And Now

And now as you read these poems
-you whose eyes and hands I love
-you whose mouth and eyes I love
-You whose words and minds I love-
don't think I was trying to state a case
or construct a scenery:
I tried to listen to
the public voice of our time
tried to survey our public space
as best I could
- tried to remember and stay
faithful to details, note
precisely how the air moved
and where the clock's hand stood
and who was in charge of definitions
and who stood by receiving them
when the name of compassion
was changed to the name of guilt
when to feel with a human stranger
was declared obsolete.

1994
Adrienne Rich,
from Dark Field of the Republic,

Poet Adrienne Rich Comes to CSUMB

By Jennifer C. Wilson
Internationally renowned poet Adrienne Rich will read from her works on Tuesday, Sept. 23, 1997, at CSUMB's Pomeroy building 29, on Sixth Ave. The event starts at 7 p.m. and is followed by a reception and book signing at 8 p.m. Rich recently was awarded the National Medal for the Arts by President Clinton, an award which she turned down. According to her L.A. Times essay "Why I Refused the National Medal for the Arts," Rich states that this decision was based on the protest of "nakedly repressive" arts policies, and "the increasingly brutal impact of racial and economic injustice in our country." She continues by stating "Whatever was 'newsworthy' about my refusal was not about a single individual...Nor was it about a single political party.

"Both major parties have displayed a crude affinity for the interests of corporate power while deserting the majority of the people, especially the most vulnerable."

Both major parties have displayed a crude affinity for the interests of corporate power while deserting the majority of the people, especially the most vulnerable. The CSUMB reading will be her first appearance since declining the acceptance of the award. Adrienne Rich's poetry addresses social and political issues, such as poverty, sexism, racism and violence. She is the author of fourteen books of poetry, including Diving into the Wreck; Your Native Land.

1994
Adrienne Rich,
from Dark Field of the Republic,

Your Life; and her recent collection of works, Dark Fields of the Republic. Rich also wrote four works of prose including Of Woman Born; and What is Found There: Notebooks on Poetry and Politics. Born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1929 and educated at Radcliffe College, Rich has been awarded the National Book Award, the Dorothea Tanning Poetry Prize from the Academy of American Poets, the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize, and a MacArthur Fellowship, among others.

The reading on Sept. 23, is sponsored by CSUMB's Center for the Arts, Human Communication, and Creative Technologies. For more information please call 582-3889.

The presentation is free to all.
Child Development Center answers critics

By staff of the Otter Realm

The brand new Child Development Center at CSUMB opened its doors Monday, Aug. 25, not only to children but to complaints as well. Some students have complained that the center failed to provide an orientation, or to notify them of the status of their children's enrollment. Confusion over policies has led some parents of enrollees to question why the process has been so rushed.

Children's Services International (CSI), a non-profit organization, has been contracted to provide childcare services to CSUMB. Jean Miner, the CEO of CSI explained the process that may have led to some confusion and concern. Generally, the staff at CSI prefers to open a center after developing a rapport with the parents of the enrollees. Normally, the parents work with the staff to develop procedures and structure the days' activities together. That way, a partnership between parents and staff can develop. "They (the parents) are the experts on their children," said Roni O'Connell, the director of child development and private centers, which essentially means that she is the administrator for all eight of CSI's centers. "We want parental involvement," continued O'Connell.

However, the CSUMB staff who were working to get childcare on campus for students were very committed to having childcare available by the time classes started. According to Miner, the CSUMB staff worked at "warp speed" to select and renovate the building which now serves as the center. It was at lightning speed that CSUMB and CSI staff were able to open the center at all; beyond renovating the center, the staff of California had to come to the center to license the facilities, a process that usually takes many months, rather than the two months which they had to work with here. CSI also had to establish a funding source so that they could provide low or no cost care to the children of CSUMB students. This arduous process can take months; in this case, they were able to get the funds in place in time to open the doors for the first day of school.

