Superfund Forum: Bringing More Questions Than Answers

by Marisa Mercado

"People are concerned, and rightly so," said Gail Youngblood of the Army Environmental Office. She was speaking as a member of the panel at the Superfund Forum, held at noon on Monday the 26th in the CSUMB Music Hall. The forum left many of the participants still searching for answers. The forum began with a rundown of the facts surrounding Fort Ord’s status as a Superfund site, given by Youngblood, who spoke the most for the panel. There were forty-three individual sites within the base, which range from CWA (No Action sites) to operable (contaminated cleanup sites) which were chosen because of suspicion of contamination. As the panel began to open up to questions, three issues pre-dominated: potential lead poisoning and air contamination, the safety of drinking water, and the effects of prescribed burns. The panel devolved into a tennis match, with questions and replies shot over a net of disbelief. CSUMB student Freedan Burnstead raised the question of air quality and potential lead contamination. The panel replied that "the army is required to do air monitoring. Lead is a long term, not acute effect, so they monitored based on a thirty day standard." "Aren’t there contradictions if the army is doing its own testing?" asked another student. "The laboratories are checked," was the reply. Then an audience participant queried, “Isn’t in their interest not to find something?” "The liability that a company could accrue is enormous. It is not in their best interests to lie. That could be criminal," was the terse retort. There was a volley of questions by the audience after the air monitoring system was explained. One monitoring unit is at the base of a hill at "average breathing height" while the landfill and downwind housing units are on top of hills. Another monitor is upwind. The locations were deemed acceptable by the Air District. "What if dust lands on kids toys?" "If the testing is at the average height of a person, what about the second stories of the houses?" "My neighbor says she sees lead in the dust of her windowills. Is there a nonbiased independent source of testing?" "Is anyone representing the citizens?" Kurt Gandy, of the Fort Ord Toxics Project, responded "No, we are not allowed to have independent scientists come and do tests, the only thing we’re allowed to do is take the data provided from the lab and ask them to base conclusions on that." - Gail Youngblood, Army Environmental Office.

Dia De Los Muertos Celebration a Success:
CSUMB Community Gathers to Remember Those Who Have Gone Before Us

by Kirsten Maranda

Monday, November 2, was a chilly fall night, and the perfect evening for the celebration of Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. Many members of the CSUMB community and their families gathered at the Visual and Public Arts (VPA) Center to commemorate the lives of those who have died. This holiday, celebrated widely throughout the Mexican culture, was enjoyed by a diverse group of people. The event began with face painting and a social gathering. Everyone was invited to be decorated with black and white paint resembling a skeleton, a symbol representative of death. Candles were given out and the group was assembled. The Whitehawk Dancers then joined in the celebration. They were a group of many members in full traditional costume including feather pieces and a drum circle. In the cold of a Monterey night, they seemed to be radiating warmth, even though some were barely clothed. These dancers were wildly enthusiastic and their movements were exciting and captivating. The group of participants was then led in a candlelight procession across the street to the Divarty quad on campus. There, the square of lawn was decorated with candles and altars set up in respect and remembrance of loved ones. The Whitehawk Dancers continued their performance, while everyone was able to admire the altars and even contribute a personal belonging or a name of someone they knew as tribute. Perhaps the most heartfelt moment of the night was when many students and staff came forward to publicly announce the name of someone who they were remembering. It was a lovely tribute.

The night continued with music from a traditional blessing by the Whitehawk Dancers at the November 2 Dia De Los Muertos gathering.

A traditional blessing by the Whitehawk Dancers at the November 2 Dia De Los Muertos gathering.

photo by Jen Coppens

CSUMB's Student Run University Newspaper

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CSUMB Vision Statement Finds New Venue

Local Students to Benefit from University Scholarships

Thanks to a caring and involved community, CSUMB has found another way to serve historically under-educated and low-income populations in the tri-county area.

By this time next year, a number of local junior high school students will have scholarships to local minority students who might otherwise have been unable to attend college.

Though ESSP has only very recently hired program coordinator Carlos Gonzales to work on the scholarship program, it promises to provide "amazing opportunities" for its recipients, according to McClellan.

Deer are a more noticeable, but less threatening, animal around CSUMB as well. Since it is mating season, the male deer chases the female deer and they end up in the roads.

