced October 16, 2008 that the Family PACT program has been extended until October 31, 2008. This means that students enrolled in this program can continue to receive family planning services under this program. Student Health and Counseling Services wants students to know that we are not cutting the program; this isn't in our power to do so. Any future change to this program will be system wide and affect all Family PACT providers.

We do not know what the future of the program is, and are trying to obtain the latest information to ensure that students have the latest information. We urge students that currently have a Health Access Plan card (teal colored card) to keep their card. The clinic will continue to provide these services until a final determination is made on the Federal level regarding the program.

If you are interested in the Family PACT program, we are still currently enrolling students who are eligible and they are still able to receive family planning services until a final determination is made regarding the program.

We will regularly post updates to our web site with any new information: <http://www.csusm.edu/shcs>, or our blog, <http://csusmhealth.wordpress.com>. If you have questions, please call the clinic to speak with Lisa Skola, Family PACT coordinator, at 760/750-4968.

You can help the efforts to maintain this program by contacting Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman from California's 8th District (San Francisco area) and urging her to save Family PACT. Her phone number in Washington D.C. is 202/225-4965. You can also email her at: AmericanVoices@mail.house.gov.

Thank you for supporting Family PACT.

SHCS Staff

From **REVIEW**, page 1

"The big operating principle here is that institutions of higher learning have to have a way to declare to the public that we know what we're doing and we can do it well. In addition, the United States Department of Education, who are giving financial aid, want to make sure its going to schools that do a good job because they want students to get a fair shake," Dr. Jennifer Jeffries, Interim Associate Vice President of Planning and Academic Resource, said. "What has evolved over time is this thing called accreditation—you get accredited by an acknowledged group that has expertise in higher education."

In their presentation to the WASC commit-

tee, Planning and Academic Resources prepares three essays on areas of improvement for the campus as a way to outline the university's development process.

"One does not do all of this for WASC. You're doing it anyway and then you do it in the context of helping the WASC Accreditation understand your story," Jeffries said. "So whether WASC was coming or not, we'd be doing all three of these efforts and we do many others but we only show a few. These would all be going on anyways because its just good practice as a learning institution."

All three essays are available online at <http://www2.csusm.edu/wasc/ourprocess.htm>. Comments for the first essay, 'Improving Retention of First Year Students,' were due Oct. 15. Comments on the second essay are open until Nov. 9.

"This is a university wide deal.

All the colleges are involved. We are all involved," Jeffries said, adding that involvement from the entire campus community by attending town hall meetings and submitting feedback is important. "The feedback is essential to strengthening the essay."

The Planning and Academic Resources team will present the second essay, 'Strengthening Academic Programs Through Assessment of Student Learning,' at the Town Hall meeting from 12 to 12:50 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21 in Markstein Hall 125.

"After the visit, the accreditation folks will meet and confer about their visit and they will determine what length of accreditation we will get. Since we're a young university, it will probably be shorter than longer. But five would be good. Seven would be good. So they'll decide what level of accreditation we will receive."

From **EDUCATION**, page 1

including books from around the world.

Kellogg Library, 3rd Floor

Mon. – Fri.: A menu of international foods for each day of the week. More details to follow.

The Dome

Tues. Oct. 21: A panel discussion on the benefits of studying abroad with faculty and student participants.

University Hour
Office of Global Education,
CR 3200

Wed. Oct. 22: Study abroad fair.

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Library Plaza

Thurs. Oct. 23: International Coffee Hour with TOMS Shoes

12 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Office of Global Education,
CR 3200 and Tukwut Court-
yard



Photo courtesy TOM Shoes

This Thursday is International CoffeeHour with TOM Shoes, a non-profit organization that give shoes to children around the world

