

# THE COUGAR CHRONICLE

Issue 3

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FEBRUARY 28, 2012

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS, INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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## SPORTS

**Page 3** - "The Heart Beat" discusses quick, easy and healthy ways to lose weight. Summer is just around the corner, follow the advice for a healthy transformation.

## FEATURES



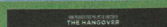
**Page 5** - The interesting history of Leap Year is explained. What will you do with your extra day?

## OPINION



**Page 6** - "Let's Talk Politics" moves to the opinion page this issue. Find out what Facebook executives and Cal State presidents have in common.

## A & E



## PROJECT X

**Page 8** - The upcoming release, "Project X," is reviewed. Is this movie worth the hype?

## NEXT ISSUE

March 13

## Expired elevator permits stoke concerns over CSUSM's safe school status

FREDRICK MISLEH  
STAFF WRITER

In early December 2011, the website StateUniversity.com ranked CSUSM as the safest four-year university in California. However, this ranking only extends to campus security. The integrity of our elevators is a different matter.

Six of our elevators have expired permits: car number three in the parking structure (a temporary permit that expired

on March 17, 2011), car number 2 in Markstein Hall (Oct. 1, 2011), both elevators in the Social and Behavioral Sciences Building (both temporary permits, expired March 28,

2011 and April 1, 2011), the Arts Building elevator (Sept. 30, 2011) and the D-building elevator in the UVA (July 29, 2011, with a temporary permit being issued on Dec. 9, 2011, that has a pending expiration date).

Many students reported this made them feel unsafe at school. One student, a first-year student who wished not to be identified, said, "It's a huge misnomer considering you have the safety of all your students going up and down the elevator, and it's just a simple thing making sure your tags are up-to-date."

Katie Gonzalez, fourth-year Human Development major, likened the permits in the elevators to registration tags on automobiles. "If your

registration is out of date, you cannot drive. Therefore, if the elevators are out of date, they should not be operable."

Regina Frasca, head of Risk Management at CSUSM, acknowledged the expired permits, yet asserted students and staff were safe when riding the elevators: "The state inspectors who have the power to issue new permits are few and far between. So when we aren't able to schedule them, we have our

**"If your registration is out of date, you cannot drive. Therefore, if the elevators are out of date, they should not be operable."**

-Katie Gonzalez, fourth-year Human Development major

own inspection teams to ensure the safety and the integrity of our conveyances. They do not have the authority to issue new permits, however."

Frasca also added a key word of advice to all elevator riders. "If the elevators ever do stop working and you are stuck in one of them, please do not try to get yourself out. Stay in the elevator and use the elevator's hotline to the service center and we will come to you. That way, we can all avoid a repeat of the tragic incident at CSU Long Beach," referring to an incident in Dec. 2011 when an employee of CSULB got stuck in an elevator and attempted to climb out. The elevator began to move again, trapping and killing the employee under 2,000 pounds of machinery.

For more information on elevator safety, readers can contact Regina Frasca at 760-750-4502 or at rfrasca@csusm.edu.

## Selling class notes may have repercussions

### Copyrights, plagiarism majority of concern

SURYA QUINONES  
STAFF WRITER

California State University and University of California campuses recently addressed private note-selling between college students, while some are already facing consequences.

According to the investigative reporting website, California Watch, this issue raises questions as to who owns copyrights of the notes, the students listening to lecture, or the instructor providing the lecture. Professors at UC Berkeley and CSU Chico are concerned with note accuracy. They fear that these notes are provided by students with low grades. As a result, low note quality could ultimately hurt the instructor's reputation.

"Students that [sic] are downloading or buying this information [are] actually not fulfilling their obligations to the university," Adolfo Muniz, Anthropology professor at UCSD and CSUSM, said.

Different websites including NoteUtopia and Chegg have received letters from CSU and UC campuses in their attempt to shut down the space available for students to post their notes up for sale, according to California Watch. Although some websites have already complied with the CSU/UC system's wishes other web-

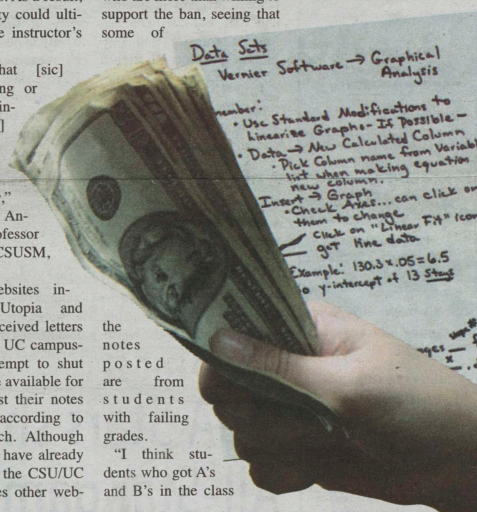
sites continue to provide these notes for sale. There have already been some changes made to school policies in regards to attaining and purchasing notes from such websites. CSUSM's student conduct "prohibits any business or person from selling or otherwise distributing or publishing class notes for a commercial purpose." (California Education Code section 66450).

Muniz found this situation to pertain more to a plagiarism issue as well: "I don't support the ban [of websites] but I do support actions against students using these notes for plagiarism."

But there are some students who are more than willing to support the ban, seeing that some of

should put up their notes... but not students who have failing grades. I don't know how the website would judge that, but I understand that a D student shouldn't put up their notes [for sale]." Karen Hernandez, CSUSM sophomore and Biology major, said.

Outside sources and critics state that the universities are focusing on the wrong aspects of the situation, and the notes are simply there to share knowledge. There is still a discussion about whether disciplinary students should receive disciplinary action, although some students have already been reported in regards to their affiliation to such purchases.



## CSUSM's University Student Union building spirit

JESSIE GAMBRELL  
STAFF WRITER

CSUSM aimed to make the campus more community-oriented and attractive to students with the University Student Union (USU) which kicked off with a groundbreaking ceremony and after-party last Thursday, Feb. 23.

The lawn between Kellogg Library and the Cesar Chavez stairs is fenced off because CSUSM is in the process of constructing the new USU building. USU will house student events, clubs, activities and community life. The two "Phases" are due for completion August 2013, and the structure will be ready for occupation January 2014.

"I think that it is really hard to capture the excitement of it. There have been so many people working really hard



on this. It is actually student-designed; they brought in some students to get their opinions on what it should be like," Eloise Stiglitz, Ph.D. Vice President of Student Affairs said.