"For example, we may be able to develop internship possibilities and tutorial programs for these students. We may also bring them on campus for a "Hands-On Science Week" and other activities," said McClellan.

The scholarships could pay for a significant portion, if not all, of the students’ university education.

"We had to commit without any guarantee of the future," said Shnck, "They want the University to commit their resources... As a University, we need to sit down and say, 'is this going to be something that's just graduate work. It's a lot easier to make yourself look as large as possible...throw stones, branches or whatever you can reach without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak firmly in a loud voice. The idea is to convince the mountain lion that you are not prey and that you may be a danger to it.

The SPCA of Monterey County informs that "hit the deer at high speed can cause accidents and injuries to motorists."

Lemo acknowledged the lack of graduate students into the sciences is a challenging thing, but securing supportive funding from a newness and allowed that there could be no avoidance of such difficulties.

"It’s a tough road for them," Aston admitted. "CSUMB is really fortunate. The students are great contributors to our educational environment."

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- Jennifer Astone

As many people may have noticed, this is a big time of year that wild animals are spotted on or near roads and housing areas. Here at CSUMB especially, we have an abundance of areas where animals dwell, and often they appear where they normally shouldn’t be. It is deer mating, or rutting season, and because of this, motorists and pedestrians alike need to keep an extra careful eye out for wild creatures.

On of the biggest risks that people face when coming in contact with wildlife, is hitting them with a car. This can damage auto to an automobile, the driver, and especially the animal. On any day or night in the lush areas of Fort Ord, like Intergarrison Road, it is likely an animal can be spotted on or near the road.

But consider the deer, they are a more noticeable, but less threatening animal around CSUMB as well. Since it is mating season, sometimes the male deer chases the female deer and they end up in the roads. The SPCA of Monterey County informs that "hit the deer at high speed can cause accidents and injuries to motorists."

When traveling in areas where deer live, like Fort Ord, it is important to use caution and occasionally observe the sides of the road for movement. If you see a deer, slow down, if possible, to avoid these animals and do not pay attention to their surroundings.

If you do happen to hit and injure a deer or any other animal please contact the SPCA immediately at 373-2631.

"For example, we may be able to develop internship possibilities and tutorial programs for these students. We may also bring them on campus for a "Hands-On Science Week" and other activities," said McClellan.

The scholarships could pay for a significant portion, if not all, of the students' university education.

Newly hired program coordinator Carlos Gonzales will probably spend eight or nine months developing the scholarship program. McClellan believes that the first scholarships may be awarded in fall of 1999.

"We get calls from all over the world. They’re interested in the program. It’s the quality we’re concerned with now," Wang said.

A full proposal for the new program is due to the Dean’s Council by December of 1999. Until then, the program will continue to provide for its current student population but will not enlarge it.

Wang is new to his duties this semester. Previous Director Miguel Tirado recently resigned and the University is not sure whether it will conduct a national search to fill the position or retain an Interim Director presently.

Lemo had only praise for her instructors, advisors, and director, "(Quin Wang) is absolutely wonderful. So positive. He emails us to find out what we need. He cares."

Wild Life Invasion

by Kirsten Maranda

Recently in the Fredericks Park housing area, a mountain lion was spotted. This has brought the issue of wildlife awareness even closer to home. The exact area it was seen was first near Intergarrison, towards East Garrison, and then again on the soccer field in the Fredericks’ II area. No one was injured and no damage was reported, but this could be a scary situation, just the same.

"It's the principle of the thing," said Shenk, "They want the University to commit their resources... As a University, we need to sit down and say, "is this going to be something that's just graduate work. It's a lot easier to make yourself look as large as possible...throw stones, branches or whatever you can reach without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak firmly in a loud voice. The idea is to convince the mountain lion that you are not prey and that you may be a danger to it."

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CSUMB Activities

Blood Drive at CSUMB

by Troy Martin

The Monterey Community Hospital came to the CSUMB campus October 29th. Parked in lot sixteen, in front of the Dining Commons, was the hospital’s Blood Drive.

If there are 100 people in a room...

-46 people will be O blood type (39 will be O Rh Positive)
-3 people will be O Rh Negative
-40 people will be A blood type
-34 will be A Rh Positive
-6 will be A Rh Negative
-10 people will be B blood type (8 to 9 will be B Rh Positive)
-1 to 2 will be B Rh Negative
-4 people will be AB blood type (Almost all of them will be AB Rh Positive)
-Only 1 person out of 200 will be AB Rh Negative

Bus, sitting patiently, large and white, ready to accept any student courageous or compelled enough to enter.