"There was a choice to be made. Either we wait to open the child development center until next semester or we open this semester recognizing that there will be some rough spots along the way," said Jean Miner.

The CSI staff are working hard to overcome the difficulties of the opening quickly created. One of the biggest complaints by parents is that they received no notification prior to dropping their kids off the first day. CSI's Roni O'Connell said in response, "We always hold monthly meetings for the parents to come and meet with the staff and other parents. Our first meeting for the CSUMB center's parents will be Sept. 18, 1997 at 5:30 P.M. at the Center. In order to help foster an informal, relaxed atmosphere, at this meeting CSI will provide a light meal and will pay staff overtime to take care of the children brought to the meeting. At this meeting, they will review the corporation's manual which contains all the things that CSI is required to tell the parents. Though that part of the meeting is "about as exciting as reading an insurance policy," said Jean Miner, they'll also talk about the parents' expectations, attendance, and any other topic of interest or concern to the parents. In addition, one parent from the center will be asked to join CSI's Executive Board.

After going through the "corporate" handbook, the staff will encourage parents to work with them to develop a CSUMB-specific handbook which will address concerns most relevant to CSUMB parents. Says O'Connell, "(the handbook) will include their input, their questions, and will answer their concerns."

Cindy Derrico, the childcare coordinator for CSUMB, has stated that her job is to conduct an investigation of complaints from parents, and ensuring that CSI is in compliance with the terms of their contract with CSUMB. Parents with concerns may contact Cindy Derrico at 582-3817, or Barbara Dixon-Rincon, the site coordinator for CSI at 883-3628.

Currently, the center cares for 24 preschool children and six infants and toddlers. Because the maximum capacity of the center has not yet been reached, students who are interested in enrolling their kids full-time (a minimum of 32.5 hours per week) can call 883-3620. The first priority goes to students and to full-time care. Should it become possible, the Center will begin to accept part-time enrollees or full-time care for staff and faculty. Both Miner and O'Connell point out that "the Center is not intended to be drop-in, or part-time baby-sitting."

The days are structured with activities including indoor and outdoor games. Parents are encouraged to come by the Center and spend quality time with their kids anytime they can.

First Week Confusion?

By Jennifer C. Wilson

After much confusion and frustration, many students asked the Otter Realm to delve into some problems that arose from a multitude closed classes, canceled classes, and many room and instructor changes. Students also expressed that they were frustrated about how everything was handled and why they were not kept apprised of information.

The Otter Realm asked Beth Appenzeller, Director of Admissions and Records, Dr. Armando Arias, Associate Vice President for Academic Support and Dean of the Center for Social and Behavioral Sciences, Petra Valenzuela, Administrative Assistant responsible for scheduling, and Dr. Carol Pendergast of Academic Support these questions:

Students found that the full schedule of their classes was not kept up-to-date, giving out wrong information, why was that?

Academic Support: "Because Academic Support recognizes the importance of these issues, a comprehensive study has been made and will be released in the next few weeks."

Why weren't new sections added to classes when needed, when courses that are required for graduation are full?

Academic Support: "Students should bring these concerns to the Office of Academic Affairs, specifically the Interim Assistant Vice President for Academic Development, Joe Larkin. This issue should also be brought to the attention of the Center Director, Dr. Arias: "There was room in other sections often, but they weren't at popular times."

Why weren't students told or notified about room changes and where that information could be found? Many of the room and schedule changes were not placed on FirstClass or the classrooms, for students to know.

Academic Support: "The room changes have been attached to the schedule information on the web. The room changes were particularly difficult this term because of the large size of the campus in August. We also placed signs on most of the classrooms that involved changes."

Some of the students who registered in Spring found that their names were not on the roster at the time of the first class meeting. Why was that?

Admissions and Records: "They should have been able to check their class schedule at Student Services, bldg. 21...possibly they went to the wrong section."