American Democracy Project continues serving politics to campus

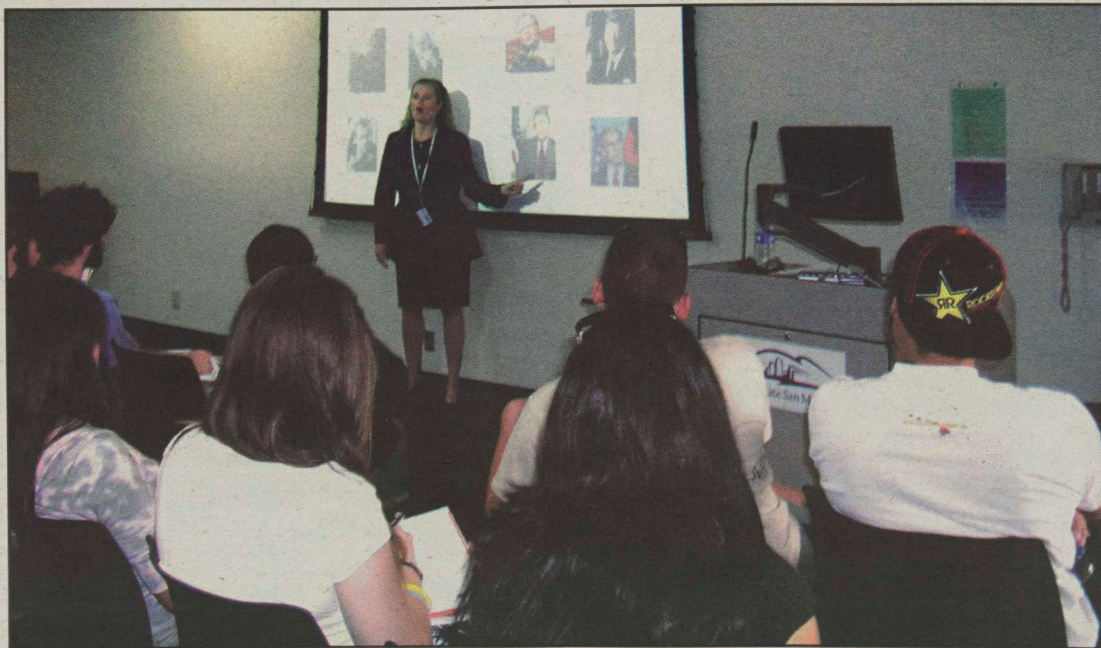


Photo courtesy Pamela Stricker

Political Sciences Professor Liz Matthews leads discussion on foreign policy during American Democracy Project's Pizza and Politics event last Thursday Oct 16. The last Pizza and Politics of the semester will discuss immigration with Anthropology Professor Konane Martinez and Arcela Nunez-Alvarez of the National Latino Research Center on Thursday, Oct. 30 from 12-1 p.m. in Commons 206.



Alexa.com

Website ranks top websites

BY BILL RHEIN
Staff Writer

Alexa Internet, Inc. is another marvel of the technological world. Alexa.com provides common Internet features such as a search engine. However, it is most notable for its Web site ranking feature.

On alexa.com any Internet user can browse a list ranking the popularity and traffic of every individual Web site.

According to Alexa, this data is gathered from users who install the toolbar on their browser. The toolbar tracks information about sites visited. Alexa offers this information in a list. Individuals and companies can buy lists ranking thousands of sites, while they offer free viewing of the 500 most popular Web sites in the world to any user. In addition, Alexa offers users the option to examine the top 100 Web sites by country and language.

Alexa uses its data to provide more information. Users can enter site names and compare traffic and usage over time. Also, Alexa monitors changes in usage and features a section called "Movers and Shakers," which notes Web sites that are on the

rise in popularity.

According to Alexa's history page, Brewster Kahle and Bruce Gilliatit founded it in 1996. In June 1999, Amazon.com bought Alexa

and kept it as one of its subsidiaries. Alexa's headquarters are in San Francisco.

The site has come under fire

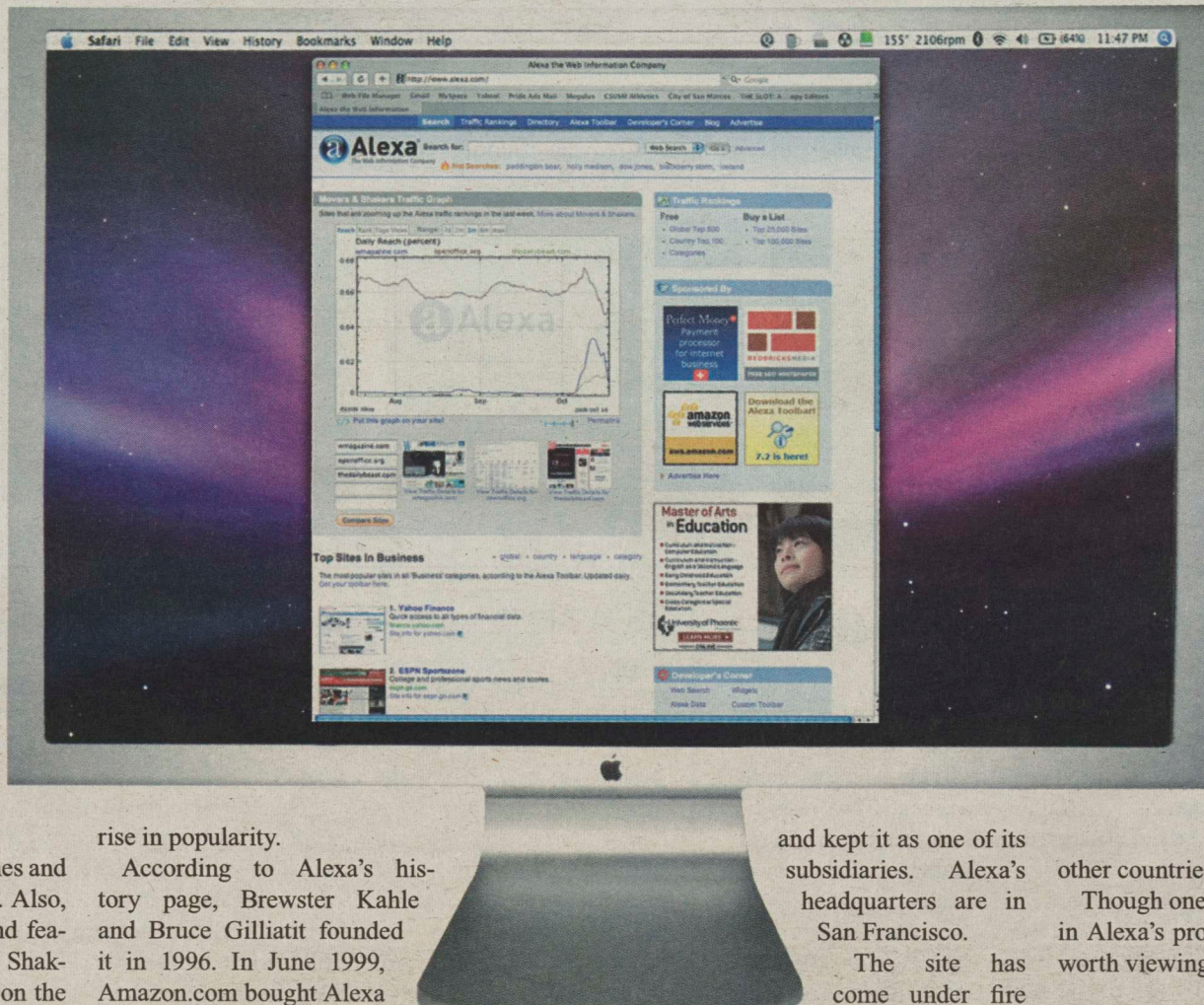
other countries.