"Tell them it’s practically painless" encouraged Nancy Bell, registered nurse, one of the available nurses that day in the Blood Bus. "You know, only seven percent of the people who actually can give blood do.

The Monterey Community Hospital has been coming to CSUMB quarterly, nearly as long as the school has been operating as a campus. The Blood Drive’s program takes much of its pride from the fact that one hundred percent of its supplied blood comes from the Monterey community itself. That means that the Blood Program is continually on the move, circulating from town to town and school to school, in its goal of maintaining the needed quota.

With the legacy of supporting the community from the community, the hospital is constantly encouraging Monterey County residents to be active with and aware of the program. To encourage donors to give more than once a year the hospital also created the "4 Seasons Club," carried along by the motto "Blood for every season." The club, running under the rule that a donor is able to donate every eight weeks (twice the time needed for the recovery of the given blood) is able to have any eligible individual donate, at best, six times a year.

In fact, for any aspiring donors all the program requires is that they be over seventeen, at least 110 pounds, free from any sickness, and able to meet a mandatory health history questionnaire. The staff strives to make the whole process as easy, painless, and safe as possible.

When an individual leaves the bus after the required fifteen-minute wait, they still have the ability to function in a reasonable manner, though deprived of a pint of blood. The body immediately begins to re-supply itself.

What happens is fluid balance in the blood stream is replaced from the body tissue. Body chemicals and antibodies are replaced from storage areas in the body within hours. White blood cells are replaced within a few days, platelets in eight to nine. Finally, and perhaps the most slow-footed is the red blood cells which take approximately two to four weeks for the body to replace. As a whole, though, all these components are created in abundance daily by the body.

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Beach to Bottom in Monterey Bay

by Mary Patyten

On November 17, Lovell and Libby Langstroth will share their fantastic underwater photography and understanding of our local marine environment during their presentation of "From Beach to Bottom in Monterey Bay.

The mid-November event will feature a magnificent photographic tour of Monterey Bay, beginning in the intertidal region, going through kelp forests to the magnificent photographic tour of our local amrine environment during their inhabitants and fantastic organisms diving forays have yielded a breathtaking show.

"We've had some wonderful opportunities open up for us to take classes with some truly great people" Lovell said. "It's been an absolute delight to see the people who actually can give blood for the fourth time within the last year."

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in which sleep deprivation plays an active role.
Kirsten Maranda, a senior and Human Communication major, works two jobs, one
at night in addition to the 19 units she takes. A 30 to 40 hour work week is normal for
her.

When asked about her study habits, Maranda replied, "I study at work, between
classes, late at night, early in the morning, or pretty much whenever I get a free
moment... I often have to put things off or
sacrifice sleep to get my school work done." It is a phenomenon how these students
balance their lives. Where do they find the
time to do things like grocery shop or hang
out with friends? Noreen Ryan, a junior and
Liberal Studies major, is working twenty
hours a week at night for the Dream
Theater and is also going to
school full time.
"Ha! Social life? Can you spell
that? I have no social life. My
priorities are school and work,
in that order, and they are way
too demanding for me to have
much of a social life. I do nec-
nessary things like grocery shop
about once a month whenever I
have free time," Ryan replied.
Many students who work nights
also work weekends and conse-
quently have a very quiet social
life. They spend all their free
time sleeping, doing homework,
or recoping from their stressful
week. Many see 24 hour estab-
lishments such as the Media Learning Complex, Kinko's,
and Taco Bell as beacons amidst
the chaos in their lives.
Some seek refuge in stress relax-
ation techniques such as going to
the Wellness Activity Center and
taking advantage of their sauna.
Or perhaps curling in classes such as
Yoga or Tai Chi, both of which are offered by
CSUMB.
These outstanding students know what
it's like to work hard and struggle in this
chaotic life we call college. They should be
commended for the roles that they play in
our society and the example they set for
future students who plan to do the same.