Academic Support: "Students, particularly lower division students do not always get the classes for which they enroll during registration. Check with the advisor, the faculty member of the course, and admissions and records. It is often possible to add the course during the first day or two of classes." Night classes start too early for people who are working. Most of the classes start at 4, when most working people finish at 5. Will any changes be made in regards to this?

Academic Support: "Courses are generally scheduled with full-time students in mind except for those programs which target adult populations specifically. It would be useful if students could convey their interest in having more courses available after 6 p.m. to faculty and deans."

Students have stated that the class rooms, are too small for the class size, and in some cases a computer lab has 16 work stations and 21 people enrolled. Shouldn't those numbers be taken into consideration?

Academic Support: "This is indeed a problem this term. Faculty have been permitting students to enroll beyond the capacity of the rooms in some cases; there are not always alternative spaces at the right time for those classes, although we have tried to accommodate these classes. We are presently doing a study of space and scheduling and hope to deal with this problem more effectively in the future."

Students who registered in the Spring also found that many of their classes were canceled, but on the first day of classes. Shouldn't students be notified over the summer to keep them up to date on things like this?

Admissions and Records: "(We are) not sure when they were canceled."

Academic Support: "For the most part, we do not know which classes will be canceled until after the second registration period, just before school starts. Unfortunately, the only way for students to know if classes have been canceled is to check the web information, and to show up for class. Registration is actually a fluid process that takes several days at least before a schedule is set."

Many of the upper division classes are at the same times and days in certain departments. This gives students only the choice of maybe two classes within their major to take a semester- will this be resolved?

Academic Support: "Again, this is a problem, but one that will settle out in time. We doubled and tripled our faculty size in our first three semesters. As curriculum planning stabilizes, Center, Institutes, as faculty begin to see the forest for the trees, and as the scheduling space analysis gives us needed feedback, we will see improvement in this area."

Students who feel that their questions are unanswered may contact the Otter Realm for further investigation.
Police Blotter

By Peter Finegan

Two state prison parolees were charged with possession of stolen property in connection with last April's $100,000 theft of campus computer equipment from a federal warehouse.

According to CSUMB police Lt. Joe Malby, federal police unraveled the computer heist while investigating an abandoned truck with a dead battery found in a POM warehouse in mid-August. The truck, loaded with janitorial supplies from the warehouse, was discovered by an employee, who reported the suspicious vehicle to the police.

Police traced the truck to Seaside resident Matthew Bakun, who was subsequently called in by his parole agent for a urinalysis test.

"While he was there, they (the parole agents) noticed a computer and monitor in box sitting in his car," Malby said.

After testing positive for controlled substances, and being interviewed about burglaries on POM property, Bakun, 26, led authorities to Thomas Nichols' residence at 2099 David St. in Monterey, where 90 percent of the stolen computers were recovered.

While police were loading the stolen equipment Aug. 16, Nichols apparently drove up to his home and, upon seeing the authorities, he fled.

Nichols, 32, turned himself in the next day in the company of his attorney.

Both men were charged with possession of stolen property and additional charges may be filed against Nichols pending the analysis of physical evidence.

Other significant police reports include these following briefs, to be introduced as a regular crime blotter in the Otter Realm:

- A transient was escorted off university grounds on Sept. 26 after an employee reported the man, with a bedroll, near Bldg. 80. State law grants police discretion to ban persons not affiliated with the university for up to seven days should such people be deemed a threat to public peace.
- An attempted burglary was reported Aug. 28 at 3243 Gettysburg Ct. after the resident returned home and noticed the front window screen out of place.
- A female student, running on Intergarrison Rd. on Aug. 28 at approximately 5 pm, reported being harassed by a man in an older white Grand Capri as he drove by her one mile west of Abrams Rd.

The man, with blonde-grayish hair, reportedly asked the woman if he could watch her run. After answering "No" and continuing to run, the woman told police the man turned around, drove by her again, and stopped a 100 feet in front of her. As she passed the man muttered something in a low voice and offered her $100. Police responded by looking for the motorist and advised the student to find a running partner.

