ESSP's Steve Moore Barely Avoids Being Slammed by Deadly Hurricane

by Mary Patyten

"If things get lousy, slit open your mattress with your knife. Grab the insides with both your arms, lean against the walls, and let your mattress protect you from flying debris."

These were the instructions given to ESSP professor Steve Moore and other Oceanic Society Expedition researchers as they prepared for the arrival of Hurricane Mitch.

Moore had agreed to lead an Oceanic Society research project in place of UC Berkeley graduate student Kate Schafer, who was unable to go. He hoped that his participation in the project might open doors for CSUMB students to participate in Oceanic Society Expedition research in the future.

He never expected that the excursion might seriously threaten his life.

Moore arrived in Belize City, Belize on Sunday, October 25th. The struggling country of Belize is a small, Central American country predominately populated by the descendants of Spanish settlers, native Mayans and Creole African American slaves.

Belize was once a hub of Mayan Indian culture, whose legacy includes many temples and pyramids, which are slowly being reclaimed by the rain forest. At its peak, the Mayan Empire's presence in Belize was approximately four times as large as the country's current population. This makes Belize one of the few places on earth where the human population has actually decreased over the past 2000 years, according to Moore.

The day after Moore arrived in this laid-back, Creole-English speaking town, Hurricane Mitch was pronounced the Atlantic basin's fourth strongest hurricane ever, with sustained winds of 180 m.p.h. The Oceanic Society's research outpost was just a short boat ride from Belize City, on a secluded mangrove island known as Spanish Lookout Caye (pronounced "key" by Belizeans). Spanish Lookout's cabanas, built on stilts over the water, are within a mile of the world's second largest barrier reef.

An expert on tropical coral reef systems, Moore was to lead a research group monitoring the health of the reef by sampling stomatopods, small crustaceans known to be key reef health indicators.

"Coral reefs... are fabulously complicated structures that are home to a tremendously wide range of species, supply food and other resources for people, and help protect tropical coastal areas from storm damage," Moore said.

"The (coral reefs) exist today only because reef-building processes like coral growth have been able to outpace reef-destroying processes like erosion over many thousands of years. Changes over the...

cont. on page 11

AIDS Memorial Comes To CSUMB

Teddy bears and needlepoint, pictures and prize ribbons, birds, fish, stars, balloons, and handwritten messages decorated the thirty-two panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt displayed in the CSUMB Meeting House on Tuesday, December 1st, World AIDS Day.

The display was organized by the student club All In The Family (a gay and lesbian alliance and support group), and funded by the IACC and the Institute for Visual and Public Arts (VPA).

Taking their cue from the internationally recognized memorial day, All In The Family, together with Service Learning students, expanded the day into a week-long series of events to bring awareness about the AIDS pandemic to the student body.

The pivotal event of the week was the display of the Quilt. A donation to the Names Project Foundation is necessary to help maintain the panels and pay for transportation to and from viewing sites. The ever-growing quilt consists of over 41,000 panels that remember the names of over 79,700 AIDS victims from around the world.

By those numbers, the thirty-two panels that came to the Meeting House may seem small, but the feelings they touched off in visitors proved that each panel carries a strong message.

"That's thirty-two panels, and that's thirty-two that didn't have to be there. The more you look, the more it becomes real," said junior Rhapsody Flores, who volunteered to help with the viewing. "Every time I walk around I see something different."

The display was simple but the message was strong. In the muted light of the converted church, people walked around the panels that spread over most of the small floor space, and utilized the boxes of tissues provided.

The mood was solemn and one could imagine feeling a presence in the room of the people whose names were on display, whose memories lived on in the tender care that friends and family sewed into each panel, along with diverse personal mementos.

Students reacted to the display with reverence... cont. on page 11
CSUMB News

Political Activist Mel Mason Speaks Out

by Jan Hill, Sondra Rees and Mary Patyten

Former Black Panther Party member and long-time political activist Mel Mason was a guest speaker at CSUMB's Investigative Reporting class on Thursday, November 5.

Locally, Mason is Chair of the Coalition of Minority Organizations Community Task Force on Mental Health and Police Practices, co-founder of the Team for Justice, co-founder of the Pro-Democracy Education Fund, and is involved in many other organizations.

Mason's biography is so filled with action that it reads as if it covered five or six lives rather than one dynamic individual. His life as a political activist and civil rights warrior has led him to fight for workers rights and mentally disturbed patients' rights, and against apartheid and police brutality worldwide.

As a leading activist in the fight to free Mumia Abu-Jamal, Mason took the opportunity to raise awareness about the plight of this death-row prisoner Abu-Jamal is an award-winning journalist who many feel was wrongly convicted and sentenced to death for the 1981 murder of a Philadelphia police officer.

A former politically outspoken radio commentator, Abu-Jamal was also once a member of the Black Panther party, where he began his journalism career. He has received the Peabody Award and several other international awards for his investigative reporting, Mason told the class.