USU's Phase I (58,376 sq. ft) will provide services including food services, retail spaces, dining, a ballroom, conference rooms, student organization offices, recreational and game areas as well as USU administration offices. Phase II (85,880 sq. ft) will provide a large ball-

room, more food services and more student organization offices.

"The Clarke used to be the hub for student organizations, but soon there will be the Student Union. In the rainy weather you will have a building to go to," Ed. D. Executive Director, University Corporation, Kim D. Clark, said.

This new University Student Union building has been in the books since CSUSM opened in 1989. The total cost of the building will be

\$43.98 million, and the Student Body Center Fee that each CSUSM student pays will fund the entire project. It will take 30 years to pay it off completely.

"I'm excited. It's a sign that our school is growing. It'll be worth it," Phoebe Morris, CSUSM sophomore, said.

The opportunities and space it will provide the student community will add greatly to the student life here on campus.

"I don't like the fencing,

but I am excited about the Student Union being built," Kaitlin Lingnau, a freshman, said.

In fact, the Cesar Chavez staircase will be completely out of commission from spring break until mid-August 2013.

The groundbreaking ceremony speakers and attendees included CSUSM President Karen Haynes, President & CEO of ASI Travis Wilson, USU Advisory Board Chair Cipriano Vargas, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services Dr. Linda Hawk and Director of the Clarke House & the USU Sara Quinn.

"Student life is going to be absolutely amazing. I'm excited for this opportunity, and I am proud to call this my school," Wilson said.

For more information go to: [www.csusm.edu/usu](http://www.csusm.edu/usu).



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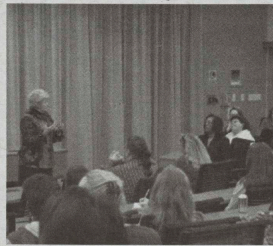
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AMIRA EL-KHAULI

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Students and staff gather for President Haynes' and Chief Diversity Officer Crawford's diversity based open forum. Photos by: Amira El-Khaoui.

## Diversity Matters Forum

### CSUSM is a melting pot full of diverse strengths

KRISTIN MELODY  
STAFF WRITER

A Diversity Matters Forum addressed the importance of diversity of students and staff, but Cal State San Marcos professors and community spokespersons alleged "double-speak" from presenters.

President Karen S. Haynes and Chief Diversity Officer Willie "Derrick" Crawford held the Diversity Matters forum to explain their belief of, diversity and open conversation for questions and concerns of the community on Feb. 16, 2012.

Haynes emphasized diversity as a way to strengthen the campus and to teach students how to interact in the world.

CSUSM has "almost half of the entire student body as minorit[ies], that's 5,000 students," Haynes said.

"Diversity comes in a variety of forms... [CSUSM is an] inclusive campus for all meanings of diversity," Haynes said.

Crawford explained his five-year plan for diversity which included changes in curriculum and staff diversity composition in order to be pragmatic and broaden the meaning of diversity.

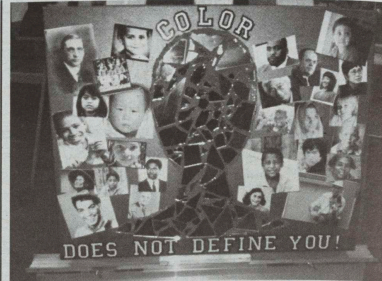
Professors and some students questioned how this talk would be put into action during these tough financial times.

Professor Marisol Clark-Ibáñez of the Sociology de-

partment questioned where the resources are coming from when there aren't any to give. Clark-Ibáñez is the program coordinator for the Ethnic Studies minor; she stated she only receives \$1,060 annually for the program.

Crawford's five-year plan for diversity is due to President Haynes late this spring. In the meantime, CSUSM faces economic challenges, a 60:40 ratio of women to men and a growing awareness of diversity.

There is another Diversity Forum today, Feb. 28, noon - 12:50 p.m., in Markstein 103.



## Wash. Rinse. Don't Repeat

MELISSA MARTINEZ  
STAFF WRITER

This semester, History and Global Studies professor Dr. Kimber Quinney, and her History 393 students took advantage of a mentoring opportunity working with high school students at High Tech High School.

Alongside teacher Ms. Michelle Clark, Dr. Quinney teamed the High Tech High's students and CSUSM's History students together in groups and presented their final projects, all following the theme: Wash. Rinse. Don't Repeat. on Friday, Feb. 17. With the help of Dr. Quinney's class, High Tech High's students compiled an arrangement of videos and interviews to compare historic events, such as the Holocaust, to recent events like the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Their primary goal was to spread awareness to prevent these catastrophic tragedies from reoccurring through media, interviews of Holocaust survivors and spoken word. Junior Jenna Phelps' group dedicated their video to spreading awareness of the injustices in history and

how, unfortunately, it can replicate.

"Racist comments aren't taken seriously, and we want to show everyone that it isn't okay and we need to stand up against it so it won't repeat," Phelps said.

Not only did the students of High Tech High benefit from their mentors, but also CSUSM students took advantage of a great opportunity to branch out and experience a different kind of learning.

CSUSM student/mentor Bryan Romanelli spoke of his experience working alongside these students. Seeing the final production come together was the highlight of his experience.

"Being a mentor was honestly one of the coolest experiences ever. The students cut above the rest, took the bull by the horns and ran away with it. They were extremely dedicated and were on top of their work. It was great being able to work with these students for a common goal: to prevent history from repeating itself," Romanelli said.

## SPORTS

## NBA Stars shine bright at All-Star game in Orlando

ALEX FRANCO  
STAFF WRITER

With the NBA All-Star weekend in Orlando, Fla. coming to a close, the 2012

All-Star game came down to the wire in the last seconds of the fourth quarter as the West stars stopped the East stars dead in their tracks.

The game began with a

bang with a Nicki Minaj performance-led introduction of the All-Star players from Both the NBA's Western and Eastern Conference's.

Starting for the West were,

LA Clipper point guard Chris Paul, LA Lakers shooting guard Kobe Bryant, LA Clipper power forward Blake Griffin, Oklahoma City Thunder small forward Kevin Durant and LA Lakers Center Andrew Bynum. The East All-Star starters were, Chicago Bulls point guard Derrick Rose, Miami Heat shooting guard Dwyane Wade, Miami Heat small forward LeBron James, NY Knicks small forward Carmelo Anthony and hometown favorite Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard.

The first quarter of the game was filled with the defense-less basketball play we come to love and enjoy during All-Star weekend. There were ferocious slam dunks, and alley-oop dunks from both sides of the court, from Chris Paul throwing it up to Blake Griffin to Dwyane Wade sending it to teammate LeBron James. The West got out to an early lead, a lead they wouldn't surrender for the rest of the game, leading 88-69 at halftime.