- Police were called to Frederick's Ct. Aug. 29 after receiving reports of possible gunfire or fireworks in use. Eyewitnesses told police about two particular students firing a pellet gun, but the pair denied firing a gun in an interview with the police.
- CSUMB police arrested Rajesh Chan Baran Aug. 30 on a felony bench warrant after pulling him over at 3rd & 5th St. Baran was arrested for failure to appear in court on a number of charges, including spousal abuse, assault with a deadly weapon, and interference with a telephone line.

Bits N' Bytes

From Networking and Computing

If you use Office 97, you should know that Word documents saved in Office 97 cannot be opened in Office 95. Therefore, if you are student and you compose your homework assignment using Office 97 and wish to turn it in, your instructor cannot read it with Office 97 unless you do either of the following things:

1. (Good) Save it as a PDF type (Portable Document Format). This requires the file's creator to have Adobe Acrobat Reader to "read" the PDF file (free from Adobe Acrobat Reader to "read" the PDF file (free from www.adobe.com).
2. (Better) Download the Office 97 patch ("Word 6.0/95 binary converter") from Microsoft and install it into your Office 97 program file. This converter saves Microsoft Word 97 documents in a true binary file format with a .doc extension (The original Word 6.0/95 converter that shipped with Office 97 saved Word 97 documents as Rich Text Format—RTF).

If you're currently using Office 97 or Word 97, you can download the Word binary converter now. To do this, and to understand all the feature support issues associated with Office 97, go to the following URL:

www.microsoft.com/officefreestuff/wrd/dlpages/wrd6ex.32.htm

Those of you who purchased computers under the "Presidential Access" program in 1995 and onward need to be aware that as of the end of Fall 97 semester, Network & Computing will no longer be able to restore Microsoft Office for these machines in the event of such a need. If, for some reason, these machines require a re-installation of the Microsoft Office, the provision of licensed software for such installations will be the responsibility of the computer's owner (Of course all other applications software is already the owner's responsibility). Installation disks were apparently not provided with these machines, and therefore, N&C does not have the licenses for re-loading such software. So plan now to either back up your own basic loadset onto diskette, or to purchase your own installation disks for the basic loadset.

For any questions call the computer help desk at 582-3755.

Factoid

The record for the most infected files is 426, with various virii ranging from Word Macro Virus to VIRA.

Peace Corps

Peace Corps is your chance to live and work in another country. To learn new languages and customs, to make a difference in people's lives - and in your own.

Recruiters On Campus Next Week!

Information Meeting:
Wednesday, September 17, 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Building #44

For more info:
call 1-800-424-8580
Visit our web site at:
www.peacecorps.gov
The Voice of the Students: Creating Your Representation at CSUMB

by Ted Benbow

The Associated Students, or Student Voice, has been the body of student government at CSUMB since the university's first year of operation, and will be holding an election on September 22. This organization is intended to represent the concerns of all students, and in fact every CSUMB student is technically a member of Student Voice. There are presently 15 elected positions held by students on the “Board of Directors”, but any student with a desire to participate in student government at CSUMB is urged to take part in committees and help guide the course of events for students at this university. Probably more than at any other institution of higher learning in existence right now, students at CSUMB have the opportunity and the power to affect the way this school will develop. If large numbers of students get involved, then they will have a large impact on university policy. If only a few students involve themselves, well, you get the picture.