Abu-Jamal was framed for the murder of the Philadelphia police officer because he had exposed police discrimination and brutality in black Philadelphia communities, according to Mason. He said that the trial of Abu-Jamal was one of the worst to occur in the history of jurisprudence, and that Judge Sabo, who presided over the trial, sentenced more people to die than any other judge in American history.

According to Mason, eyewitness testimony and corroborating evidence that support Abu-Jamal's innocence were barred from the proceedings, and Abu-Jamal's involvement with the Black Panther Party was enough to convince Judge Sabo that Abu-Jamal had wanted to kill the officer. The circumstances of the case suggest that the United States is coming gravelly close to executing an innocent man simply because of his political beliefs, Mason said. He emphasized that Abu-Jamal "is getting near the end of his chain," and that only college campus demonstrations, grassroots outcry, and international pressure will stay his executioner.

Mason is a part-time advisor at CSUMB, and hopes to establish a "youth academy" on campus. The academy would offer weekend activities to inspire youth to continue their education, provide mentoring and other support services.

Last October, Mason was awarded the prestigious Ralph Atkinson Award for Lifetime Achievements in the field of civil rights by the American Civil Liberties Union of Monterey County.

Mason's family moved to the Monterey area when he was thirteen. He graduated from Monterey High School and attended Monterey Peninsula College, where he still holds the basketball all-time scoring and rebounding records. Mason earned a B.A. in Social Science from Golden Gate University, and a master's degree in Social Work from San Jose State University.

Passing the Stress Test

Students Cope With Finals and Holidays

by Marisa Mercado

Across America, stress levels are rising as the holidays near. People are worried about gift giving, holiday travel, reuniting with relatives, and spending and eating too much. But at CSUMB, these woes are engulfed by finals. Many students are too preoccupied with school to even notice the holiday spirit unfolding around them.

In the Multimedia Learning Center, stress is running at an all time high, twenty four hours a day. Students are spending nights camped in front of computers, taking advantage of the extended hours in the lab.

"I'm tearing my hair out. All my finals are at once and it's all coming together at the end of the semester and it's all crazy. I'm just so tired!" said junior Michelle Ordonia, offering a typical student response to the freight train rush of finals.

Computer Science and Technology (CST) junior Jennifer Cutright is an example of a student who has lost touch with the outside world. She succinctly responds when questioned if she is stressed with a heavily sighed, "Yes."

With four projects and two papers to complete, and allnighters ahead and behind, is she on top of it? "No." All her energy seems reserved for the challenge she faces, as evidenced by the long pause and confused expression in response to a question of how many classes she has.

Finally she said, "I'm taking 21 units... that's five classes!"

Other students practice procrastination and risk failing grades. Like masqueraders attempt to ignore the onslaught of bubonic plague outside their castle walls in some gothic poem, some students revel in end semester beer binges and partying. This is not an effective way to cope with stress.

The key to restoring peace of mind lies in prioritizing and time management, according to Gary Rodriguez of Life Savers, a non-profit group affiliated with the Personal Growth and Counseling Center. In the stress management workshops he leads for freshman seminar classes, he focuses on "prioritizing what absolutely has to be done right now as opposed to putting it off. With finals and holidays, we forget to take care of ourselves, not only emotionally but physically. This is a time where people neglect their personal needs."

At finals time, students need to be especially concerned about their health. According to the Mayo Clinic, stress is associated with a suppressed immune system, leaving people more prone to seasonal illness and depression. In addition exercise and time management, they highly recommend that people relax, and offer this technique:

1) To a count of four, inhale slowly. Imagine the inhaled warm air flows to all parts of your body.
2) Pause
3) Slowly exhale, again to counting to four.
4) Pause then begin again. Repeat several times.

Rodierves urges people to pay attention to the experts. "I want to get the message to people to take care of themselves, realizing limitations and using the resources we have in our personal lives." Support systems include friends, family, churches, neighbors, and clubs.

"There's no problem that's too small, you should be able to talk about it to someone... If you feel like maybe they can't help, go to those more professional services."

This is where the Personal Growth and Counseling Center comes in. There, students are offered free individual and group counseling.

The main thing for students to remember at this time is that it will pass. Next semester is around the corner, and the semester after that. Dr. Richard Carlson, author of "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff, advises that instead of getting caught up in stress that will always be a challenge, "Live this day as if it were your last. It might be!"
CSUMB Student to Present Capstone at Science Conference

by Mary Patyten

"Elizabeth's presentation at AGU is certainly an honor. While it is common for graduate students to present their research at the meeting, it is probably quite uncommon for undergraduate students to present," said Susan Alexander, ESSP professor and co-author of the paper that resulted from Elizabeth's work.