The West's 88 points at halftime now stand as the All-Star game record for

points in a half. That wasn't the only record that we saw fall Sunday night. Kobe Bryant in his record tying fourteenth All-Star game appearance broke the record for most career points in the All-Star game passing Michael Jordan's mark of 262 points. Dwyane Wade of the East registered the third triple-double in All-Star game history with 24 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists.

Kevin Durant and Bryant carried the West in their win over the East. Durant led all scorers with 36 points; enough to have him voted the game's MVP. LeBron James led the East's late charge at the end scoring 36 points for the East, but also gave the ball away in the closing seconds of the game, sealing the victory for the West.

"Can't turn the ball over like that, I let my team down, but overall it was a great weekend," James said.

The weekend came to a close with the West 152-149 victory, which is now the second year in a row they have walked away the winners.



## THE HEART BEAT Healthy weight loss

CURTIS BOVEE  
STAFF WRITER

With summer right around the corner, losing weight to perfect your 'beach body' is perhaps a top priority. Sadly, too many people are unaware of healthy ways to lose weight and can inadvertently cause more harm than good.

With so many crash diets available on the market, it is hard not to get caught up with them. Unfortunately, they have proven to be ineffective.

"They don't work and can be harmful to your health," Lea Roberg-Chao, professor of Kinesiology here at CSUSM, said.

Many crash diets emphasize maintaining a 1,000 calorie diet or less, which certainly isn't safe or effective.

The goal is to lose one to

two pounds per week. "Rapid weight loss is mostly water loss and muscle loss."

"The key to losing weight is to look beyond going on a diet," Laura de Ghetaldi, professor of Kinesiology at CSUSM, said.

One pound is equivalent to about 3,500 calories. Implementing a strategy to have a deficit of 500 calories per day would lose one pound per week on average. 500 calories per day is the difference between a salad and a cheeseburger with fries. Seems pretty easy, not to mention worthwhile, doesn't it?

Imagine if you employed an exercise routine with your diet; the pounds would come off even easier. Ideally, this is the goal. Modifying only your diet might prove as an

effective method for weight loss, but utilizing some type of aerobic activity will prove to be more effective.

"A healthy diet coupled with a healthy aerobic exercise program where one gets the heart rate up for 30 minutes per day, four days per week, will easily and safely lose one to two pounds per week," de Ghetaldi said.

More importantly, crash diets work in opposite fashion of one's goal to lose weight. "They slow down the body's metabolic rate, causing the body to burn calories less efficiently," de Ghetaldi said.

Keep these things in mind, and not only will you shed that 10-15 pounds by summer, but you will have created a healthy template that you can follow the rest of your life.

## Athlete spotlight: Sarah Jackson

JULIANA STUMPP  
STAFF WRITER

As the basketball regular season comes to a close and the playoffs commence, I spoke to Sarah Jackson, third guard, from the Women's Basketball team before the Cougars went to South Dakota for the A.I.I. (Association of Independent Institutions) conference championship.

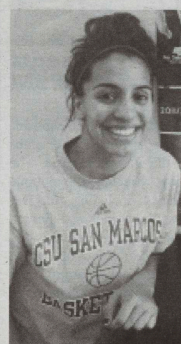
Jackson is a junior majoring in Sociology and minoring in Psychology who has been playing basketball since she was six-year-old. Jackson's favorite team is the Los Angeles Clippers, while her favorite player being Miami Heat forward, LeBron James.

Juliana Stumpp: What is the best thing about playing here at CSUSM?

Sarah Jackson: The strong friendships I've made. It's taught me a lot of leadership skills. Basketball keeps me on track with my priorities.

JS: In what way has basketball benefited your academics?

SJ: I've always been a good student athlete. I know it is student before athlete, not the other way around. Without the grades, I can't play, and basketball is such an important part of my life



that I don't want to lose that because of my grades.

JS: What is your practice schedule like?

SJ: During season, Mondays through Fridays we practice from 1:45 until 3:45 p.m. Before the season starts we condition from 1:45 to 5 p.m. Off-season, I go to the gym, lift weights and work out.

JS: Who is your inspiration?

SJ: My mom because she works really hard [and is a] very driven and independent woman, which I admire. Also, my older brother, because he always has a positive attitude.

### SCORE REPORT

2/14 Men's Golf placed 14 out of 15 at the San Diego Intercollegiate Classic

2/16 Women's Basketball v.s. Vanguard University

L 48 61

2/16 Men's Basketball v.s. Masters University

W 88 59

2/17 Softball v.s. Colorado Christian

W 3 2

v.s. Holy Names

L 3 4

2/17 Baseball v.s. Bethesda University (7 Innings)

W 17 4

2/18 Baseball v.s. Azusa Pacific (DH)

L 7 8

W 10 7

2/18 Softball v.s. Holy Names (DH)

W 10 0

v.s. Cal Baptist

W 6 0

2/18 Women's Basketball v.s. Chapman

W 66 51

2/20 Baseball v.s. Chapman

W 5 2

2/23 Men's Basketball v.s. Concordia

L 92 75

2/24 Baseball v.s. Vanguard

L 4 2

2/25 Women's Basketball v.s. Indiana Northwest

W 61 58

2/25 Baseball v.s. Vanguard

L 6 10

2/25 Men's Basketball v.s. Black Hills State

W 92 75

2/26 Softball v.s. La Sierra

W 10 1

v.s. Pomona-Pitzer

W 10 0

2/26 Women's Basketball v.s. Valley City State

W 54 52

**Congratulations to the Men's and Women's Basketball teams who both finished their inaugural seasons with wins and earned spots in the A.I.I. conference championships.**

**Good luck in playoffs!**

### Nights Out@the Pride Center

A joint presentation co-sponsored by

Hillel San Diego,  
North County  
and

The LGBTQA  
Pride Center

(part of Woodland Hills, Inc.)

Tuesday

March 13, 2012

5:30 - 8:00 PM

Commons 201

LGBTQA Pride Center

Come share in a discussion

about a romance between

two soldiers in an Israeli

Defense Forces unit stationed

in an Israeli outpost on the

Lebanese border.

Snacks provided

### PURIM PARTY

This Purim-themed Shabbat will be an amazing experience celebrating one of the most fun Jewish holidays! Before the party, starting at 4:30 pm come learn how to bake Hamantaschen (Purim cookies) with Sarit and Ophir....and then ITS PARTY TIME!!