Life Off Campus
"I Like the Night Life, Baby"
by Kirsten Maranda

When the sun goes down at the end of a
busy day, for many of us at CSUMB, the
fun of real life begins. This is the time
when many college students head off to work, to
night classes, or to take care of all those
craziness that the light hours just don't allow
for. A large majority of our student popula-
tion here have part time jobs and maintain
full loads of classes at the same time. This
in itself is an admirable feat, but for many
Otters, it is just another day in their life.
So, you attend classes, and write papers
day and night. Then you hit a few meetings or
maybe a club event, and after that put in
some solid hours at a job. But what about
for you? What about all those things
you need or want to do that just don't
revolve around your time schedule? Well,
maybe these suggestions can help you get
some things done at a time that works for
you.

First of all, have you looked inside your
refrigerator lately? How long is that groc-
ery list looking? You probably keep
putting it off until you have the time, right?
Well, make the time. Several Safeway
stores in Seaside, Monterey, and Pacific
Grove are open 24 hours a day. If you hit
the aisles late at night, chances are, there
will be hardly anyone there and no lines to
wait. You can get what you need and get
out quickly.

Do you ever find yourself at the end of a
night of work or school realizing you have
a paper due the next day or a test you forgot to study for?
For a late night cram session or computer access, The
Media Learning Complex (MLC) on campus in build-
ing 18 stays open 24 hours on
Wednesdays and Saturdays.
You can also try a local coffee house,
restaurant, or bookstore that has late night
hours, or even a trendy "cyber-cafe". Morgan's Coffeehouse in downtown
Monterey stays open until 10:00 p.m. on
weeknights. They have a cozy atmosphere
and lots of caffeine.
Border's bookstore in Sand City has late
hours and you can browse the shelves and
read some of their books while you are
there. They have a separate, quiet café area
that's a perfect place to get some work
done.
In seaside, there's a new "cyber-cafe" with
computers available for use at hourly
rates. The best part about a place like this is
that you can munch on a snack or sip some
coffee right next to your keyboard.
Tilie Gor's Cafe in Pacific Grove on
Central Ave. serves until 10:30 P.M. every-
day and study sessions are definitely
acceptable. The big wooden tables are
often used as desks for laptop comput-
ers that people bring in. They offer healthy
vegetarian and lots of coffee drinks.
For some other chores in the back of your
mind that you just keep putting off, you can
get them completed in the dark of night.
Have you noticed how dirty your car is
lately? Seaside has a do-it-yourself car
wash on Fremont Ave. That is always open.
Kinko's copy centers are also a good
place to get some tasks accomplished. They
close and offer many services includ-
ing faxes, copies, mailing, computer use,
and stationary supplies.

Finally, you want or
need to work out, right?
Well, instead of excusing
yourself because the gym
closing, there is a 24
Hour Fitness Center located in Salinas. It is
just that, and offers some pretty decent rates.
For many of you, it may always seem that there
are not enough hours in the day and you just have
to steal some form the
night. However busy you are, or whenever you
get your deeds done, it always helps to make a
list and set timelines for yourself to follow. Don't
overload yourself, but try
to get the most important things in your life accom-
plished.
No matter when you do
what you need to do,
don't forget to savor
some moments for your
self. Everyone needs a
break, a good night's
sleep, and an occasional
drink breath. So, go
to class, get some work
done, tackle that research
paper, buy your groc-
eries, fold some laundry,
oh, and try to have some

College is the best time of your life,
right? Don't forget to keep it that way.
Earth passes through peak intensity of the meteor shower. For example, appear to come from the direction of the constellation Leo the Lion.

It's not necessary to buy an expensive telescope or binoculars in order to view a meteor shower. All one needs is one's eyes. Just go out to a dark place, like a secluded part of Fort Ord, or, even better, the peak of a local mountain like Fremont's Peak, and look up. The meteors will be easily visible as they shoot across the sky. One could also make a night of it by taking along a warm friend, and lie down looking up.

Some of the brighter meteors will leave glowing trails, which will endure between several seconds to several minutes. The night sky will light up with hundreds or even thousands of meteors. A meteor shower becomes a storm when the rate becomes greater than one meteor per second or more than 10 per hour. Whether this year's Leonid shower becomes a Leonid storm is yet to be seen, but it is certainly possible. Most Leonid meteors will be visible between November 13th and 20th of each year, with the peak on November 17. A solar eclipse moves around the sun, it passes through the orbits of many comets. The Leonid meteors are associated with the comet Tempel-Tuttle, which has an orbit of 33 years. Thus the meteor showers peak every 33 years. In most years, the Leonids are a rather insignificant meteor shower. However, in 1966, the Leonid rate rose as high as 2000 per hour. Tempel-Tuttle made a close approach to the sun on February 28, 1998. Since the comet nucleus so recently passed by, this year (and next) will probably see a much larger than usual Leonid storm.