CSUMB student Elizabeth Ross will present her ESSP Honors Capstone project, "Innovations in Earth Systems Science Curriculum - A Case Study on Methyl Bromide" on December 10 at the American Geophysical Union (AGU) meeting at Moscone Center in San Francisco. "Elizabeth's presentation at AGU is certainly an honor. While it is common for graduate students to present their research at the meeting, it is probably quite uncommon for undergraduate students to present," said ESSP professor Susan Alexander, who co-authored the paper that resulted from Elizabeth's work.

Last spring Elizabeth implemented an introductory chemistry lab exercise based on the idea that laboratory skills should be taught not only in the context of current environmental problems, but that they should also explore the political, economic, ethical and social issues related to those problems.

"How many scientists produce data which, to one extent or another, affects people and society as a whole?" asked Ross. "Science needs to face the people it affects." In her honors capstone, Elizabeth is trying to single-handedly re-envision what science education ought to be about, how scientists ought to be trained -- not only to make science more relevant to each student's life, but fundamentally to change science itself," said professor David Takacs, one of Elizabeth's Honors Capstone advisors.

"She has an interesting study that fits well into the science education section of the (AGU) meeting, and I'm hoping we'll get lots of people coming by to check out the poster," said Alexander. "The Fall Meeting of AGU in San Francisco is quite large - I imagine between 5,000-8,000 people total will be there during the week."

The American Geophysical Union is a highly-regarded, non-profit scientific union which has, in the past 75 years, evolved into an international organization of over 35,000 member scientists from 115 countries. Its mission is to promote the scientific and interdisciplinary study of earth sciences, with special attention to organization and dissemination of scientific information.

Ya Wanna Have a Party? ...YA GOTTA REGISTER IT!!

The Office of Residential Life requires Frederick Park residents to register their gatherings. Only those who are 21 or older can hold gatherings. Residential Life reminds you that you must follow the guidelines listed below if you are planning a party in Frederick Park. Registering your gathering provides a mutual understanding between you and The Office of Residential Life:

1- Quiet hours start at 2:00 A.M.
2- No more than 30 guests will be permitted
3- Noise courtesy hours are in effect 24 hours a day.
   (Your neighbor has the right to ask you to turn down the volume)
4- Guests cannot park in neighbors driveways
5- Kegs are not allowed
6- Alcohol will only be served to those guests 21 years of age and older
7- Non-alcoholic beverages will be made available to those under the age of 21
8- Alcohol will not be sold
9- Music and other noise will be kept at a reasonable level
10- The host will ensure safe and sober transportation from his/her gathering
11- The host understands that a party contract does not exempt them from any community policies or regulations
12- The host assumes responsibility for minors who choose to drink at their gathering

Please note the following Residential Life party confrontation procedures: (1) If you do not register your party, a Residential Life staff member will ask you to disperse your party if discovered. (2) If you fail to reduce the number of your guests and decrease your volume of noise at the request of an RA, our University Police Department will then be asked to respond. In some cases, neighboring Police Departments may be called in to assist large crowds. (3) If you do register your party and it becomes problematic, the same procedures above will be employed. (4) A Residence Hall staff member will be on-site to identify all minors in attendance from the residence hall system. (5) If any party host or guest becomes problematic during a party confrontation, the University Police Department and/or Residential Life staff member will refer party hosts and guests to the Office of Residential Life conduct system, including minors. Termination of your housing license may occur in some judicial proceedings. For further party registration information, please contact the Frederick Park Community Center at the following numbers: Frederick Park I residents at 582-4857 and Frederick Park II residents at 582-4841.

This is a paid ADVERTISEMENT
Remembering The Struggles

A Personal Account of Remembering the Black Panther Party

by Gloria Leno

On November 20 students from CSUMB took a trip to Oakland to visit the Black Panther Legacy Tour, a memorial for the Black Panther Party, to learn about the activist organization and what it stood for. Gloria Leno was one of the students on the tour who gives her personal account of the trip.

I had no idea what I was in for when I volunteered to drive for the Black Panther Legacy Tour on Friday, November 20, 1998. As soon as Panther David Hilliard stepped inside the van and began to talk about his peers, I felt like I was pulled right back into the 60's where I came of age. It was all I could do to keep my tears in as Mr. Hilliard laid out dates and events of those very turbulent times that shaped my attitude and view of the world today. I began remembering friends in the Bay Area, other Black Panthers and myself protesting the Vietnam War. They all came flooding back to me.

On this tour, I was reminded of so many things that were prevalent in the 60's as well as many of the programs that even the authorities have emulated from the Panther origin. Two of the present Panther emulated programs are the government food programs in schools today and the program that serves meals to elderly in their homes.

I had also forgotten that it was legal to carry weapons for most of the 60's. Our guide directed us to the corner of Market St. and 55th St. in Oakland where Panthers Dr. Huey Newton and Bobby Seale, armed with shotguns, escorted small children across the busy intersections. Prior to the necessity of the Panther intervention at those cross walks, several children from the nearby schools had been killed and many others injured trying to cross the streets on their way home. Mr. Hilliard informed us that the community had demanded a traffic light for that intersection, but the city council informed them that they would take nearly a year and a half to begin erecting it. The traffic began to pile up at the site of Huey and Bobby with shotguns but the Panthers would be relieved of their duties when police officers would have to take over to direct traffic. Thus, construction of the life-saving traffic signal began less than a month after the community demands were first heard.