1. Free HOME made Persian dinner that includes fresh grilled Shish-Kabobs at our Hillel House at 5:30pm
2. Costume competition with great prizes!
3. "Mishloach manot" give away: each one of you will get a bag of goodies with chocolate and cookies to take home and give to your family/friends as a mitzvah....or to eat in a boring class :)
4. Great friends, good music and just a fun way to start the weekend!

Friday, March 9, 2012 from 4:30pm at Hillel House 156 E. Berham Drive San Marcos CA 92078.

for more information contact Brenna Furlong bfurlong@hillel.org (760) 978-9797

HAPPY PURIM!!!

### ISRAEL ON CAMPUS COALITION

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STUDY ABROAD IN HAIFA

Haifa is a vibrant city with a rich history and a beautiful coastline. It is a great place to study and experience the culture of Israel. The Israel on Campus Coalition is a group of students who are passionate about Israel and want to share their experiences with others. We offer a variety of programs and activities that will help you learn more about Israel and its people. Contact us today to learn more!

### UPCOMING HOME GAMES

<b>Tuesday, Feb. 28</b> Baseball takes on La Sierra at home at 2 p.m.	<b>Friday, March 9</b> Softball takes on William Jessup at home at 9 a.m. and Felician College at 3 p.m.
<b>Friday, March 2</b> Softball takes on Simpson at home at 11 a.m. as well as Biola at 3 p.m.	<b>Saturday, March 10</b> Baseball takes on Concordia at home at 2 p.m.
<b>Saturday, March 3</b> Softball takes on Simpson at home at 11 a.m. as well as Claremont Mudd Scripps at 3 p.m.	<b>Sunday, March 11</b> Softball takes on La Sierra at home at 11 a.m. and Greensboro College at 3 p.m.
<b>Sunday, March 4</b> Softball takes on Simpson at home at 11 a.m. and again at 1 p.m.	<b>Thursday, March 8</b> Softball takes on Concordia at home at 9 a.m. and Hope International at 3 p.m.

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We have additional sports stories online, make sure to check them out





## Lux Boreal's "Lamb" presents praised performance at CSUSM

JULIANA STUMPP  
STAFF WRITER

CSUSM students and faculty gathered on campus to enjoy the contemporary dancing in Lux Boreal's presentation of "Lamb" on Feb. 21.

This was the first time that the performance was presented at CSUSM as it is typically preformed in many festivals and theaters in Mexico.

Phillip Adams, of Australia, in collaboration with Lux Boreal, created the production. The company's name, "Lux Boreal" translates to, "lights from the north."

The performance began with a queen-like woman lying in the middle of the stage with six dancers off to the side wearing a black cloth over their faces with feathery sashes over their bodies. In the beginning of the show, the dancer's movements started slow and leisurely, but throughout the performance, the dances became more emotional and dramatic as even some of the dancers started to cry.

At the side of the stage, there were six red, toy pianos that were played occasionally for the effect of spiritual

change.

In "Lamb," the shepherdess helps guide her six lambs to the Promised Land. The show included multiple themes including forgiveness, innocence and sin and many biblical references.

Eunice Contreras, who played the shepherdess, gave her insight to the meaning of the production.

"The sheep have to trust in the path I'm giving them, because it's the path to salvation. They have to forgive themselves, but they also must be forgiven. You have to ask for forgiveness. You have to surrender to that," Contreras said.

At the end of the show, some of the dancers answered questions from the audience.

"[Phillip Adams] spent his time explaining his thoughts and beliefs. He didn't give us a direct definition of what the pianos represented. He gave us room for imagination. To me the red pianos represented blood," performer Henry Torres said.

"Lamb" was honored in Dance Magazine's list of Top 25 Performances to Watch in 2009.

## Justin Campbell represents CSUSM in DJ showcase party

DJs from San Diego universities compete in President's Day celebration

DANE A. VANDERVELDEN  
STAFF WRITER

The Wavehouse in Mission Beach played host to a Red Bull-sponsored DJ showcase and President's Day party for Greek leaders and captains from local dorms and sororities on Feb. 19.

The top DJs from UCSD, USD, SDSU and CSUSM were invited to the event to compete before a large number of Wavehouse patrons and the DJs' fellow students in attendance.

Selected as the top student DJ from Cal State San Marcos and chosen to represent CSUSM in this friendly competition was Justin Campbell. He opened the competition, which ran from noon to 5 p.m., and as per the rules of the contest, he had an hour to spin.

After finishing his set, he joined me for a brief chat about the contest, his motivation and music in general.

Campbell has been DJing for two years and has been gradually building his reputation by posting his songs online. Mostly instrumental mash-ups (a song created by entwining two other usually well-known and pre-recorded songs), Campbell's music caught the attention of local clubs downtown, and pretty soon, he was being

booked for shows. Performances around the downtown scene and at such well known establishments as The House of Blues have allowed Campbell to branch out of San Diego and permitted him to spin at places like Los Angeles' historic Avalon theater, where The Beatles played their first west coast performance.

When asked about his musical palette, Campbell says that his taste is quite broad, and that as a DJ, one should be open to all sorts of genres and sounds when composing a piece. This speaks to his ultimate goal as a DJ which is to keep underground music creative.

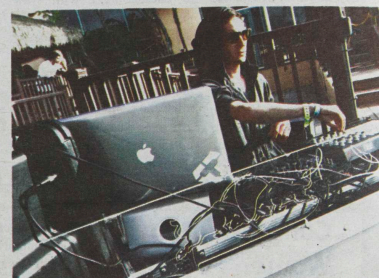
As the party went on and the other DJs completed their respective sets, it ultimately became the audience that would decide the winner through applause and cheers.

As the roar of the crowd was gauged, it was determined that the winner of the

showcase was Justin Campbell. It came as no surprise that Campbell's skills triumphed, but it still came as a very welcome victory for CSUSM to overcome their big-time rival schools.

To hear some of Justin Campbell's music, visit <http://soundcloud.com/jcam8989>.

Right and Below: CSUSM student, Justin Campbell, performs his set at The Wavehouse in Mission Beach.  
Photos provided by: Tom Nguyen.



## Women's Center to host film festival

REBEKAH GREEN  
STAFF WRITER

The traveling film festival LUNAFEST is making a stop at CSUSM on Thursday, March 1 at 6 p.m.

LUNAFEST is a short-film festival with works made by, about and for women.

Established in 2000, LUNAFEST is dedicated to sharing stories of women through film and spreading those connections through the traveling festival.