Meteors are not stars. Stars are trillions of miles away and are huge nuclear-power superheated gasbells like our own Sun. Most meteors are generally small bits of dust, rock or metal ranging in size from dust particles to a few inches across. There are undoubtedly many smaller meteors that vaporize without being seen. There are also a few much larger that may even survive to land on Earth and become meteorites. A good example of a large meteorite impact can be found alongside U.S. Interstate highway 40 in central Arizona at the mile-wide Meteor Crater. Nothing like that is expected from this meteor shower. Indeed few, if any, bits of this meteor shower are expected to survive the trip to Earth's surface, so don't worry. THIS IS NOT ARMAGEDDON!!!

The last time the Earth passed through the peak of the Leonids was on November 17th, 1966. A tremendous storm of tens of thousands of meteors was seen by skywatchers.

According to Dennis Milton, an observer then at Kitt Peak in Southern Arizona, "The meteors were so intense that we were guessing how many could have been seen in a one-second sweep of the observers' head... A rate of about 150,000 per hour was seen for about 20 minutes."

As the Earth moves around the sun, it passes through the orbits of many comets. The Leonid meteors observed in November 1966 were composed of material from Halley's Comet. In 1983, an intense Leonid meteor storm was observed by Charles' wife who wrote in The Victorian Astronomer, "On the night of November 12-13, 1833, a tempest of falling stars broke over the Earth... The sky was clouded in every direction with shining tracks and illuminated with majestic fireballs. At Boston, the frequency of meteors was estimated to be about half that of snowflakes in an average snowstorm. Their numbers... were quite beyond counting; but as it was night, no one was up who was not already, from which it was computed, on the basis of that much-diminished rate, that 240,000 must have been visible during the nine hours they were in evidence. The Pawnee nation watched the meteors without fear because of their legend of the man Palenkee, who was converted to Christianity by his enemies, he was revived by the gods and told the Pawnee not to fear falling stars, for they were messengers of the world's end. However the spectacular 1833 meteor storm was terrifying to many non-Pawnee. In the dark days before electric light and telecommunications, the effect was tremendous. Many huddled in superstition fear of the unknown blazing night sky. The United States experienced a major religious revival sparked in part due to this "heavenly" sign.

Unfortunately for those of us in the Monterey Bay Area, the best view of the Leonids this year will probably be in Japan and east Asia. The Earth is predicted to pass through the peak of the storm at noon, Tuesday, November 17th when it will be early morning in Japan. The most intense part of the storm will last only a few hours, but there should still be pretty good shows here both the morning of the 17th and the evening of the 18th. The constellation Leo is high in the sky at about 2:00 a.m. local time.

The club works to heighten the awareness that discrimination against students on the basis of disability is prohibited in programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. Membership to AFSD is open to all students with or without a disability. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires that: "No qualified disabled person shall, on the basis of disability, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which receives or benefits from Federal financial assistance."

The Association for Students with disabilities (AFSD) is a student club which advocates for the rights of people with disabilities. A Civil Rights Act (ADA), a Civil Rights Act that went into effect in 1990.

AFSD has sponsored a fund raising campaign to support scholarships for students with disabilities at CSUMB. Many ADA issues have been resolved and services have been established through the Student Disability Resources (SDR). Markate Keith, the SDR coordinator, has done a commendable job developing the SDR supportive services for these students at CSUMB.

AFSD has sponsored a fund raising campaign to create scholarships for students with disabilities at CSUMB. The Van Gogh Technical group, from Atlanta, Georgia, started the scholarship fund raising.

The AFSD is also collaborating with Student Services to sell the 1999 Entertainment Book. The books are available from the Financial Aid Office in Building 23, and from members of the AFSD club.

Bonnie Brown from Student Services states, "Watch for announcements on General News and for flyers telling when the books will be sold in the quad, too." The proceeds from the sale of these books will be used to purchase Entertainment Books. The proceeds will benefit the Student Emergency Loan Fund and the Scholarships for Disabled Students.

