By Elizabeth Ahrens

“We sing songs that are important to us, everyone gets what they want out of our music, we each hear it differently.”

~Wil-Dog

Ozomatli erupted from the concrete jungle of Los Angeles to the streets of Monterey Bay to give us a taste of their magical potion mixed with hip-hop, salsa, ska, funk, and jazz. On May 11, 2001 Ozomatli, along with the Visionaries and Pensativa, played outdoors in CSUMB’s Freeman Stadium.

Ozomatli has opened for bands such as Santana, Lenny Kravitz, and Dave Matthews. Performing at CSU Monterey Bay was a walk in the park for this band climbing up the musical ladder. Ozomatli proved that they have the ability to engage their audience into a full scale interaction between band and fan.

Ozomatli began their concert in the middle of the crowd of CSU Monterey Bay students anxious for the Ozo fiesta to begin. In the light Monterey breeze, the 10 member band was tossing music into the air through drums, horns, and percussion, combined with attitude. Before anyone knew what was happening the crowd was singing “go, go, go!” along with the band. Dancing students and faculty proved to the band that CSU Monterey Bay is down for Ozo on the Ord.

While the band was getting ready to play, they gathered at the meeting house next to Freeman Stadium. What once housed Sunday church and military weddings was filled with the men of Ozomatli, the Visionaries, and Pensativa letting the sounds of their gospel fill the room. Many of these men were prepping for their performance, but all were open to make comments about their life as a member of the Ozomatli band. “This is what I do, that is it, but I love it,” said Jiro, percussionist for the band. “Everyone takes away a different message from our music,” noted Jiro. The band members and the band manager were making notes of their set on the back of a paper plate. The Visionaries and Ozomatli were all talking and hanging out together; a few free style rapping, and some keeping to themselves, these men were each getting ready for their concert.

Ozomatli were born out of protest at the former downtown LA site of the Emergency Response Unit Headquarters, now the Peace and Justice Center. The band’s bassist, Wil-Dog is the founder of Ozo and one of the band’s most outspoken members. Wil-Dog was part of a month-long strike that occurred as a result of a conflict between the Los Angeles Conservation Corp and the ERU.

Otter Announcements

Don’t miss the Spring Fling Saturday May 19th, 8:00pm-Midnight in the University Center. Don’t miss Thrift Hop’s last show of the semester.

Show your graduating friends how much you care by attending the 2001 Capstone Festival. Thursday May 24th & Friday May 25th. For details please call 582-3512
Fall Registration 2001: “A Space Otter See”

By Pat Kuhl

On Saturday, May 12, 2001 all new students to CSUMB, who have been admitted and confirmed for next semester, were invited to come to our campus and receive their Fall 2001 semester advising and registration. Approximately 575 future otters confirmed that they would be attending this special event that took place last Saturday. It proved to be an exciting day and hopefully gave them a solid start to their CSUMB careers.

CSUMB wanted to reward those students who apply to our campus and are admitted early in the season with the opportunity to register for classes earlier than our usual August “Otter Days” event and orientation. Students who apply and are admitted later in the cycle will be invited to attend the new student orientation on August 23 and 24th.

Members of CSUMB’s faculty and staff, along side of students, played major roles in the early advising and registration process. A “Check-In Team” greeted these future otters with smiles in front of the World Theater as future students began arriving at about 7 AM. After receiving their personalized Welcome Packet, students took their Entry Level Math and English Placement Tests, if necessary. While the students were busy taking their first college tests, parents and other accompanying visitors were invited to take a leisurely bus tour of the campus. The Financial Aid department set up shop in the front office of the World Theater to assist students who wished to apply for Financial Aid. By submitting an application for Financial Aid, students had the hold on their fees deferred and were able to take register accordingly. The Cashiers Office saw its’ share of new students and parents as well, but thanks to the Cash Net online payment program many students were able to pay their fees online and avoid a potential lengthy wait in line.

Students were given the choice to attend one of three University Welcomes. Among the privileged speakers at the 2001 University Welcome were Steve Brown, Director of Academic Advising, Dr. Peter Smith, University President, Dr. Diane Cordero de Noriega, University Provost, and Michelle Slade from the Service Learning Institute. The University Welcome encompassed a wide range of CSUMB practice and tradition from the Mission Statement to the University Learning Requirements.