To me, the Panthers were about compassion and self-sufficiency. They were my role models and heroes. I looked up to them, emulated them and continue to live my life to their footsteps. I was not the only one who held great respect for the Black Panthers. Most of my peers and many worldwide organizations knew what the Black Panthers were really about.

Life Off Campus

The Season for Giving

by Kirsten Maranda

Judging by the chilly weather, the end of the fall semester and all of the festive decorations, it must be the holidays. December is here and that means that it's time to start thinking about gifts. No matter what occasion you are looking to celebrate, giving a perfect gift to family, friends, and loved ones, is a sure way to warm some hearts.

However overwhelming the crowds and sales of the shopping malls may seem, have faith. You can avoid the overpriced oasis and still give gifts that you can be proud of. Presents that are produced from artistic minds are usually more meaningful and priceless than anything with a return policy.

So for those of you with schedules and wallets that don't allow for frivolous gift buying, it's time to get your creative juices flowing. First of all, I suggest making a list of all the people whom you would like to give gifts to. Then think of their personalities, preferences, and hobbies. List these also. Keep personal information in mind when creating a gift. Then it's time to venture out and spend little but give a lot.

There is a great little place in Pacific Grove called the Ceramics House. It is just that, a little renovated house that sells raw ceramic pieces. When you purchase something, all the paint and materials are included. You can design and decorate it there and then have it fired and ready for wrapping.

Here at all the wonderful beaches in Monterey County, you can find plenty of natural wonders that make fabulous presents. Try heading out to the shore early in the morning when the tide is low, and look for interesting shells, rocks, and driftwood on the beach. Some of the best natural projects that I've seen are driftwood wind chimes and shell candleholders. For under $10 Kinko's Copy Centers with transfer a photograph onto material, you can get crazy with t-shirts and pillowcases that display a picture from a fun trip or a long distance love to keep the memories close.

Another great gift idea that won't cost you too much is a movie bucket. These are great for people who know you who love a particular celebrity or have a favorite film. Try getting a large, empty popcorn bucket from a movie theatre and fill it for a ready-made gift. Put in a video, some microwave popcorn, candy, and a movie magazine to give someone a well-deserved evening of enjoyment at home.
Winter Wonderland

by Jen Coppens

CSUMB is a complex community with several different cultures represented, and this winter season, there are many celebrations our community will enjoy. The following is a brief description of just a few holidays celebrated:

Kwanzaa
(December 26 - January 1)

Kwanzaa is an African American celebration with a focus on the traditional African values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement. This holiday is based on the agricultural celebrations of Africa called "the first fruits," where celebrations were times of harvest, reverence, commemoration, recommitment to the earth, and celebration. Kwanzaa is also a time of gathering of African Americans for celebration of their achievements, reverence for the Creator and creation, commemoration of the past, recommitment to cultural ideals and celebration of the good.

Kwanzaa was created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, professor and chair, Department of Black Studies, California State University, Long Beach; and chair of the National Association of Kawaida Organizations (NAKO); author and scholar-activist who stresses the indispensable need to preserve, constantly revitalize and promote African culture.

Kwanzaa is a cultural holiday, not a religious or political one, therefore it is available to and practiced by Africans of all religious faiths. Since its founding Kwanzaa has come to be observed by more than 13 million people worldwide, as reported by the New York Times.

Hanukkah
(Chanukah, December 14th - 21st)

This year in the middle of December, Jews around the world will be celebrating one of our happiest holidays, Hanukkah. In 167 B.C.E., the Syrian Emperor Antiochus set out to destroy Judaism by making its observance a capital offense. In one horrible instance, two Jewish mothers who had secretly circumcised their sons were paraded through the streets of Jerusalem and then executed along with their infants.

A Jew named Mattathias, along with his five sons, initiated a revolt against the Syrian monarch. Three years later, the rebels ousted Antiochus's troops from Palestine. These Jewish revolutionaries, known as Maccabees, which comes from the Hebrew word Makav - meaning "Hammer" - for their great strength. The Maccabees regained control of their Holy Temple in Jerusalem, which the pagan Syrians and Greeks had "spiritually raped" in many horrible ways. The Jewish troops went when they saw the Holy Temple's degradations, and immediately resolved to restore it to its state of ritual purity. The Jews needed to rekindle the eternal flame of the Menorah in the Temple, but they could only find enough oil to last one day. The Jews were very upset because it would take eight days to prepare ritually permitted oil. However, a miracle occurred and the small quantity of oil continued to burn for the entire eight days! Thus, the Jews were able to completely rededicate the Holy temple, which is what the word Hanukkah means, "rededication."