Meetings are held on Monday, from noon until about 1:30 in building 4, between Residence Halls 202 and 204. Attendance at these meetings is encouraged for all students, but staff and faculty are welcome also. In the first official meeting of the new semester, held on 9/8, all elected Student Voice representatives introduced themselves. The current members of the Student Voice Board of Directors are:

Bethina Woodridge- Executive Chair
Christopher Horton- Vice Chair and Judicial Director
Cari Maher- External Representative
Kristian Crump- Events Coordinator
Kathryn Ramirez- Political Senator
Angela Louie- Multicultural Senator
Sherice Weaver- Residential Life Senator
Steven Russell- Arts Senator
Kendra Herrington- Environmental and Campus Planning Senator
Zac Ige- Entrepreneurial Senator
Alicia Voyde- Technology Senator
Sarah Lerma- Upper Division Academic Senator
Juanita Perea-Jimenez- Lower Division Academic Senator

An election will be held on September 22 to fill the following two vacant positions: Public Relations Director, and Financial Manager. In addition, a referendum will be on the ballot to create stipends for the elected positions of Student Voice. Any student wishing to run for either of the vacant positions should pick up and complete an application for candidacy from Building 4 as soon as possible. Candidates are required to be currently enrolled in a minimum of 10 academic units for undergraduate students, six for graduate students, which must be maintained throughout the term. Candidates must have and maintain a G.P.A. of 2.0 or higher, and are allowed to have earned a maximum of 150 units for undergraduate students and 50 for graduate students. Qualified students are strongly encouraged to run for office and ALL students are urged to vote in the upcoming election. Remember, only students can make student government work, and only committed students can make student government fulfill its commitments.

Were you a cheerleader, song leader, or in a dance company? Do you have a positive attitude? Are you dedicated?

Audition for the CSUMB Dance Team!

The Dance Team began in the spring of 1996. Our style is a combination of jazz, hip-hop, and funk. We perform at basketball games and campus wide events. This summer we attended a Universal Dance Association (UDA) camp in Santa Barbara and practiced with dancers from other universities. We are geared towards intercollegiate competitive dance. Does this sound right up your alley? Auditions will be held on September 25th and 26th. For more information contact Sarah Lerma or Ericka Von Gunden via e-mail.
CSUMB Sports

Batter Up!
CSUMB’s baseball field begins to take shape

by Kevin Costarella

The Wellness, Recreation, and Sport Institute (WRSI) at CSUMB recently has started renovation on the baseball field located at 8th street and 4th avenue. This field was originally given to CSUMB when Fort Ord closed down and converted to a university. WRSI is working together with the Aldrete brothers, Rich and Mike, to develop the field and renovate it.

Rich and Mike Aldrete are both former professional baseball players who run a baseball camp in Salinas that is a non-profit organization within the community. The partnership between the Aldretes and CSUMB will result in the renovation both of the baseball field and, in the future, a softball field located below the music hall. In return, the Aldretes will be able to share use of the field and facilities with the university. The field will also be used in the future for soccer and rugby home games.

Forty-seven or so community volunteers from Salinas and Monterey, with their trucks and equipment, along with Rich Aldrete’s non-profit organization have already begun to irrigate the field, put up new fencing along the field, install lighting, and fix up the old dugouts. They will start to seed the field in the next couple of weeks. Along with the baseball field will be batting cages, study rooms for players, and bathrooms, which will be converted from the old cavalry buildings located right next to the field.

What is exciting about this field is that, during the period that Fort Ord was still operating, Army bases from around California would compete against each other. It is reported that Hall of Fame players such as Billy Martin, Jackie Robinson and Ted Williams played ball at this field while enlisted in the Army.

Unlike other buildings and classrooms here at CSUMB, sports facilities such as the Wellness Activity Center (WAC) and the baseball field were started on their own and were not in the school’s original budget. These facilities were made possible by Rick Humm, Director of WRSI, bobbi bonace, Athletic Director, Rich and Mike Aldrete, and the Monterey and Salinas community.

For further information about the baseball field or the WRSI, please feel free to call the WRSI Administration office at 582-3051.