According to the LUNAFEST website, the festival has spread to more than 150 screenings in North America with over ninety filmmakers featured so far. Since its foundation, the festival has raised nearly \$1.2 million.

At this year's festival, nine films will be presented, showing the diversities of community. The shorts will illustrate different genres and content, all of which are representative of women.

The festival will donate

all proceeds and ticket sales from this event to various charities, including the Breast Cancer Fund and the ASI Women's Center.

Tickets are available at the ASI Corporate Office and at the door the night of the festival. Ticket prices range from \$5 for students, \$10 for general admission and \$15 for VIP tickets.

To view a trailer featuring clips from the short films, go to [www.csusm.edu/wc/events/LunaFest.html](http://www.csusm.edu/wc/events/LunaFest.html).

## AOIT

### Informational Day

February 28th  
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. - ACD 102

### Colonization Events

Friday, March 2nd  
*Picture Yourself in AOIT*  
7:00 p.m. - The McMahan House

Saturday, March 3rd  
*A Black Tie Affair*  
7:00 p.m. - The Clarke, Grand Salon

Sunday, March 4th  
*Bid Day*  
1:00 p.m. - The Clarke, Grand Salon  
*Colonization Ceremony*  
5:00 p.m. - The Clarke, Grand Salon

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## Pride Center holds event to reconsider society expectations

Event approaches issues regarding self-image

SURYA QUINONES  
STAFF WRITER

CSUSM's The Pride Center presented "The Distorted Male" on Tuesday, Feb. 21 in association with next week's Eating Disorder Awareness week supported by the three social justice centers on campus.

The event consisted of pictures hanging from the ceiling at eye level, depicting different types of male bodies, different statistics pertaining to male eating disorders and different views about male body images.

The pictures and statistics were presented in a more engaging way which allowed students to walk around and

see these different pictures and initiate conversation about them.

After students viewed the different pictures, everybody present introduced themselves and separated into teams in order to play a game that would be considered the ice breaker.

Later, after light snacks and drinks, everybody gathered to engage in a lengthy discussion about common misconceptions regarding

male body images in society and what it means to be masculine or feminine.

"I knew it was there, but I didn't realize that it was so

*"I feel like that's what we need to do more on campus, like create an atmosphere where everybody feels like they can talk."*

-Kevin Chatham, Event Specialist of LGBTQA

prevalent, and it made me just realize that body image affects so much of how we see ourselves and how we see each other,

even subconsciously," Kevin Chatham, Event Specialist of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Allies (LGBTQA), said.

Chatham went on to say how he was pleasantly surprised to see students show up to an event and fully engage in discussion about such a controversial topic.

An anonymous attendee stated that the event met expectations. However, the student felt that the discussion stayed at a surface level and wished it was more critical about the topic. The attendee also stated that the event's style was interactive and the people who attended were nice and welcoming overall.

At the end of the discussion, The Pride Center staff encouraged attendees to take the time to look at mirrors placed by the door and with markers, write a phrase stating something that they love about their bodies.

"I feel like that's what we need to do more on campus, like create an atmosphere where everybody feels like they can talk," Chatham said.



## New pizza restaurant opens in San Marcos

JULIANA STUMPP  
STAFF WRITER

Flippin' Pizza opened a new location on South Twin Oaks Valley Road on Feb. 1, providing CSUSM students and staff members with a convenient location.

As I walked into Flippin' Pizza, I was eager to taste their New York-style pizza and excited to have a pizza place across the street from campus. For students who don't have cars, Flippin' Pizza's location is ideal.

The menu has a large variety of offerings at affordable prices for the typical college student on a budget. A simple cheese slice is \$2.25. A pizza slice with toppings is just 50 cents more.

If you and your friends or family are especially hungry, 18-inch custom pizzas are available with a large

amount of toppings, varying from cheeses to meats and vegetables. The prices for the 18-inch custom whole pizzas start at \$14.50 for the "Cheese Pie" with an extra \$2 for each topping. Flippin' Pizza also offers their classic red and white pies for \$19 each.

For my night out with friends, we chose the Pesto Classic White Pie and split the cost five ways. It was perfect, because we each ate two pieces for only about \$4.00 per person.

While the franchise also has restaurants on the east coast, only five locations are currently open in Southern California. These locations are in Carlsbad, Encinitas, La Costa, Vista and San Marcos, with a sixth location set to open soon in San Diego.

## Leap Year reappears after four-year absence

The recurrent day returns for scientific and mathematical obligations

KYLE M. JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

Feb. 29 has been reinstated into 2012 calendars for a significant purpose.

The day, which last took place in 2008, occurs every four years as a way to prevent a loss of time.

According to an article on

timeanddate.com, "It takes the Earth approximately 365.242199 days (a tropical year) to circle once around the Sun."

Without the additional day, we would lose about six hours from our calendar every year. The article puts this into perspective by stating that after a century, our

calendar would lose about 24 days.

The day has not always been the subject of a flawless system, beginning with its introduction.

"Julius Caesar introduced Leap Years in the Roman empire over 2000 years ago, but the Julian calendar had only one rule: any year



evenly divisible by 4 would be a leap year. This led to way too many leap years, but didn't get corrected until the introduction of the Gregorian calendar more than 1500 years later," the article states.

The Gregorian calendar is the common calendar of the present-day.

While it was in Rome that Caesar introduced the Leap Year, there are many traditions and customs associ-

ated with the day from other countries.

"St. Bridget struck a deal with St. Patrick to allow women to propose to men - and not just the other way around - every four years. This is believed to have been introduced to balance the traditional roles of men and women in a similar way to how Leap Day balances the calendar," another article on timeanddate.com states.

The article goes on to share that in Scotland, it is considered unlucky to be born on Leap Day, and in Greece it is considered unlucky to marry during the entire year and especially on Leap Day.

In spite of its occasionally ominous presence for some cultures, the day is typically embraced in many areas of the world with enthusiasm and a cause for celebration.



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## Integrated arts program improves test scores

Elementary students show significant literacy progress

KYLE M. JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

CSUSM President Karen Haynes recently announced that the Developing Reading Education with Arts Method (DREAM) program contributed towards improving elementary student test scores in reading by 87 points.

The program is a 4-year arts integration program with a nearly \$1 million grant received from the United States Department of Education.

According to the DREAM website, "The goal of DREAM is to train third and fourth grade teachers to use

visual arts and theatre activities in their classroom to improve students' reading and writing skills."

The program uses this training technique through week-long summer programs and classroom arts coaching with teachers.

"We're not taking the emphasis off of reading and math by integrating the arts. We're really supporting it," Merryl Goldberg, Artistic Director of DREAM, said in a video on the program's website.