This event was post-biblical and is one of the most insignificant of all Jewish holidays. However, in commemoration of this happy event, Hanukkah is celebrated for 8 days. Each night we light a special log is brought in and placed on the hearth where it glows for the twelve nights of the holiday season. After that, it is kept in the house all year to protect the home and its inhabitants from illness and any adverse condition. The Yule log is the counterpart of the midsummer bonfires, which are held outdoors on Summer Solstice, the longest night of the year. It is also customary to place mistletoe around the fire, which is the plant that grew on the oak tree, sacred to the Druids, the priests of the old Celts. Among other uses, mistletoe is thought to help women conceive. The Christmas tree also dates from old European or pagan ritual. It was the time to celebrate the renewal of the earth.

Winter Solstice (December 21st)

Winter Solstice marks the time of the year when the light returns as the sun shifts and starts to move northward again. Monique Sonoquie goes home to celebrate winter solstice (summer solstice and spring and fall equinox). "Most California tribes celebrate these dates with ceremony, honoring the seasons and what they have to offer the people" said Sonoquie. Winter solstice is the shortest day of the year, and signifies a resting time (animals and plants hibernate). Sonoquie explained, "A solstice pole is erected in the winter for the whole year. This is a place where prayer and offerings are made (not human sacrifices.) In Europe, the tradition of the Yule log is celebrated on Winter Solstice (Yule, Dec. 23.)

Winter Solstice (December 21st)

"THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS"

Jason Weiner, reporting from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, submitted this section

(Chair CSUMB Jewish Culture Club)

Edited by Jen Coppens

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War of Weeds

by James Thomas Green

There is an unseen and unsung war going on in the peaceful hills of California. The enemy troops are from sprouting their roots to strangle their opponents and starve out their allies. It's a War of Weeds.

Biological diversity is being threatened by the invasion of non-native, or "exotic" plants. An exotic plant is a species that has been introduced in an environment other than that in which it evolved. Sometimes, an exotic plant, being in a new environment devoid of its natural herbivores can spread rapidly, thus pushing out the native plants. This is sometimes called "biological pollution."

Most animals have evolved to use relatively few plants for food and shelter. Once the plants they depend upon are gone, the animals follow. If enough plant species are eliminated, a whole ecosystem can collapse. In the Southeastern United States, for example, the Kudzu Vine has had a catastrophic impact on the ecosystem. This effect is not minor. Sometimes a non-native invasion can happen so fast that within a decade the native ecosystem has vanished. According to CSUMB ESSP professor Laura Lee Lienk, "after loss of habitat, weeds are the greatest overall threat to natural areas."

Here on the central coast, we face our own invaders. The non-native plants of concern are from areas with similar climates to the central coast. These areas are Australia, Mediterranean Europe, South Africa, and Chile. How do these plants get here? Some were brought here deliberately as animal feed. Some non-native European fodder grass seeds are air-dropped to grow cattle feed. Others are escapes from landscaping and gardens. Others were brought by accident such as seeds in aircraft and packing material.

On October 30, CSUMB hosted the Second Annual Central California Noxious Weed Symposium, AKA "The War on Weeds (WOW)." The purpose of the WOW was to identify those plants that are putting California's flora at greatest risk, and to share strategies to control or eradicate the invaders. The event was well attended. Seventy attendees were expected and 120 actually showed up.

Organizations involved in WOW include The California Native Plant Society, CalTrans, The Nature Conservancy, California Exotic Pest Plant council, The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the National Park Service, private landscaping companies, and City, County, and State Parks from all over California. How can the advance of the invaders be stopped?

Monterey County's Least Wanted:
The Six Worst Exotic Weeds

French Broom:
A yellow-flowering shrub often seen along roadways. This is perhaps the most widespread invasive exotic shrub in our area. If often forms dense thickets and mature plants can be 15 feet or more high.

Yellow Star Thistle:
The range of this aggressive plant has tripled since 1985. It is sometimes known as "puncture weed" for the effect it's large, sharp and tough spines may have on bicycle tires. It is toxic to horses and even goats, which can eat almost anything, can't digest them. It's also a major fire hazard. One plant can produce 10,000 seeds that are viable for up to ten years.

Jubarta Grass:
This plant forms giant, grassy growths with pale, feathery seed plumes. They are often seen along roadsides and other disturbed soil. One plant can produce up to 100,000 wind-blown seeds. Jubarta Grass' close relative and look-alike, Pampas Grass, doesn't produce viable seeds and isn't as weedy as its cousin.

Cape Ivy:
This native of South Africa is a vine-like plant with smooth-surfaced, bright green leaves that have many points. It can climb to about thirty feet into trees and forms dense blankets of vegetation over everywhere in its path. Cape Ivy has taken over much of the Big Sur coast. It covers up everything. Money is going to South Africa researchers to find natural herbivores.

Arundo or "Giant Reed":
This is a member of the grass family. It is a major problem in southern California and is moving north. Arundo is a problem about the mouth of Salinas River. It is a very aggressive plant. Runners will cross under a road to produce new plants.