Though one many not want to participate in Alexa's program, the data it provides is worth viewing.

for its seemingly invasive tactics. According to McAfee, the computer safety company, they state that Alexa is a "potential unwanted program." They term the Alexa toolbar as adware, because it becomes part of a Web browser and sends information. They state, "Alexa sends personal information such as usernames to the Alexa site."

Regardless of the opinions on how Alexa gathers its data, the information it provides is interesting.

Users can observe sites, such as Yahoo, Google, and MySpace, compete for the top spot among Internet users. It is also interesting to see how these sites fare in



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Opinions

A&E

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Halloween night events you could attend

Sexy Halloween Soiree

Tickets: \$25 per person
When: 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: On Broadway
615 Broadway Ave.
San Diego, CA 92101
Details: 21 and up event.
Costumes required. Five rooms
featuring electronica, hip hop,
R&B, 80s, and old skool. \$500
cash prize for best costume.
Info: (619) 231-0011

Vampires and Vixens

Tickets: \$15 per person
When: 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: Woodies
717 N. Escondido Blvd.
Escondido, CA 92025
Details: 21 and up event. Live
performances by local Pearl
Harbor artists. Cash prize for
sexiest costume. Two dollar well
drinks until midnight.
Info: (760) 622-3811

All Time Low

Tickets: \$16 in advance
When: Doors open at 7 p.m.
Where: SOMA
3350 Sports Arena
Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92110
Details: All ages concert
headlined by All Time Low with
Mayday Parade.
Info: (619) 226-7662

What: Monster Bash

Tickets: \$20 in advance
\$25 at the door
When: 6 p.m. to midnight
Where: Gaslamp
7th Ave. between
Market and J
Island Ave. between 6th
and 8th
Details: 21 and up event.
Live bands including Electric
Valentine. Costume contest with
a \$3,000 cash prize.
Info: (619) 223-5008

Halloween Night

Tickets: \$10 for 21 and up
\$15 for 18-20
When: 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: Static
634 Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101

Details: 18 plus event. Costume gets
half off cover before 11 p.m. Two
hundred dollars in cash prizes for best
costume.
Info: (619) 544-1609

BY CRYSTAL EVANS
Features Editor

UniversityVoice

What would be the first thing you would do if you were President of the United States and why?



"Improve foreign relations because
if we did it would have trickle
down effects with imports and
exports which would boost world
economies."

Jordanne Danielle
Junior
Spanish



"End the war because
it would save us a lot of
money."

Elane Navaro
Freshman
Psychology



"Privatize the military to save money
and make it safer for soldiers."

Kevin Klicman
Junior
Business

"Slide down the banisters in the
White House because it would be
awesome and you can't do that
normally."

Brook London
Freshman
Pre-nursing



"Socialize medicine
because I think medical
care and prescription
drugs should be free."