The program is a collaboration of CSUSM, North County Professional Development Federation, San Die-

go Office of Education and ten North San Diego County school districts, specifically 141 teachers and 3,000 students.

"The arts, because it's at the core of [DREAM], teach creative thinking, innovative thinking, teach critical thinking, teach how to think outside the box, how to problem solve, how to work well with others. These are skills that are just fundamental to what we need for the 21st century," Goldberg said in the video.

For more information on the DREAM program, visit [dream.sdcoe.net](http://dream.sdcoe.net).

**Send some luck for St. Patrick's Day**

Send no more than 20 words to [cougarchron.features@gmail.com](mailto:cougarchron.features@gmail.com) and we will feature your lucky messages in our March 13 issue.

**RULES:** Must be submitted by 3/10/12. Notes must include first and last name. The Cougar Chronicle has the right to refuse any note for any reason. The Cougar Chronicle also has the right to edit any submissions.



## LET'S TALK POLITICS

# Shocking salary facts

## Cal State presidents earn more than Facebook execs

DANE A. VANDERVELDEN  
STAFF WRITER

Recent reports from the CSU Chancellor's office have brought some interesting monetary facts to the table regarding the salaries of the CSU system's head honchos.

Facebook is undoubtedly one of the most powerful companies on the face of the Earth and in February went public and released the salaries of its employees. Sheryl

Sandberg, one of the top executives of this multimedia juggernaut, makes \$300,000 annually, stated the initial public offering of Facebook. A hefty sum, but for a top executive of one of the most well-known companies, it may come to us as a surprisingly low amount.

The numbers herein reveal to us that at least six of the CSU system's top employees make more than Sandberg on an annual basis including the

Chancellor, SDSU president and CSULB president. The average CSU president banking in on \$300,541 and nine cents stated the Chancellor's Executive Compensation 2011/2012 report on [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu). In addition to that, they also received an extra \$60,000 for housing assistance.

Outrage has broken out over these facts from students and other taxpayers alike. The California State

University Board of Trustees is the group responsible for setting CSU employee salary, decided to bump up the new president of SDSU's salary to \$400,000.

With tuition and other paid necessities for students skyrocketing in price like the 9 percent tuition increase voted in for the CSUSM 2012/2013 school year, it is hard for any elected 'board' or individual to justify these salary hikes. Chancellor Charles Reed took a swipe at it anyways, stating within the report that, "Even in dif-

ficult economic times, the CSU(s) must compete on a national level for highly qualified candidates to serve as presi-

dents of its institutions."

Reed attempted to substantiate the swelling of these individuals' salaries, but at the end of the day, student's wallets are emptier than ever, and when students can't afford school, they can't attend it. Hopefully the 'Board of Trustees' keeps this in mind, when mulling over the potential ramifications of their next act of greed-mongering.

Like or don't like?  
Share your thoughts  
on our Facebook  
page and see them in  
our next issue.

# Facing Racism

MELISSA MARTINEZ  
STAFF WRITER

YouTube, the home of humor, music, film and artistic talent, as well as the original place of the "It Gets Better" campaign against bullying is now the home of the most offensive video to go viral that I have ever seen.

On Jan. 6, 2012, three teenage girls from Arizona uploaded a video demonstrating their hate for the Mexican Race. As a Mexican woman, I am infuriated that these girls hate one culture so profoundly that they made this video. As an American, I am embarrassed to live in the same country as these women as I see their views are tolerated. As a woman, I am offended. Their ludicrous behavior isn't helping us gain the respect so many deserve.

I understand that everyone has his or her own opinions. However, not even the First Amendment of Free Speech can justify the hate speech

and racial slurs in this video.

I had many questions when a friend showed me this video. First, where are their parents? You'd figure someone would have taught them manners at some point in their lives. Also, they're from Arizona. If I'm not mistaken, Arizona, like California, New Mexico and Texas, is heavily populated by the Mexican culture. It saddens me that a place so diverse could produce such ignorant ideologies. Instead of celebrating diversity, we are discouraging people because of their differences.

It infuriates me that one day, if these girls have children, their distorted ideals may be passed onto our country's next generation. I'm livid that these girls, when they turn 18, can vote on the lives of my people, and that they may deny my family the right to live in this country and dismiss their attempt at their promise of "the American dream," as empty

as it may be.

Why is it that these views are tolerated? Why do we live in a country that segregates cultures so much? The progress we've made seems minimal to the credo of racism, sexism and homophobia that has become a "norm" within our society; instead of promoting this notion of being "colorblind," we should be embracing our diversity, rather than blatantly condoning the ignorant racism and hate we can't seem to extinguish.

I am however, extremely proud of the video responses from people of different genders, races and religions who made it clear that though these girls are extremely intolerant, they do not represent the opinions and views of those similar to them. Though the three girls have publicly apologized, this incident shouldn't have occurred at all.

# At SDSU, First Amendment rights need not apply

FREDRICK MISLEH  
STAFF WRITER

When Ashley Wardle was admitted to San Diego State University, she must have been expecting a place where all ideas and beliefs were welcomed and tolerated by all — especially by school officials.

However, while protesting proposed tuition hikes at the CSU Board of Trustees meeting on Nov. 16, 2011, in Long Beach, Wardle was arrested after students were banned from participating in the closed-doors meeting and forcibly removed from CSU Chancellor Charles Reed's office.

Upon her return to SDSU, Wardle faced an informal hearing regarding her actions. With officials claim-

ing her actions violated the school's code of conduct, Wardle risked a formal hearing and expulsion if she refused a two-year suspension. After weeks of negotiations, a settlement was presented to the graduate student; the suspension would not be activated; yet Wardle will be ineligible to participate and hold leadership positions in student organizations.

This should boil the blood of every American college student. College is supposed to be an open forum for discussion and the sharing of ideas where the tolerance of said ideas is undisputed. For Elliot Hirshman, the president of SDSU, to even consider suspending a student whom was expressing her opinion is a blatant violation of Wardle's First Amend-

ment right to free speech.

It seems as though Hirshman wanted to silence all dissent by making a public example of one student — a classic move pulled out of any dictator's playbook. Had the Chancellor and all the Trustees in attendance allowed dissenting opinions to be heard, chances are high Wardle would not have been arrested.

We as the students who pay tuition, which translates into the six-figure salaries paid to school administrative officials, should have a greater say regarding how much we pay and where that money goes. Until then, no CSU system chancellor or president should infringe upon the First Amendment rights of his or her students.