The first University Welcome address, which was deemed the “early bird special” started at 9 AM and hosted the majority of the new students. The “early bird” was essentially a makeshift University Welcome that accommodated those who did not want to wait for the later morning session, but surprisingly it utilized the entire capacity of the World Theater and went over flawlessly. Kyle Brandow, Student Academic Advisor stated, “The place was packed with future otters and their parents. It was very encouraging to see so many students willing to take advantage of this early opportunity.” The other two University Welcome addresses consisted of a morning session that began at 10 AM and an afternoon session that began at 1 PM. After hearing the University Welcome students and parents or visitors were invited to take a bus tour of the campus and attend a “Question and Answer” workshop. The Parent Question Workshop included such topics as Financial Aid, Residential Life, Student Activities, Sports, Campus Safety, CSUMB technology, and “Letting Go” issues.

While parents were attending the workshop, the Media Learning Complex hosted labs for the future students to log onto Banner Web and register for next semester’s classes. First-time freshmen were encouraged to add at least one class to their already established block schedule, which generally consisted of a Freshman Proseminar, a Technology Tools, and a Math course.

The MLC was overflowing with eager future students as many were forced to wait in the lobby for an open computer. For many future students, this was their first experience with CSUMB technology. Some parents appeared to be overwhelmed by the technological experience of registering for courses online.

After the future otters and their parents or visitors successfully completed the advising and registration process, they were invited to partake in a free barbecue in the Main Quad. Despite the somewhat gloomy weather, spirits were high and future students rejoiced as they took what became the first step in their career as an otter. Steve Brown summed it up best when he said, “This year’s early advising event was the most successful yet. I look forward to seeing each otter who was able to attend.”

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Revitalizing campus life

The Otter Realm as a tool for encouraging participation

By Tracy Anne Burke

Imagine a type of journalism that inspired citizens to participate in their communities in a deeply personal and highly civic manner. Imagine the media as a liaison between the people and those in power and a tool with which to encourage and make possible community interest, compassion and participation. Imagine community partnerships that unite to discuss and protect community interests and the good of the people. Imagine reporters and community leaders willing to meet face-to-face and one-on-one with the People, coming together to create solutions. Imagine giving a voice to the citizens of this country. Imagine all these things happening right here on the CSUMB campus with the help of the Otter Realm.

It sounds like a near impossible feat, doesn’t it? But there is hope: civic journalism aims to do all the before mentioned, and more. So what is civic journalism and how can the Otter Realm use it?

Over the last century the media has grown in leaps and bounds. Inundated not only by the sheer size of the mass media but also by the advancing technologies of our society, we have been reporting that many citizens have retreated from public life. Driven by market forces and sensationalistic approaches to mass enter/edutainment, journalists began noticing a declining trend in journalism in the early 1990’s. Journalists began observing that the public often distrusted the media, looked to media for entertainment rather than facts or useful information, cared little about what was going on in their civic lives and the overall feel of the public was that of a disinterested, disheartened and distrustful citizenry.

The concept of civic journalism was then born. Civic, public, or community journalism is a somewhat loosely defined concept that has much to do with the relationship between the public in order to increase civic participation. It is about the potential for making the craft of journalism an avenue for democratic service. Civic journalism is a movement by journalists to reconnect the People to the functions and purposes of its government. Civic journalism is about linking the free press to democracy and utilizing the freedom of the press in order to help create a society of civic participants. Civic journalism has a place here at CSUMB.

Civic journalism is the practice of getting the public re-involved in the community at a level. Civic journalists aim to engage their audiences in discussions about community concerns and report on solutions rather than the usually one-sided reporting of problems. In civic journalism, it is the people and not the experts who are given a voice and a chance at fixing whatever is wrong. This kind of journalism is about forming community partnerships and encouraging civic participation.

CSUMB is a perfect place to practice this new form of journalism. It is a logical conclusion that community journalism would have a place at a school who’s Vision Statement demands that the school “be distinctive in serving the diverse people of California, especially the working class and historically undereducated and low-income populations.” Civic journalism is all about getting back into the community and learning to eventually be a universal citizen in a rapidly growing and changing global village. Civic journalism has to start somewhere, small-scale and filled with growing pains at first, but the movement has real potential. Getting people reconnected to start dealing with the truth of the way things really are seems like a really good idea. It is absolutely necessary to the survival of society, and the CSUMB campus as a whole, to learn to see each other eye-to-eye and report on the truth in order to figure out what is wrong and fix it.