CSUMB Otter, September, 1997

Otter Rugby- Ready to Rumble

by Ted Benbow

Last year, CSUMB fielded its first Rugby Team, one of only three official intercollegiate sport offerings at the university, along with Men’s Basketball and Women’s Volleyball. Winning their first match, against the prestigious Stanford team (okay, so it was Stanford’s J.V. squad), Otter Rugby began to develop an enthusiastic following among the entire CSUMB community. With a few wins, and some respectable losses, the Otters made a name for themselves as a spirited, scrappy bunch of beginners. In the words of Joshua Nimetz, a pioneer of CSUMB’s inaugural freshman class and current member of the Otter Rugby Team, “I think it’s pretty impressive that, in our foundation years, this university has been able to field teams that compete with much larger and better established schools.”

Coached by Rick Humm, a seasoned veteran of the sport of Rugby. His coaching credits include several years as the Collegiate All-Americans Assistant Coach, playing international competition including last year’s tour of Australia, Pacific Coast Collegiate Head Coach with five straight national championships, and coaching at UC Santa Cruz beginning in 1980. The Otter Rugby players look forward to another exciting season.

Now that players, many of whom had never set foot on a Rugby field before last year, have more experience, the future looks bright for this year’s squad.

Anyone interested in participating on CSUMB’s second Otter Rugby team should contact Coach Rick Humm via E-mail, or just come on down to the field for practice, held every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 4-6 PM at the field in Fredericks Park, right off Abrams Road.

Fall Semester is the time for new and inexperienced players to learn this, the international contact sport. About 10-20 dedicated “ruggers” have been preparing for the rigorous schedule planned for this season; additional players are always welcome, whatever their level of experience.
The Academic Skills Achievement Program, open to all students, provides the CSUMB community with tutorial services in the areas of writing, mathematics, science and computer technology. The program will employ active and collaborative learning strategies through the use of peer tutoring, study groups & study skills workshops.

**What do we offer?**

**Drop-in tutoring**
Come by the ASAP offices during drop-in tutoring hours and get help immediately with your assignments, research and study skills.

**Appointment tutoring**
Students may sign up for half-hour appointments. We encourage students who feel they need additional help to request a weekly appointment or join a study group.

**Study groups**
Coordinators and lead tutors will organize special study groups of 3-5 students for classes that have been targeted by their teachers and students as requiring additional assistance.

**What subjects do we tutor?**
- Writing
- Computer Technology
- Chemistry
- ESSP/Science
- Math/Statistics

**Where are we located?**
Building 12 (entrance to the right of the library, behind World Languages)

**Where do I get more information?**
582-4104
Jennifer Astone, Program Coordinator at 582-4217
(please call 582-3863 for language tutorials)

---

### The New Campus Shuttle!

**By Jay McTaggart and Zeb Walters**

Last Monday, September 8, the Campus Shuttle Service implemented changes in their services. These small changes are due to the requests of riders and the amount of use the service received during the first two weeks of school. The previous shuttle that served the Campus Loop has been eliminated, but don't worry. The elimination of the Campus Shuttle Service will provide a more efficient Housing Loop service.

The green colored shuttle schedules are available on all shuttle buses, in the Housing Office, at the Campus Bookstore, the Library, and other sites throughout the campus. It can also be found on First Class and QuickMail.

The Housing Loop now provides stops once every twenty minutes, rather than having riders wait thirty minutes for a bus. In addition, there is a five minute layover at the Fourth Avenue Transit Center to provide better connections with the MST buses.

The new Campus Shuttle Service now includes a stop at the VA Clinic. Shuttle service is available every twenty minutes from indicated shuttle stops, beginning at 6:50 AM with an express run from Fredericks Park to the MST connection on campus with no additional stops. Shuttle service will slow down after 6:30 PM. Monday through Thursday evenings and all day Friday due to low numbers of riders and shuttle vans. During these times, the Campus Shuttle Service will provide stops once every forty minutes rather than once every twenty minutes. The last shuttle available to bring riders out to the housing areas from campus will leave at 9:45 PM from the MST connection, stopping at parking lot 12 on the way.