Veldt Grass:
This is the "new kid on the block," having been introduced recently. Even so, it spreads very aggressively. For example, it has already taken over about one-third of the Los Osos dunes.
Got Disc?
Flying Saucers Land at CSUMB Disc Golf Tournament

by Ted Benbow

On Saturday, November 21, the new disc golf course at California State University, Monterey Bay was officially unveiled to the public with the Grand Opening Disc Golf Tournament.

The event got off with flying colors. Literally. 45 participants, including 8 CSUMB students, spent the day hurling plastic discs (don't call them "Frisbees"—that's copyright infringement) of various sizes, weights and colors towards specially designed metal baskets situated at strategic points along the course.

Players were divided into three skill categories (Professional, Advanced, and Novice) and cash prizes were awarded to the top four finishers in all but the Novice tournament intermission. In this type of competition, contestants throw discs into a basket from nine pre-determined positions around a basket to see who can make the most in. The band "Pizza and Beer", composed entirely of CSUMB students and alumni, provided the musical entertainment for the event.

The Disc Golf Course at CSUMB began as a vision by two CSUMB students, Scott Keasey and Steve Bonar, co-founders and co-presidents of the CSUMB Disc Golf Club. Bonar, a resident of Santa Cruz who has been involved with the sport for nine years, and Keasey, a three year veteran of the sport, began making regular pilgrimages to the internationally renowned Disc Golf Course at DeLaveaga Park in Santa Cruz. During one of the long rides back to Monterey, they had an idea which sparked it all. "Wouldn't it be great if we had a course here?". Almost on a whim, the pair proceeded to establish a business plan for the project as an assignment in one of their classes, researching the cost of the equipment necessary to make their dream a reality.

In the course of their search, they discovered that one of the leading manufacturers of disc golf equipment, the Disc Golf Association (DGA), is located in Watsonville. The owner of the DGA, Ed "Steady Ed" Headrick, is known as the "Father of Disc Golf". Headrick, who was at one time the CEO of the "Wham-o" corporation (the company which makes "Frisbees") is well known for his role in pioneering the sport. Headrick has helped many fledgling courses get their start, and immediately recognized the potential of the CSUMB campus as a site for a top-notch course.

Once Keasey and Bonar realized that they had a serious ally, they decided to get serious about their proposal. After being told that the best way to get administrative support is through an established student organization. The pair proceeded to establish a student organization, CSUMB's new and officially recognized Disc Golf Club. For the required position of Club Advisor, they enlisted the aid of Network and Computing staff member Greg Pool, a long-time disc sport enthusiast. Pool jumped right into the spirit of the endeavor, coining the slogan, "Got disc?" and assisting with the club's web page, designed and maintained by Joel Racine, club Webmaster.

With the guidance of Hendrick, who played a pivotal role both in designing the course and in making the resources available, Keasey and Bonar spent the summer negotiating the details of the agreement between CSUMB and the DGA. The university provided the land for the course, and the DGA provided, as a loan, all of the necessary equipment, including "holes" (steel baskets with chains suspended to catch the discs) and tee markers for each hole. All the DGA asked for in return was that only DGA discs be sold for use on the course, and that a certain number be sold each year. After one year, the Disc Golf Club will have the option to buy the equipment from the DGA.

"Being well-organized was the most important factor. The fact that this was a student-driven initiative got our foot in the door. But once the administration realized

cont. on page 8
The team became part of the NAIA beautiful and lush golf courses. The Otter golfers started as a club team in 1996 with the help of Bill Thomas and Dave Travado. The next step for the team is to become an NCAA Division I school. They are doing some recruiting at high schools and community colleges around the peninsula. The course is challenging, yet very playable. It winds through oak trees and gently rolling terrain, yielding obstacles to make competition interesting while also providing an idyllic setting. The entire course is centered around the Black Box Cabaret (BBC), where players can stop in before, during and/or after a game to buy playing discs and enjoy a variety of hot or cold beverages and delicious food items.

With the success of the Grand Opening Tournament, the Disc Golf Club has plans to hold monthly tournaments beginning in the Spring '99 semester. The club also intends to offer disc golf clinics once or twice a semester to provide instruction into the finer points of the sport. These clinics will be taught, free of charge, by the master himself, "Steady Ed" Headrick.

For more information about the CSUMB Disc Golf Club, the new course, or the sport in general, contact Scott Keasey or Steve Bonar via e-mail (scott_keasey@monterey.edu or steven_bonar@monterey.edu). Also, the URL for their web page is "clubs.monterey.edu/disc_golf/".

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Los Angeles Game time is 1 pm at the parade field here on game day.

Men's Rugby also starts January 30 with an away game against UC Davis. Their first home game is February 20 against UCSC. Game starts at 1pm.