Luke Silva
Freshman
Literature and Writing



"I'd try and make it so that
people aren't separated in
groups, such as Republicans
and Democrats. I want it to be
that everyone's equal and not
labeled"

Tanya Andrade
Sophomore
Psychology





Calendar of Events

Tuesday, October 21

Campus Tour & Information Session: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Craven Hall 3701

Survival Series 11:40 AM - 1:00 PM
Commons 206

Priority Christian Challenge Group meet: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
University Hall 100

Ask The Sexpert Series: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
University Hall 337

Hip-Hop/African Dance: 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Arts Hall 101

ASI Women's Intramural Basketball: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Clarke 130

Dinner Dialogue: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Commons 206

ASI Women's Soccer Practice: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Mangrum Field

Wednesday, October 22

Priority Christian Challenge Group meet: 4:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Craven Hall 3701

Intervarsity Large Group: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Commons 206

Body Cartography Project: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Arts Hall 111

ASI - Club Sport Practice: 7:00 PM - 9:50 PM
Clarke 130

Thursday, October 23

Student Organization Fair: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Forum Plaza

Espiritu Meeting: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Markstein Hall 101

Careers In Forensics Psychology: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Arts Hall 240

International Coffee Hour: 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Craven Hall 3200

Priority Christian Challenge: 4:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Markstein Hall 344

Women's Self Defense Course: 5:00 PM - 07:00 PM
Clarke 130

ASI Women's Soccer Practice: 6:00 PM - 08:00 PM
Mangrum Field

ASI - Club Sport Practice: 7:00 PM - 9:50 PM
Clarke 130

Friday, October 24

ASI'S Men's Flag Football Tournament: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Lower Field

Espíritu de Nuestro Futuro Halloween Dance: 8:00 PM - 12:00 AM
Clarke 113

Monday, October 27

Blood Drive: 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Campus Way Circle

Latino '08 Film Screening And Discussion: 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Academic Hall 102

ASI Costume Contest: 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Clarke 113

ASI - Club Sport Practice: 7:00 PM - 9:50 PM
Clarke 130

October 2008

S M T W T F S

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5 6 7 8 9 10 11

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19 20 21 22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30 31

(Email event submissions to csusmpride@gmail.com ATTN: Calendar of Events)



International Education Week

October 20-24

Monday-Friday:

Books From Around The World in the Library, 3rd Floor Display
International Food Menu On Sale in the Dome

**Tuesday
October 21**

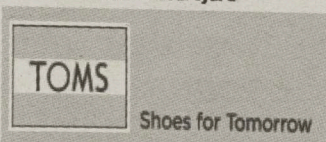
Panel Discussion!
Students, Faculty & Staff
Share Benefits and
Challenges
of Studying Abroad.
12:00-1:00
Office of Global Education
Craven 3200

**Wednesday
October 22**
Study Abroad Fair
10:00-2:00
Library Plaza



**Thursday
October 23**

International Coffee Hour
With TOMS Shoes
12:00-3:00
Office of Global Education, Cr 3200
Tukwut Courtyard



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Individuals with disabilities, who would like to attend this event, please contact [Danielle McMartin, 760-750-8821 or dmcemarti@csusm.edu] regarding any special accommodation needs. It is requested that individuals requiring auxiliary aids such as sign language interpreters and alternative format materials notify the event sponsor at least seven working days in advance. Every reasonable effort will be made to provide reasonable accommodations in an effective and timely manner.



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that I do matters."



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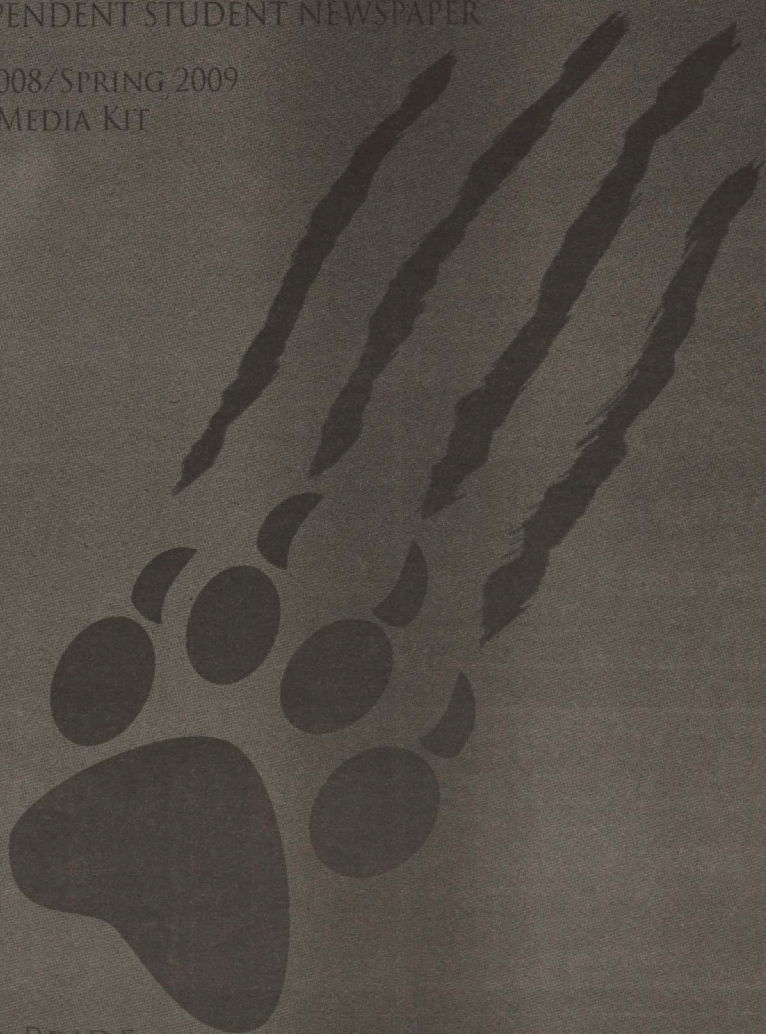
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FALL 2008/SPRING 2009
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OF THE ACTION.