For disabled riders, the Campus Shuttle Service offers a point-to-point (PTP) program. This service provides rides on campus for students, staff, and faculty with significant mobility impairments who require special transportation accommodations. The service is free of charge and runs the same hours as the shuttle service. For more information on the Campus Shuttle Services, please call the TAPS office in building 82E at 582-3573.

---

### Food for Thought:

**Learning to Share the Resources of the Monterey Bay**

**by Mary Petyten**

“SHOOT THE FURBAGS!” shouted angry fishermen. “DONOT EAT FISH!” retorted angry environmentalists....

Well, okay, maybe angry words didn’t fly in exactly that manner, but concerned (and yes, angry) parties met last month at the Monterey Convention Center, in an open forum discussion entitled, “The Search For Balance; Sea Lions, Salmon, and People”, to share (sometimes heated) views, question experts, and establish lines of communication about conflicts between sea lions, humans, and endangered species of fish.

Human interactions with California sea lions, the most populous pinniped off our coast, have increased as both populations have grown. The California Department of Fish and Game estimates that sea lions currently take two million dollars worth of fish yearly (some endangered salmon and other species), and cause heavy damage to gear, boats, and docks. In response to complaints, the National Marine Fisheries Service has issued a draft environmental impact statement suggesting ways of decreasing sea lion impacts in all areas of concern, including lethal and non-lethal deterrence.

A distinguished panel of experts consisting of fisheries representatives, scientists, environmentalists, and managers briefly characterized their standpoints on the conflicts for a crowd of about 200 interested people.

Zeke Grader, executive director of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen Associations, explained how sea lion and harbor seal conflicts have worsened in the salmon, squid and halibut fisheries. He expressed fishermen’s concern over sea lions’ take of endangered salmon stocks returning to spawn, stocks fishermen have worked hard to rebuild through funding hatchery programs and habitat restoration.

Margaret Burks, executive director of the Marine Mammal Center, firmly opposed lethal take of sea lions. She said that of the 400-500 sea lions rescued yearly between 1986 and 1996, 12% were shot, usually in the head and eyes. She said that sea lions were an important indicator species for the health of the oceans, and that 25% of the animals rescued had carcinomas, and some also had skin diseases caused by PCB’s.

Vicki Nichols, executive director of the preservationist group Save Our Shores, said conflicts were caused primarily by salmonid habitat destruction, and also by poor management. She said that if salmon habitat were given the same protection as sea lions receive under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, salmon stocks would not be depleted and could easily feed a population of California sea lions growing at a rate of 5-10% per year, as well as support salmon fisheries. Powerful big money interests who gained through destruction of salmonid habitat (i.e. timber companies and power companies, among others) were amused by this public forum, she warned, and she urged the public to get to the root of the matter to enact lasting change.

After lengthy public comment, the discussion concluded that the protection and restoration of salmonid habitat in river-ocean ecosystems was most important, followed by stream-specific removal of rogue sea lions during critical spawning runs. But as biologist Andrew Trites said, “The Earth’s food webs are all interconnected in indirect ways, and their interdependencies are unpredictable.”

Our understanding of what happens when we meddle with ecosystems is very limited, and research into the “interconnectedness” of all earth systems may really be the most important priority of all.

---

### Counseling Center of CSUMB now open to students

**By Jennifer C. Wilson**

The Personal Growth and Counseling Center provides students with basic mental health counseling services, including individual counseling, group work, clinical evaluation and ongoing support. All counseling is confidential, referrals can be made to community resources.

The Personal growth and Counseling Center is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday's from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and is located in Building 99 at the Campus Health Center. Appointments can be made by calling 582-3965.