AFSD president Connie O'Keane states, "With Christmas just around the corner, the 1999 Entertainment Book makes a great gift for family and friends on the Monterey Peninsula." Book sales will end the week before Christmas.

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For further information about Association for Students with disabilities (AFSD), you may contact Connie O'Keane at: connie_odea@monterey.edu or call her at 884-0965 or you may contact Samuala Pry at: samual apry@monterey.edu or call her at 394-4196.
CSUMB Opinions

EDITORIAL:

CSUMB is a quiet campus with relatively few nocturnal activities, especially for those under the age of 21. There is a zero tolerance rule for alcohol consumption by minors. There are serious repercussions for illegal drinkers, and write-ups or warnings slips being handed out like candy on Halloween. Students under 21 are stuck between a rock and a hard place; having fun is no longer as easy as buying a six pack.

There is some programming of activities designed to include, and sometimes even geared toward, individuals who are not of drinking age. However, these types of events are few and far between. Perhaps one solution to the problem would be talking to local establishments and/or working with the office of Residential Learning to create an "under 21 club". Whatever the approach, one thing seems clear: if students under the legal age limit are expected not to drink, there had better be an interesting alternative.

Whether or not students enjoy themselves is their own responsibility. There is fun to be had at CSUMB; just have it make it happen! Don't wait for the administration to put something together for you, take some initiative and get involved! Like the old saying goes, "if you want something done right, do it yourself!"

Notes From the Editor

"Dedicated to informing a Multicultural Community" is the new motto for the Otter Realm. This week the Otter Realm has been given a face-lift and shows-off its brand new seal, or since this is CSUMB, its brand new "otter.

The new seal signifies important goals I have set for the Otter Realm staff as the Editor-in-Chief. The first goal is to become a self sustaining and self-supporting newspaper. The second is to serve as a multicultural newspaper. Both may not be accomplished during my time here, but are worth laying the groundwork for.

The seal represents our commitment to finding our own space on this campus, separate from administration and all other organizations. Our top priority is to inform and get the news out to the CSUMB community. Our goal is to focus on all community interests including faculty, staff, administration and student concerns. Now, we have an official seal of our own to represent our attempt for our independence. Of course, there will be much more for our staff to accomplish before completely sustaining ourselves, but this is a beginning.

As for informing the CSUMB community, my most important task is to find out who that community is. CSUMB is considered a multicultural community, with a population of different ethnicities including a 25% Latino/Mexican American/Hispanic, 6.6% Asian American/Filipino/Pacific Islander, 4.5% African American, 2.9% American Indian, 44.5% Caucasian and 16.6% of other backgrounds. There is also 63% females and 37% males.

I cannot know what each group or individual on this campus may want to know about or what may be important to them. It is my job and my staff's job to find out. We are dedicated to opening ourselves to a diverse staff, and to finding out the interests of everyone. It is my passion and that of my dedicated staff to keep this magazine in my mind throughout my days and weeks as your Editor-in-Chief. Please, help me in letting me know how I am doing!

I salute my dedicated staff in making the Otter Realm become a weekly and the patience of the CSUMB community for giving us the time to grow.

Susan H. Nisonger
Editor-in-Chief

Opinions Policy

The Otter Realm is a bi-monthly student publication produced by the Otter Realm club and HCOM 305. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Otter Realm staff, CSUMB administration, faculty, staff or college policy.

The Otter Realm serves two purposes: it is a training lab for students who wish to learn journalism skills, and it is a forum for free expression of campus issues and news. The Opinion section is open for students, staff, faculty, and college community. The Otter Realm editorial Board will determine what to print on these pages. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for libel, space or clarity.

Letters To the Editor

Dear Editor,

A social injustice occurred here at CSUMB Thursday night when a person attending a party on Antietam Ct. backed into my vehicle and fled the scene without leaving any pertinent information. The goal of this campus is to instill community spirit and moral justice in all of its students. I'd like to ask this driver if this were to happen to His/her vehicle, wouldn't He/She want to be compensated for the accident? Someone had to be with this person, or in the vicinity when the accident occurred. Understand, my focus is not to judge this person, I just want justice. I would appreciate a anonymous phone call, or an e-mail, if anyone has information about the driver. I drive a Black 1999 F250 Ford truck, and I don't want my insurance rates to go up. I would rather negotiate with this person one on one. I won't press charges, I just want the bill to be paid for the damages done. I hope that some one in the community will come forward. You can leave an anonymous message at 582-0137.