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More on ballot than presidential candidates

Voters need to be informed on all of the issues

BY CRYSTAL EVANS
Features Editor

The issues of race and gender make this presidential election one for the history books. With all of the controversy and hype that surrounds the presidential race, everything else on the ballot seems practically pushed aside.

It is not enough to be educated about the candidates for president. Voters should inform themselves about candidates running for other offices and about the propositions that are on the ballot.

Propositions are often confusing so here is the breakdown of what each proposition is about and what it means.

Prop 1A: Safe, reliable high-speed passenger train bond act

This proposition allows the state government to sell \$9.95 billion in bonds in order to construct a new rail system in California.

Those who are for this proposition argue that the new trains will cut down on greenhouse emissions, dependence on foreign oil, and traffic.

Those against Prop 1 say that this project will cost the government \$19.2 trillion in principal and interest, money California cannot afford to spend in its current financial crisis.

For more information visit: www.californiahighspeedtrains.com or www.hjta.org.

Prop 2: Standards for confining farm

animals

This proposition requires pregnant pigs, calves raised for veal, and egg-laying hens to be able to extend fully, their limbs or wings, lie down, stand up and turn around for the majority of the day.

Those for Prop 2 believe it is cruel to confine animals and that they deserve freedom of movement.

Those against Prop 2 say the law will cause egg production in California to cease and it will increase the risk of exposure to Salmonella and the Bird Flu.

For more information visit: www.YesOnProp2.org or www.safecaliforniafood.org.

Prop 3: Children's Hospital Bond Act

This proposition allows the state to sell \$980 million in bonds for the construction, expansion, remodeling, renovation and equipping of certain children's hospitals.

Those for Prop 3 argue that children's hospitals save children's lives and require support.

Those against it claim it drives up California's debt and serves medical special interests while there are millions of dollars that are unspent from a similar measure that passed in 2004.

For more information visit: www.imaginewithus.org or www.limittaxes.org.

Prop 4: Waiting period and parental notification before termination of a minor's pregnancy

This proposition requires physicians to

notify parents of minors seeking an abortion at least 48 hours before the procedure takes place.

Those for the proposition argue that notification laws in other states have reduced teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases in young girls and that the law will help protect them from being victimized by older men.

Those against Prop 4 claim that it is dangerous and may force many pregnant minors to unsafe measures in order to avoid confrontation with their parents.

Visit www.YESon4.net or www.NoOnProposition4.org for more information.

Prop 5: Nonviolent drug offenses, sentencing, parole and rehabilitation

This proposition would give \$460 million a year to expand rehabilitation programs for nonviolent drug offenders and would lessen the sentences they receive and the time they would be on parole.

Those for Prop 5 argue it will safely reduce the overcrowding of prisons and expand rehabilitation programs necessary to get drug abusers help.

Those against the proposition claim it has a loophole that will allow those accused of child abuse, domestic violence, vehicular manslaughter and other crimes to escape prosecution.

For more information visit: www.Prop5yes.com or www.NoOnProposition5.com.

Prop 6: Police and law enforcement funding

This proposition allots a minimum of \$965 million a year to police and local law enforcement.

Those for the proposition claim it will reduce crime and gang activity and increase the number of law enforcement officers on the streets, making our neighborhoods safer.

Those against Prop 6 claim it will take \$1 billion from schools, healthcare, fire protection and public safety programs without any guarantees that there will be more police on the streets.

For more information visit: www.safeneighborhoodsact.com or www.voteno-prop6.com.

Prop 7: Renewable energy generation

Prop 7 requires that all government-owned utilities generate 50 percent of their electricity by the year 2025.

Those for Prop 7 argue it will help to combat rising energy prices and help to fight global warming.

Those against the measure say it is drafted poorly and will not deliver on its promises and could very likely send California into another energy crisis.

For more information visit: www.Yeson7.net or www.NoProp7.com.

Prop 8: Eliminates right of same-sex couples to marry

Prop 8 would define marriage in the state constitution as a union between only a man and a woman.