---

**Get Tutorial Help ASAP**

The Academic Skills Achievement Program, open to all students, provides the CSUMB community with tutorial services in the areas of writing, mathematics, science and computer technology. The program will employ active and collaborative learning strategies through the use of peer tutoring, study groups & study skills workshops.
The Otter Limits

By Marc J. Oehlman

As I sit here on the beach, watching the late afternoon sun slowly die from the early evening fog that is rolling in, I reflect somewhat (in between sips of beer... OK... GULPS!! Sheesh!!) on the first day of classes here at the start of the third year of CSUMB. I, of course, ditched all of my classes today, and spent most of the day thinking of creative (and believable!) ways to explain away my absence to my professors. An example of my high-powered thought process is something like, “I was kidnapped by single students on Trenton and Princeton and forced to drink 43 Coors Light Os and listen to Green Day, The Sex Pistols, AND The Violent Femmes at a decibel level that would sterilize an ordinary laboratory otter!” By the way, I deny everything!

People are always kidding around, saying funny stuff like “life is a beach”! Hahaha! I don’t get it? Do they mean life is easy and sunny, or do they mean life is a gritty process, requiring determination and perseverance? The second sounds way too hard, so it is disallowed on the basis that life around here is hard enough already (hmm, which party to attend tonight..). However, if one says “CSUMB is a beach”, then we are on to something, or in my case, on something which is more than likely marginally illegal, seeing how I mix my adult consumables.

Yes, life here is like a beach, and I will tell you why. Of course, all of us have been to the beach at one time or another, save for those few Arkansas unfortunates who think wallowing in a mud hole after a thunderstorm is as good as it gets! But think about it! I know... school just started and I am telling you to think! Arrrghh!! Normally, this would require me to be flogged, spanked (hopefully by a dark-haired mysterious babe), apologize publicly via Open Forum, and then throw a kegger for my neighbors on Antietam Ct. and the other miscellaneous types who will wander in (that gang on Trenton can hear a beer being opened within 150 meters- you have been warned!) Never-the-less, I am sure you can recall those unfortunate times where you had hot dogs liberally flavored with sand and relish; the warm beer in which a suicidal, alcoholic fly decided to pull a Kevorkian, and of course, the traffic, crowds, over-priced cotton candy, and the 18 miles of hot asphalt you walked over in bare feet. Actually, thinking about all of this probably makes you a hardened veteran worthy of a financial grant, or in the least, a lawsuit against those powers who “forced” you while under GREAT mental duress, to go to the beach!

So where does that leave us? You still with me? Wow, you do have too much time on your hands! It leaves me here at the beach, where I am now imbibing another adult beverage which is helping chase down my adult smoke, which in turn, helps me de-stress from my adult life. Nah, not really, but it sure isn’t as easy as I want it to be! Which is why I am writing this for you newbies who found no classes that you recognized, and those that were vaguely familiar, were either canceled or full! In addition to welcoming you to this wild and wacky place, where parties are more organized than the curriculum and where there are more computers than students (notice there are 44 sections of Tech Tools 1 ), I am also warning you of the following things. If you don’t acknowledge them, too bad. If you do, too bad and good luck! Here are just five of them:

If you choose to drive and park anywhere in this area, be aware that the national deficit is being financed by parking fines collected by CSUMB, the Federal Police, and the assorted police agencies in the greater Monterey Peninsula area! This means that you can only park where there is a legible sign with flashing neon lights saying that it is permissible to do so. Beware of the fine print (no parking here under any circumstances save for the sighting of Elvis kissing Marilyn Monroe on the third Tuesday of any month ending in “Y” on the fourth consecutive sunny day in a leap year after the year 2003.)

If you use a Mac, you will notice these items quickly- they crash a lot- they cost too much- they crash a lot- they cost too much- OS 8 isn’t much better than OS 7.6-oh yeah, they crash too much and cost a lot!

In creating a learning plan, you will find that the courses you need to take are not offered.

The rent will increase with a 27 hour notice.

The phrase “we are looking into the matter” will be used more than “that course will be offered sometime in the future”!

So there you have it campers! I am fond of quoting illustrious students of our time, one of which is the immortal Zonker Harris of Doonesbury fame, who uttered this line in response to his ditching of classes- “I went to a class last week- it didn’t work out”. You got that right. Peace.