Disc Golf: cont. from page 7

The team's home course is the Bayonet/Blackhorse course on Fort Ord. But thanks to Paulson and coach Andy Gonzalez, the team has had the opportunity to play at other courses around the peninsula such as Corral de Tierra and Pebble Beach. "Paulson and Gonzalez are top-notch guys and bring out everyone's best." said senior player Jim Folger.

The next step for the team is to become an NCAA Division I golf school. They are doing some recruiting at high schools and community colleges around the peninsula. This is one of the most promising sports on campus and young, experienced golfers are going to want to play here," said Folger.

The team's home course is the Monterey area known for its beautiful and lush golf courses. Spyglass, Spanish Bay and others are world-renowned courses. So it's no wonder that CSUMB would sponsor an intercollegiate golf team. And considering where they get to practice, it's also no surprise that the team is so good.

The Otter golfers started as a club team in 1996 with the help of Bill Paulson, former president of the Northern California Golf Association. The team became part of the NAIA this year. Playing teams such as Menlo Park, Bethany and Holy Names, the Otters have won all their matches by an average of 40 strokes. Some of the new talent that has made this possible include freshmen Brian Keyes and Chris Rice and transfer students Chip Thomas and Dave Travado.

"We have a lot of great talent on this team...10-15 guys who can really play," said senior player Jim Folger. "Since we can only take five to a tournament, it gets very competitive and brings out everyone's best."

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**CSUMB Opinions**

**EDITORIAL:**

**Are We Failing Our Faculty?**

Recently, many faculty members across the California State University (CSU) system bandied together to raise their collective voices in protest at rallies on several CSU campuses. The issue was, among other things, the salary lag behind the nationwide average. Some of the other complaints include the CSU system’s heavy reliance on temporary or part-time faculty and the need for tenure-like employment for lecturers. However, the two main points of contention continue to revolve around compensation, both in terms of the amount of increase and the manner in which it will be distributed.

The first issue deals with the amount of increase CSU faculty members will receive across the board. Presently, the average CSU faculty salary is only about 7.4 percent behind faculty salaries at comparable U.S. institutions, according to a study by the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), an independent source commissioned by the California State Legislature. The CSU has proposed a salary increase averaging five percent for faculty for the current academic year, with another increase of six percent scheduled for the following academic year. A news release from the Chancellor’s office states that, “We believe that the proposed salary increases are important to the CSU and to our faculty.”

On the surface, this sounds like a reasonable, possibly even noble, argument by the Chancellor. Unfortunately, setting faculty compensation against student access raises some serious questions about the priorities of the CSU system as a whole. Are these really two of the most expendable items in the entire CSU budget? Do we really have to choose between adequate accessibility for students and equitable pay for teachers, based on a difference of only one-third of one percent of the total CSU operating costs? These are very disturbing questions indeed.

The other major battle being fought is over the performance-based, or “merit pay”, system. With merit pay, faculty raises are distributed according to a sliding scale, with the highest raises going, in theory, to the best professors. The CSU position is that faculty are needed to be accountable, and outstanding faculty should be rewarded in order to take the CSU to “the next level of quality.” They counter the CFA argument, that merit pay increases lead to favoritism and raises should be given equally to all faculty, by equating it to a professor “giving all the students in the class a B regardless of their performance.” The problem with that logic is that merit pay increases are decided using a peer review process, which is like saying that your classmates will be giving you a grade, and there aren’t enough A’s and B’s to go around.

The real problem seems to be that not enough resources are being allocated to the areas in which they are vitally needed. Providing faculty with salaries comparable to other institutions in the country is the most reasonable approach to attracting and retaining the highest quality instructors, especially considering that the cost of living in California is one of the highest in the nation. Likewise, student accessibility should be one of the CSU’s foremost concerns, immune to “jeopardy” by “faculty salary demands.” Chancellor Reed makes excellent points about our problems facing the future of college education in this state, adequate financial support for both teachers and students, he will never earn better than a C-minus at best.

**Editorial Policy**

The Otter Realm is a bi-monthly student publication produced by the Otter Realm club and HCOM 395. 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 reserves the right to edit for libel space or clarity.

**November 30th Issue**

The front page story “The Housing Crunch on CSUMB Campus” was written by Megan Wong. The group in the Feature Photo picture on the back page was called the Monterey Harmony Movement. The misplacement of the final episode of Kate’s Adventures in Alaska was not the responsibility of the editor Mary Patyten or the writer Kate Thomas.
The LUTHERAN Churches **Invite You!**

**Carmel Valley:** St. Philip's Lutheran Church  
(831) 624-6765  
9065 Carmel Valley Rd (4 m. east of Hwy 1)  
9:00 - Family Education Hour  
10:00 - Worship  
The Rev. Roy Blumhorst

**Marina:** Epiphany Church - Lutheran Episcopal  
(831) 384-6523  
425 Carmel (corner of Califomia St.)  
11:00 - Worship  
Jon Perez, Chaplain