Those for the proposition claim it will restore what 61 percent of voters already approved and then was overturned by four judges in San Francisco. They claim it will just keep the definition of marriage between

a man and a woman but will not deny same-sex couples their rights.

Those against the proposition say that everyone deserves equality under the law and that it is wrong to single anyone out to be treated differently.

For more information visit: www.protectmarriage.com or www.NoOnProp8.com for more information.

Prop 9: Criminal justice system. Victim's rights, parole

This would allow victims to provide input at each stage of prosecution and would provide for better protection of victims.

Those for this proposition claim it will boost victim's rights, decrease perpetrators rights and prevent the release of criminals due to overcrowding.

Those against Prop 9 claim it repeats laws that are already in place for victims while spending millions of dollars on prisons.

Visit www.friendsofmarcyslaw.org or www.votenoonprop9.com for more information.

Prop 10: Alternative fuel vehicles and renewable energy

This proposition allows the state to sell \$5 billion in bonds to invest in alternative fuel cars and research and development of alternative and renewable energy sources.

Those for the proposition claim it will reduce America's dependence on foreign oil and help fight global warming.

Those against it claim that one company would receive the majority of \$10 billion of taxpayers' money without the promise of results.

Visit www.prop10yes.com or www.votenoonprop10.com for more information.

Prop 11: Redistricting

This proposition requires the formation of a new commission comprised of registered voters in which Democrats, Republicans and third parties are represented in changing the Assembly, Senate, and Board of Equalization district boundaries.

Those for the proposition claim it prevents politicians from drawing up their own districts to suit their purposes.

Those against it say it creates a costly new bureaucracy comprised of people who were not elected and have no accountability to voters.

For more information visit: www.yesprop11.org and www.noonprop11.org for more information.

Prop 12: Veterans' bond act

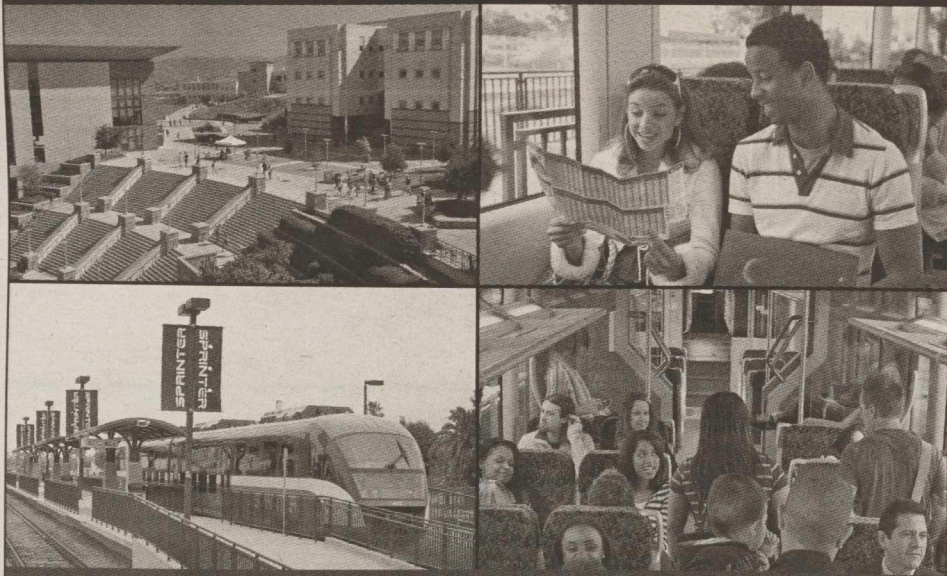
This proposition allows the state to sell \$900 million in bonds to provide farm and home aid to veterans.

Those for the proposition claim we need to give back to those who served our country and Prop 12 allows them to receive low interest loans at no cost to taxpayers because it will be repaid.

Those against it claim it is written loosely and that voters may wish to discontinue the program at some point or limit it to those who are most deserving or in the greatest need.

For more information visit: www.cdva.ca.gov for more information.

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Student Dance that gives a spoghtlight higher meaning

BY KATHRYN MCBRAYER
A&E Editor

Sarah Fiehler is a native north county girl who loves to dance. She has been a dancer from early childhood and continues to explore dance as an art form.

Fiehler is a senior at Cal State San Marcos and enjoys the intimacy of the dance program. She is an accounting major with a minor in dance and is set to graduate this spring. Fiehler hopes to be able to continue to integrate business and dance in the future while making a living at both.

In the fourth grade, Fie-

hler moved from Escondido to Valley Center where her mom enrolled her in dance class. The idea was to meet other kids and get involved in a new location, but Fiehler did more than that. She had been dancing; "her whole life" and she continued to enjoy it as she learned more techniques.

In middle school, Fiehler began to loose her focus on dance but her affection for dance was not far from her mind. In high school, she began to dance again and gained an inspiration from one of her instructors at Valley Center High School. Fiehler says of her High School instructor, "she taught us about

life, not just dance."