The Otter Realm can and should be used as a tool by all members of the university-that is its intended purpose. It is vital for a community to utilize all their resources and CSUMB is no different. This campus and it’s population are facing some serious challenges, from maintaining it’s commitment to a shared Vision, to ethical uses of Open Forum and everything else from housing crunches to lack of classes. In civic journalism, it is the aim to begin coming up with solutions instead of just highlighting the problems. The Otter Realm can be a tool for revitalizing our campus participation and all campus community members are encouraged to utilize every resource necessary in order to make the CSUMB campus the most effective it can be.

Practicing civic journalism in the Otter Realm means continued commitment to reporting on the truth of what is happening on campus; the issues and events and concerns that are important to the people who make up the campus community. The reporters and editors of the paper would continue and increase their commitment to telling the untold stories and contributing to the well-being and productivity of the community by re-connecting the people with the campus.

The task ahead of the campus community is a challenging one, especially if they want to keep their newspaper. The Otter Realm is the labor of love of a handful of students that changes every few years. The Otter Realm is burdened with little support from the campus community as it is right now. The school has a journalism emphasis, but no Journalism faculty to advise the paper or educate those interested in journalistic practices, inadequate room for newspaper members to meet and/or produce the paper and a constantly changing line-up of writers and editors. The paper has survived despite this but it is important for the community to fight to keep their newspaper alive and important and helpful to the community members it aims to serve. The Otter Realm and the CSUMB campus need one another and it is important for the paper to continue to grow and adapt with the times in order to be the most effective it can be. Civic journalism is really just a concept reminding communities that the time has come to solve problems and not just talk about them. What time is it at CSUMB?

Formal change of plans

By James Thomas Green

CSUMB’s Student Voice Work Group will host the “2001 Spring Fling” on Saturday, May 19, 2001 from 8:00 p.m. to Midnight at the CSUMB University Center. The charge will be $2.00.

This event, previously promoted as the “Spring Formal” or “Graduate Ball” will now be a semi-formal event where either formal or casual dress will be appropriate. The theme of the evening will be “Casino Night.” The event will feature a live band, professional DJ, and dress is either formal or casual.

An angry controversy erupted on May 8 when a post made to Open Forum announced “Graduate’s Ball has been CANCELLED.” This resulted in an immediate angry outcry among many students.

The Student Voice Events Workgroup, headed by the Student Voice Events Senator, has usually organized the semi-formals, which have been held at the end of each semester for the past few years. The outgoing events senator is Cenan Pirani and the incoming events senator is Renee Infelise. Neither responded to an e-mail request for comment on the issue of the changes in the 2001 Spring Formal event.

Students Alisa Parsons and Rika Yamasaki officially took over the planning of the event on April 10, 2001. While Parsons and Yamasaki are both members of the Resident Hall Association (RHA), RHA did not have any official role in planning the event.

According to Parsons, “After hearing the event was not being planned, Rika approached a member of Student Voice Work Group to inquire about partitioning the event to someone else in hopes of saving the event.” Parsons went on to say, “Unfortunately, we did not have enough time to put together the formal, so we tried to give students something fun just to end the year with.”

According to Matt Kritscher, CSUMB’s Student Activities and Career Development Director, there is little difference between the “Spring Fling” and what was planned as the “Spring Formal” other than the title and the fact that the event will be held on campus rather than off campus.

Parsons echoed Kritscher by saying of the differences between a “Spring Fling” and a “Spring Formal,” “There is no real difference between the two events except the title and the location have changed. Instead of hosting the event off campus, we were forced to bring the event to campus in order to salvage it. Actually most of the same entertainment will be present this year that was present last year. The Spring Fling will have a DJ, casino gaming, and a live band.” Parsons went on to assure the fashion conscious, “As for the Spring Fling attire, you can wear whatever you want. You can come comfortable or formal. So all of you who are dying to get dressed up in formal attire, here’s your chance. But if you want to remain low key, that’s good too.”

According to Kritscher, CSUMB has never had a strict “Formal” event. They’ve always been semi-formal events where people who want to dress up in gowns and tuxedos can do so, and those who want to come in casual attire can do so as well.