Thank-you,
Cary Smallwood

Dear Editor,

A KSBW news broadcast on October 26th confirmed test well contamination next to a drinking water well on Fort Ord. Miscalculation, misinformation, and deception characterizes the environmental water thermometer at the CSUMB Ft Ord identification and clean up operation. CSUMB students were never officially told that they were applying to attend school at a Superfund site before coming here, but they were told that health insurance was mandatory. The Army has repeatedly denied the existence of chemi­
cal weapons ever being used here on Fort Ord. Recently I was contacted by a for­mer field soldier, Ken Roswell (from New York) who was stationed here in during the Vietnam conflict. He emphatically stated that there were chemical weapons present here on base, and that they were part of his training.

The fact is that toxic chemicals such as trichloroethylene (TCE), tetrachloroethylene and chlorofluorocarbons have been detected in ground water 180 feet down (beneath the Frederick's Park Parcel). The amount found, 6 micrograms per liter, exceeded the EPA's maximum amount of VOC (organic compounds). (source: the Finding of Suitability to Transfer California State University Monterey Bay from the Former Fort Ord, April 1994). "Chemical agent identification sets (CAIS) were used at Fort Ord prior to 1974 for field training troops off 10th Street Gate Road past the landfill area near Edgewood, Maryland." (source: Internal Survey and Analysis Report, April 1974, Department of Defense, US Army Chemical Material Destruction Agency). Cont. on page 7

Opus

We neglected to mention: In the October 28th issue of the Otter Realm, the Opinions piece by Joya Chavarin was edited for space by Susan Nisonger.
Superfund Forum:

Cont. from front page

Finally a student asked directly, "as a public citizen, I want to be able to know if I wanted to get a sample for an independent source to test, would I be allowed?" Youngblood replied, "It's not really something I can answer right now."

Gandy broke out and said, "the RAB (Residential Advisory Board) is never allowed to advise until after the decisions have been made."

The planned burning was also discussed, and the prescribed burn plans were shared. There are a total of 8,150 acres, including 1,400 which are slated for future development.

A student pointed out that some of the burn sites are also hazardous waste sites. Youngblood replied that the burning would vaporize any harmful chemicals.

After the forum, the panel members stayed behind to answer individual questions. About half of the audience went up to talk with them. There were mixed feelings by the audience participants. Student Voice member Eric Shelburn said afterwards, "there is still a lot that needs to be addressed, especially about how they measured the air. I think they purposely set the monitors below the air flow."

Junior Adrian Rocha said, "It was pretty informative, and it was good that they stayed after. I got most of my questions answered, but it could have been more organized; it was pretty chaotic."

Student Assistant Don Kozlowski noted, "It would have been better if they focused on something, rather than issue after issue in a different forum. Bill Kilgore didn't get to speak at all. We didn't hear about the landfill gasses."

Student Lake Sachtleben still had unanswered questions, "Why doesn't the school address this? Why don't they tell incoming students? Why do they do air monitoring over a month long period instead of daily? Three times it highly exceeded the prescribed level. They did not choose monitoring based on health, but boundaries. That disturbed me because I don't feel like I have any rights in the situation."

Junior Amanda Irwin was concerned about the tone of the panel. She pinpointed the frustration of the audience when she remarked, "I felt like we heard more from the Army than anyone else."

Shelburn said afterwards, "there is still a lot that needs to be addressed, especially about how they measured the air. I think they purposely set the monitors below the air flow." Junior Adrian Rocha said, "It was pretty informative, and it was good that they stayed after. I got most of my questions answered, but it could have been more organized; it was pretty chaotic."

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Junior Amanda Irwin was concerned about the tone of the panel. She pinpointed the frustration of the audience when she remarked, "I felt like we heard more from the Army than anyone else, and they were really well rehearsed, like I was being lied to. It's interesting that much of what we found out was from Kurt Gandy, an outside source, and not from the school. I wish there was more diversity on the panel dealing with the issue. Knowledge, sarcasm, nothing we said could penetrate them."
# Happenings

## November

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## Sports Writers

**Contact**

**Sports Editor**

Kerri Conger

on FirstClass

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**Otter Realm November 1998**

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**Sports Writers Needed!**

**Contact**

Sports Editor

Kerri Conger

on FirstClass

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