# Tales from the nerd side: How downloadable content is ruining gaming

CHRIS GIANCAMILI  
STAFF WRITER

In the current era of gaming, the amount of downloadable content (DLC) is quickly rising. Unfortunately for gamers, this rise is a double-edged sword.

Don't get me wrong—we love new maps, playable characters and added storylines. However, we have a serious problem with paying an extra \$15 for something that should have been packaged with the game itself.

In some cases, the bonus content is available on the same day the game

is released. According to Gamespy.com, "Mass Effect 3" will feature a new DLC storyline available on release day. The DLC is included with the Digital Deluxe Edition, but those who purchase the standard edition of the game will have to pay extra. Gamers are basically supposed to pay more for something that is ready on day-one.

Players also have "Game of the Year" (GOTY) or "Greatest Hits" editions to watch out for. When a game is rereleased with one of these tags, it generally features a lower price and past

DLC included. Though this varies from game to game, those patient or frugal gamers might want to wait for one of these editions. Sadly, not all games are rereleased like this. So paying the full price could become the only solution for some.

Publishers are exploiting the wallets of gamers, and it's killing all the fun. For money-conscious college students, an extra \$10 or \$15 could mean skipping a few meals for video game content that could have been free with purchase.

# World's worst boss

The demise of NBC's "The Office" television series

ALEX FRANCO  
STAFF WRITER

In 2005, NBC producer Greg Daniels brought the popular British comedy "The Office" to American television. Steve Carell was hired to star and play bumbling boss Michael Scott and carry the television show for seven amazing seasons of pure comedic genius. Unfortunately, after seven and a half seasons of comedic mockumentary, Carell left "The Office" and Andrew Bernard (Ed Helms) took over as Manager of Dunder Mifflin Sabre, Scranton.

Normally, a hit television show wouldn't succumb to the ending of an era; however, many would agree that the Dunder Mifflin Scranton Branch isn't the same. Though the rest of season 7 and now season 8 have proved to be comedy nonetheless, it is obvious the writers of "The Office" are desperate to decide where to

head from here.

It has been reported that the writers and producers of "The Office" have decided to create a spinoff following the Assistant to the Regional Manager, Dwight Schrute (played by Rainn Wilson). The show would revolve around Dwight and his beet farm/bed and breakfast. I'm not sure why the call has been placed to put this move into action with the current season of "The Office" still turning out hilarious episodes and captivating story lines. My guess is that they believe the show is not bringing in the viewers it once did with Carell on the show. And that is their problem; they can't have the expectations of a Carell-run "Office" show.

The producers should understand that with Carell's departure they were going to lose some die-hard Carell fans and they weren't going to generate the viewership

they once had.

I personally don't believe there is enough of a story and depth to be able to carry this as a long running series. The reason Dwight is such a successful character is because he meshes and feeds of the other characters in the office so well. Also, I'm a big Jim Halpert (John Krasinski) and Pam Beesly Halpert (Jenna Fischer) fan and would hate to see them go and no longer pull pranks on Dwight together.

With many of the main staples of "The Office" contracts ending after the season, it will be clear where the producers decide to take the show with season 8's end later this spring. The answer is simple, resign everybody and continue the show as it is, with no spin-off or new direction taken. With time, I believe the show can regain the support and fandom it once enjoyed with Carell at the helm. In Ed Helms I trust.



## THE COUGAR SHUFFLE

LISSETTE NUNEZ  
STAFF WRITER

Now that lovey-dovey month is almost behind us, those of us who are single can put their lonesome status behind them. Here's a five-song playlist designed to uplift the listener's self-assurance and help them get their mojo back.

**LMFAO: "I'm Sexy and I Know It"** This has retro groovy feel with catchy verses that cleverly promote self-confidence. At the same time, its irresistible vibe manages to be inspirational in its own amiable, flirtatious way.

**DJ Class: "I'm the Ish"** This spunky, buoyant egocentric song celebrates self-confidence, but in a good way.

**Jason Derülo: "Ridin' Solo"** This sensational electronic track from DeRülo's self-titled album is about independence, and how should be embraced, not frowned upon.

**Classified: "All About U"** In 2006, MC artist Classified released his album, "Hitch Hikin' Muisc." The album's themes include patriotism, social consciousness and diverse attitudes on underground rap. Classified bluntly articulates the ideas of overcoming obstacles and continuing to hope for the best without becoming cynical.

**Hundredth: "Willows"** The Christian melodic hardcore band from Myrtle Beach, S.C., celebrates individuality and self-awareness in this song and how to go from being a follower to a leader.

## Dissecting "Black Swan"

SURYA QUINONES  
STAFF WRITER

The Women's Center will be showing "Black Swan" today, Feb. 28 to discuss how women are perceived in today's media.

"Black Swan" will be shown as part of their monthly "Sister Cinema" program. This is their third semester presenting Sister Cinema, in which they provide pizza, drinks and a comfortable setting to watch view the movie.

Following the movie, there will be a discussion pertaining to the issues and controversies displayed in the film. Even though the movies presented will depict women's lives and their struggles, men are more than welcome to join the event.

"Everyone is welcome to the Women's Center; its purpose is to have a place to hang out and build community," Community Dialogue Facilitator of the Women's Center, Alejandra Ramos, said.

Ramos and staff hope that this event will allow more students to find an inclusive space where students can get involved and take advantage of the resources that the Women's Center has to offer, as well as create a community to learn about social justice and becoming allies.

## The comic book corner: Marvelous Marvel events

FAITH ORCINO  
STAFF WRITER

Marvel Entertainment announced three comic events and a special crossover that will create quite a stir in the comic book universe.

The universe already completed two of its biggest comics, "Fear Itself" and "Spider-Island," but it isn't quite over for the characters.

February's event is "The Circle of Four" which takes place in the on-going "Venom" series. By some strange demonic force, Eugene "Flash" Thompson a.k.a. Venom, must fight with X-23, the new female Ghost Rider, Alejandra, and the Red Hulk, Gen and "Thunderbolt" Ross, to save Las Vegas. The event starts in Venom #13, with four (#13.1-4) point issues and then concluding in Venom #14. This unlikely team must stop evil before Sin City literally turns into Hell.

March is going to be an explosive month when the Avengers Academy gets some new transfer students. The misfit Runaways join for a special crossover spanning two issues.

In addition to the cast, artist Karl Moline will be the penciler for those issues. Moline was on the creative team for the "Lancers" series, which Avengers Academy team member Julia Powers a.k.a. Lightspeed was affiliated with. Marvel expects a throw down on the west coast when the two collide.