**Monterey:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
(831) 373-1523  
800 Cass St. (Between El Dorado and Hartnell)  
Pastor Arnold Steinbeck  
8:00 & 10:30 - Worship  
9:15 - Sunday School

**Monterey:** St. Timothy Lutheran Church  
(831) 375-2042  
52 Soledad Drive  
The Rev. Elli Kimbauer, Psy.D.  
8:30 - Traditional Worship  
10:00 - Contemporary Praise Service

**Salinas:** Iglesia Lutherana El Buen Pastor  
(831) 424-2935  
817 Beech St. (East of N. Sanborn)  
Pastor Rueben Escobar  
10:00 - Sunday School  
11:00 - Sun. Worship  
9:30 & 11:00 - Worship

**Salinas:** Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
(831) 424-5643  
580 Larkin St. (East of Davis Road)  
Pastors Rick Sherrill & Wendell Brown  
9:30 & 11:00 - Worship  
9:45 - Sunday School

**Salinas:** Lutheran Church of Our Savior  
(831) 422-6352  
1230 Luther Way (at Blanco Road)  
The Rev. James Sorenson  
8:30 - Informal  
10:30 - Traditional Worship  
9:45 - Sunday School

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(831) 422-6352  
1230 Luther Way (at Blanco Road)  
The Rev. James Sorenson  
8:30 - Informal  
10:30 - Traditional Worship  
9:45 - Sunday School

**Seaside:** Faith Lutheran Church  
(831) 394-1312  
1460 Hilby Ave.  
Anton Prange, Pastor and Campus Contact  
8:00 & 10:30 - Worship w/ Holy Communion  
9:15 - Christian Ed

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AIDS Day: cont. from front page


Hurricane Mitch: cont. from front page

Hurricane Mitch’s victims need all the help they can get. There is an increasingly urgent need for money to fight diseases such as cholera, dengue and malaria in the wake of the hurricane’s destruction. CSUMB’s recent Hurricane Mitch Fundraiser Dante, sponsored by MECHA, collected needed food, clothing and money for hurricane victims. You can also donate to the relief efforts by calling the American Red Cross, and charging a donation to your Visa card. Call the Red Cross at: 1-800-935-7669 to donate to Red Cross relief efforts.

Moore said on the way to the lodge they passed hundreds of refugees fleeing from the hurricane, lagging what values they could carry. The hurricane dead for a ride inland. In the confusing melee made more confusing by wind and rain, the driver wrestled their two-wheel drive bus through muddied, unpaved streets and sugar cane fields, guessing which way to turn at unfamiliar forks in the road.

Heading down a hill, the bus fishtailed in the slippery mud, bouncing off cars. Moore, over rocks and through potholes to arrive miraculously - at the gates of Lamanai Outpost Lodge, in the heart of the tropical rain forest. Lamanai was a state of pandemonium at the airport, hampering Moore’s search for the Elder Hostelers. To his relief, he found that three Elder Hostelers standing on the shore arrived, in generally good spirits.

Moore related, as boats arrived and created a state of pandemonium at the airport, hampering Moore’s search for the Elder Hostelers. To his relief, he found that three Elder Hostelers standing on the shore arrived, in generally good spirits.

"So there we were. Three researchers and three Elder Hostelers standing on the shore in Belize City, with Hurricane Mitch headed straight for us," said Moore.

The group found a marine radio operator who was able to patch them through to Lamanai Outpost Lodge, another Oceanic Society research station located about 100’ above sea level and 25-30 miles inland. The lodge agreed to harbor them through the hurricane, but could not assist them in finding transportation.

Efforts to secure a ride succeeded. Around 5:00 that afternoon, a surrealistically luxurious American tourist bus arrived to pick them up in the pouring rain.

walls adjacent to the thatched huts. These huts would be the lodge residents' tickets to survival.

The following morning, reports confirmed that Mitch was expected to hit Belize. The hurricane was 350 miles from the coast, traveling at six miles per hour. The nearby New River began to rise, and during the next few days reached the highest level the lodge owners had ever seen.

While workers battened down the lodge’s shutters and windows with plywood, guides took the researchers on tours of the rain forest and huge insects replaced Moore's antici-

Hopeful that the hurricane hit Belize, roads and airports would’ve been washed out, and he wouldn’t have been able to make it out.

"I have to say that I was impressed with how the Oceanic Society ensured the safety and comfort of its guests and researchers, even in the presence of this serious hurricane threat" Moore said.

Moore stayed to assist in repairing the research outpost, which was fully functional again in one week. He finally returned to Monterey on November 2nd. He was glad to be home, but misses the giant bugs, he said.

"I was just glad he was able to get out of there..." said Moore’s wife, ESSP professor Suzy Worcester. "I had fears that if the hurricane hit Belize, roads and airports would’ve been washed out, and he wouldn’t have been able to make it out.

I have to say that I was impressed with how the Oceanic Society ensured the safety and comfort of its guests and researchers, even in the presence of this serious hurricane threat" Moore said.
From the
Otter Realm Staff

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