Other inspirations in Fiehler's life are talented dancers that she watched perform, such as Savion Glover, a world famous tap dancer, Alvin Ailey, and Paul Taylor.

Fiehler's concentration in dance is on modern and contemporary art. She participated in CSU summer arts series, where the *Bush Woman* inspired her. "They are really strong women, powerful movement with meaning being the performance."

Fiehler's goal in developing her own choreographing movements is to convey "a message" beyond the dance. The

message may be about her, "personal experiences or social observations." Fiehler also loves to combine different art forms into dance. She "collaborates with poets and layers the work" to achieve multi-themed projects.

For Fiehler, dancing is more than just an art form. Dancing is a cathartic expression. "Dancing keeps [her] thinking and observant, when [she] is creating art [she] sees more."



Photo courtesy of Sarah Fiehler

Poet's Corner

Write, read,
think, enjoy

Two Bodies One Shell

Melanie Maheu

Words make up
my Morality is a snail make up
my Sin is salt made up by
atoms of Vice I am
shaped by a shaker of
glass Literature. slow moving
and unsuspecting Morals crawl
unaware of the symposium of spice
ignorant until beads of Language
erase the cool mass of Meaning.
pour these Fragments in to quickly boil
fill this shell with saline steam
under clouds of Molecules we conquer
that space where sluggish Ethics once
reigned. these painfully placed Words
congregate, diffuse, rearrange into
our shifty Scripture. nestled
close in this organic case we
inhale Narrative, expire hot breath these
Particles dissipate asphyxiate
us until they you are
Nothing.

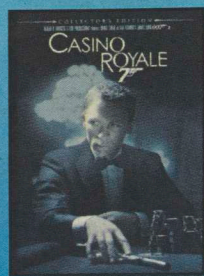


Photo by Kathryn McBrayer / The Pride

Photo retrieved from National Geographic

DROPPING: Tuesday, Oct 21 DVD RELEASES

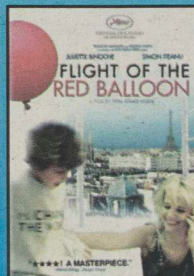
By Bill Rhein / Pride Staff Writer



"CASINO ROYALE SPECIAL EDITION"

GRADE: A-

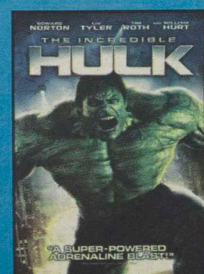
"Casino Royale" is reloaded just in time for the premier of the new James Bond film, Quantum of Solace. James Bond must partake in a high stakes poker tournament to flush out terrorist investors. The film brought Bond back to his roots in this gritty and exciting film.



"FLIGHT OF THE RED BALLOON"

GRADE: B

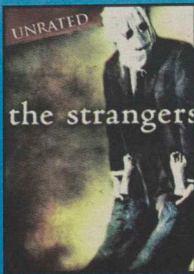
This French film is a remake of the film "The Red Balloon." Though this film is artful, elements of the storyline make this film about a mother, her son, and a balloon less engaging.



"THE INCREDIBLE HULK"

GRADE: B-

After Ang Lee's "The Hulk" flopped, a remake was necessary. Edward Norton stars as the green giant in this action film, which is better than the first, but still not great. This should delight fans of superheroes and action films.



"THE STRANGERS"

GRADE: D

This horror film misses the mark on several levels. The story follows a family and what happens when masked strangers appear outside their house. Though it provides some minor chills, it ends up being just another lame slasher film.

Images retrieved from amazon.com



BY AMY SALISBURY
Opinion Editor

After two multi-platinum albums, a successful stint at rehab, and a new baby girl, you can't shake the vibe that Keane feels they have conquered something. Whether it be the unsaid rules of the music industry, hindered originality, or fears of their own, *Perfect Symmetry* begs to find out.

Symmetry's opening track, "Spiralling," sets the tone for the entire album. David Bowie emanates from the verses in unlikely, synth-soaked flashbacks, surely not shaping the revelatory single fans expected.

"The Lovers Are Losing" is much closer to Keane's typical style, filled with soaring vocals and love scorned lyrics, a bit more pared down than the tracks to follow.

Smith's throwback "Better Than This" could easily be where keyboardist and songwriter Tim Rice-Oxley gave in hard to guest producer and pop god Jon Brion. The track is unquestionably a

lyrical victory, centering on society's obsession with celebrity and reputation. Triumphant the poetry may be, but the keyboards and trippy guitar effects saturate the song's atmosphere.

"You Haven't Told Me Anything" pushes the band's boundaries even further. Rice-Oxley allows drummer Richard Hughes a little experimentation with its beat-driven construction, seamlessly (and temporarily) switching Keane to a dance/house trio.

Symmetry's low point immediately follows the album's immeasurable title track. The mellow "You Don't See Me" harshly contrasts "Perfect Symmetry's" dramatic melody and empowering mood by diminishing front man, Tom Chaplin's, commanding voice into a whimpering Bono impression. Keep an eye on your iPod. "You Don't See Me" is so dangerously mid-80s U2 that the song might spontaneously

neously morph it into a

Walkman.