In April, two events will surely shake things up. "The Omega Effect" event creates an unlikely team. Spider-Man, Daredevil and the Punisher take on some of the top crime syndicates in order to make sure they do not get their hands on the mysterious Omega Drive. It will take place in "Avenging Spider-Man #6," "Daredevil #11" and "The Punisher #10" with highly acclaimed writers Mark Waid and Greg Rucka working together with Marco Checchetto as the interior artist for all three issues.

New York will then become the battleground for the "Avengers vs. X-Men" event. It will take place after the conclusion of "Avengers: The Children's Crusade"

and "X-Sanction." Most of the fighting will be in the 12-part limited series under the same name of the event while certain series will have issues crossovers with it. Questions rise concerning those who have dual membership to both parties, such as Wolverine and Beast, to see where their true alliances belong.

Many teasers are floating around comic shops and on the internet, but Marvel is keeping things in the dark. Several stores such as the famous Midtown Comic store in New York have chosen their sides. Special early release parties on April 3 will be held in participating shops around the nation, a day before the first issue of "Avengers vs. X-Men" is out. Ask your local vendor if they will be joining the festivities.

For more information on any of the Marvel events, visit [Marvel.com](http://Marvel.com). If you want to get a copy of some of the issues, check out your local comic book shop or online vendor.

## Book of the month: Entering the Hunger Games

ARELY RAMOS  
STAFF WRITER

Author Suzanne Collins introduces "The Hunger Games" as the first book to the epic trilogy, leaving readers anxious in completing what seems like a never-ending story.

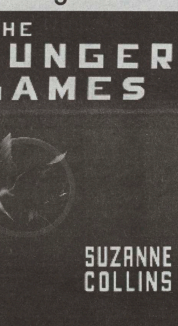
Though the series was first released in 2008, the excitement of seeing the games on the big screen is making the series exceedingly famous.

The plot unravels when a district rebels, causing the Capitol to punish the remaining districts by forcing two teenagers from each of the twelve districts to fight one another in an arena with provided weapons. As part of entertainment for the public, the games are aired live on television. The winner represents their district as well as receives honor and respect for themselves and family. Children are entered

at the age of twelve and must fight against the other competitors until only one survives.

The main character, Katniss Everdeen, is responsible for taking care of her mother and sister, and to do so, she trespasses outside the fences of District 12 in order to hunt for food, entering the Hunger Games arena and changing her life forever. "The Hunger Games" offers friendship, love and rebellion, all within the first book of the series.

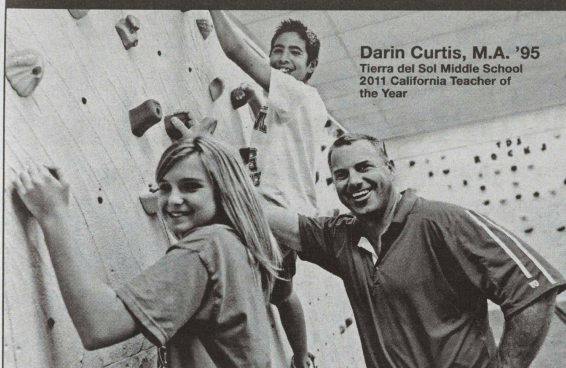
Collins' detailed descriptions of the characters and object in the book are so specific, it feels as if the reader is a part of the rebellion. You will not be able to eat or sleep without knowing what characters Katniss, Peeta and Gale will endure next. The anticipation is un-



bearable.

Though another book may seem like a distraction to your homework or obligations, once you begin reading the first page, putting it down will seem impossible. Regardless the genres you're most interested in, "The Hunger Games" is by far the best all-around book I have ever read.

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## Student A: "Leap Day" by Faith Orcino



## Dropping this week

REBEKAH GREEN  
STAFF WRITER

## "Hugo"

Martin Scorsese's latest film is about a boy named Hugo (Asa Butterfield) who lives in a train station in 1930s Paris. After his father's death, Hugo takes up his task in repairing a mysterious broken automaton. "Hugo" is a widely praised film by critics and film lovers. It won six of the 11 Academy Awards it was nominated for.



## "Top Gear - Britain"

The seventeenth season of Top Gear is out on DVD today. The British series centers on motor vehicles and presents its content in interesting, quirky and fun ways that attract more than just car lovers. The Top Gear series was revamped in 2002 and is currently hosted by Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May.



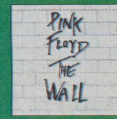
## The Cranberries

Released yesterday is "Roses," the newest album from Irish band The Cranberries. "Roses" is the band's sixth studio album following a hiatus of six years (their last album "Wake Up and Smell the Coffee" was released back in 2001). If you are a nineties kid, you may recognize some of their earlier hits including "Linger," "Dreams" and "Zombie."



## Pink Floyd

"The Wall" is widely seen as one of the greatest (if not the greatest) Pink Floyd album. First released on November 30, 1979, "The Wall" went on to become one of the bestselling albums in the United States and became a certified 23x platinum album. The Immersion Box set of "The Wall" is digitally remastered, with unreleased material, artwork, photographs and many other keepsakes.



## Project X: Likely, licentious teen debauchery

MELISSA MARTINEZ  
STAFF WRITER

A memorable evening is one understatement about the film, "Project X," centered around four Pasadena high school students, who lose control over a house party.

Produced by Todd Phillips, the film chronicles four teenagers (Thomas, Costa, JB and Dax) while they plan a "get together" at Thomas's house while his parents are out of town that eventually entertains around 1,500 people and literally burns down half his neighborhood.

The plot unravels when Thomas realizes Costa posted his address on Craig's List and the night gets a little out-of-hand. So, instead of stopping the party, Thomas drinks more alcohol and takes ecstasy to cope. As far



as a house party, this one rules; as far as stories, "Project X" is redundant. The typical account of social outcasts throwing a huge party and suddenly becoming popular throughout high school, equals the plot of many raunchy comedies.

Though the "found footage" style of filming documented the entire night of the party, there aren't any unexpected twists in the plot.

Producer Phillips (director of "The Hangover" series), doesn't disappoint with scandal and comedy, though you probably shouldn't watch

this with your parents. The nudity and crude and sexual content make it an interesting night that also gives it an R-rating, resembling more of a college party than a high school rendezvous.

Though this film makes you realize your parties aren't half as cool as they could be, it also provides what you'd expect from a racy and wild movie that will surely make you laugh out loud. If you're into scandalous films, "Project X" is witty, entertaining and surprisingly compelling.

"Project X" hits theaters this Friday, March 2.

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