Luckily, "Again and Again" rushes in to balance the retro cheese. True, it sounds like something off the Top Gun soundtrack, but the A-ha synth rip-offs are actually rather classy. In fact, take away the buzzing arpeggio, and "Again and Again" could fit right in on the band's debut album, *Hopes and Fears*.

Most of the release's punch lives in the first half of the tracks, with an even mellower "Playing Along" softly screaming an anti-war message before the last of the pop tunes make their mark.

"Pretend That You're Alone" comes off as almost a harsh joke, with lyrics akin to "The Frog

Prince" from sophomore record, *Under the Iron Sea*. Rice-Oxley compares humanity to "blisters on the earth" and "strangling weeds" before insisting we all revert to our most hidden animal instincts, apparently to help remedy rampant Western superficiality.

"Black Burning Heart" finally embodies what these three men originally set out to create with this record. As fresh as it is familiar, the song boils with classic Keane styling, while the fattest bass line since Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean" drives it home.

Lyrical, the track could entirely trump the emotional resonance

onance of their previous record.

The Radiohead/Queen finale, "Love is the End," overflows with genuine passion. Certainly, the band's personal experiences in the last year contributed to its authenticity. To feign warmth like that is impossible. After all, Keane would know.

The glaringly poetic lyricist and composer Tim Rice-Oxley is sometimes too advanced for his own good.

Regrettably, I get the feeling that this album won't bring about any Keane converts due to the simple fact that it may fly above many heads. *Perfect Symmetry* symbolizes the culmination of a band abandoning its inhibitions and indulging every influence.

Refreshing from start to finish, Keane's latest album leaves no stone unturned and balances intuition with innovation.



The Jumping Turtle

Drinks and Dinner Pairs well with Live Music

BY CRYSTAL EVANS
Features Editor

After a long week of school, work, and more school, a college student needs some fun. The Jumping Turtle is just the place to have a good time.

The Jumping Turtle is a live music venue that hosts a variety of mostly local bands spanning a range of genres. Though it tends to host many hard rock and metal bands, it also features alternative, classic, blues reggae and even rockabilly music. The cover charge rarely goes over \$15 a person.

Located just north of Interstate 78 off Rancho Santa Fe Road, The Jumping Turtle is the perfect, close to home venue for a night out during the week or a cheap, local weekend excursion.

In addition to its great sampling of local music, The Jumping Turtle also has great food and a full bar with excellent nightly drink specials, and with 120 different kinds of liquor there is something for everyone.

Tuesdays and Fridays pro-

vide the best deals for food and drinks. On Taco Tuesdays, they have \$2 tacos and \$2 Coronas, Pacificos and margaritas. On Five Dollar Fridays, they offer \$5 12-inch two-topping pizzas and \$5 Long Island Iced Teas.

The venue supplies a wide patio with plenty of seating to offer a breath of fresh air and pool tables to entertain either during or between sets.

The Jumping Turtle is also a great place to relax and catch a football game. It airs all of the football games, so even those who aren't fans of the Chargers can watch his or her favorite teams, and have food and drink specials on Football Sundays.

Since football just isn't football without a cold beer, The Jumping Turtle's selection of 23 draft beers and 26 bottled beers is sure to please even the pickiest beer connoisseurs.

For more information and for The Jumping Turtle's schedule visit www.thejumpingturtle.com.

Bison Chocolate Stout



BY JONATHAN E. THOMPSON
Pride Staff Writer



Bison Brewing brews and bottles the six award winning USDA approved organic Chocolate Stout in Chino, California. Bill Owens founded the brewery in 1989 with current Berkeley, California Mayor Tom Bates. Since 2002, the brewery has only produced full organic beer.

BevMo retails six 12 fluid ounce bottles of Bison Chocolate Stout for \$8.99. The dark brown glass bottle features a buffalo cast in a shadow standing on a grassy field. White, tan, brown, and black colors comprise the label. A black and white bottle cap featuring the company's logo seals a beer with a higher than average 6.1% alcohol by volume.

The brew pours a thick black syrup creating a modest head that dissipates into a thin lancet. A rich sweet chocolate

caramel concoction boldly rises from the glass.

The beer enters the mouth smooth then gently massages all areas of the mouth like a Jason Mraz melody. A

delicious chocolate residue coats the tongue as the contents fall down below. A bitter jolt occurs between sip and swallow that lasts long enough to excite the taste buds.

The elegant beer should pair well with desserts that do not include chocolate such as vanilla ice cream or peach cobbler pie. Avoid consuming with regular dinner options.

Chocolate

lovers are definitely going to love Bison's Chocolate Stout. However, non-chocolate lovers will enjoy the tasty treat as well. Down the hatch!



Photo by Jonathan E. Thompson / The Pride