This is not the only time this type of event has been held at the University Center. According to Kritscher, most off-campus locations demanded fees which exceeded the entire $15,000 budget for the event. The most reasonable place to host the event off-campus, the Naval Post Graduate School (NPGS), which hosted last year’s Spring Formal, wanted $12,000 simply to host the event. In addition, due to some CSUMB student misconduct last year, NPGS required CSUMB to provide at least thirty faculty/staff chaperones. According to Kritscher put out a call for volunteers, only eight faculty/staff stepped forward for chaperone duty. Thus, there was no choice but to hold the event on campus if it was to be held at all.

Regarding the perception controversy, Parsons stated, “We understand the frustrations caused by the tag line on Open Forum which read ‘Graduate’s Ball has been CANCELED,’ but this was not an accurate portrayal of what occurred. The event was not canceled; it was just given a different name because the event was modified through our attempts to put it on. I would just like to remind people that before we took on this event, nothing was in the works to plan it for it. I put out an open invitation to CSUMB students through open forum asking for help. Through this request I did receive emails from students who were interested in helping. My question to all of you who are not happy now is where were you when I asked for help?”

Those who wish to volunteer to help set up and run the event can contact Alisa Parsons via the CSUMB First Class system.
Isn't Christmas in December?

By Rebecca Adams

Christmas, a time of giving and sharing, was celebrated, on April 28 in the local community of Salinas. “Christmas in April?” you ask. On this last Saturday of April neighbors helped neighbors build stronger communities. The philosophy, “barn-raising,” consisted of recruited volunteers helping to rehabilitate deteriorating homes. Recipients of this project were disabled and/or elderly, low-income families, and non-profit facilities such as schools, shelters, and daycare centers. This annual event started by a Texan oil scout named Bobby back in 1973, and the name came about by a Midland recipient. By 1988 there were thirteen loosely affiliated Christmas in April operations across the United States. A decade later there are over 240 Christmas in April programs operating in more than 750 cities and towns across America. Christmas in April aids those who own their own homes, but because of physical limitations or income, are not able to cover the costs of home repair. All goods and services are donated. Some funds come from corporations, individuals, labor organizations, foundations, civic organizations, and religious organizations interested in helping build a stronger community.

When asking Ruth Rodriguez if she felt she had impacted the Salinas community in any way, she said, “Yes, I do, working in the Salinas community gave me a broader sense of the people that belong there. It was fun meeting new people and working with people that shared the same interest I did—community service.”

“I feel that for the most part I had an impact on the family whose house we helped to fix in Salinas, but I don’t really feel that I had an impact on the extended community of Salinas,” said Cristin Martinez, another volunteer for this charitable event. As far as major accomplishments achieved during this event, Cristin replied, “Working and getting to know other people in the community, and also playing a small role in helping out a family.”

“I feel like Christmas in April is an important community resource and that the organization as a whole benefits the Salinas Community a great deal. It was really wonderful being out there with so many people who just wanted to help out in some way,” says Tracy Burke, a student volunteer, graduating this May. “I felt proud of myself and everyone who was out there for not just talking about giving back to the community, but actually trying to do something, however small it was. Maybe painting the trim on some stranger’s house isn’t changing the world, but we have to start somewhere.”

Below are some quick facts as well as the national impact of Christmas in April from 2000 and the projections for Christmas in April 2001.

Quick Facts

- 5.5 million elderly and/or disabled Americans live in standard housing.
- One-third of Americans will be older than age 65 and chronically ill or disabled by the year 2000.
- Almost three quarters of all elderly persons with incomes below the poverty level are women.
- Nearly 60% of low-income homeowners use more than 30 percent of their incomes for housing needs.

Christmas in April 2000 National Impact:

- Number of houses: 7113
- Number of non-profits: 287
- Total # rehab sites: 7400
- Volunteers: 231,000
- Volunteer hours: 2,443,350
- Est. market value: $78 million
- Number of roofs: 1700
- Accessibility improvements: 1985
- Smoke detectors: 5960
- Electrical rewirings: 3120
- Plumbing repairs: 3405
- Number of new hot water heaters: 568
- Number of new stoves: 493
- Number of new doors/windows: 6580
- Number of heat restorations: 850
- Elderly people helped: 10,974
- People with disabilities helped: 6289
- Children helped: 51,930

Projections for 2001 Christmas in April:

- Over 7800 houses and non-profit facilities rehabilitated
- 245,000 volunteers donating their time and skills
- Work done in 770 cities and towns across America
- $86 million market value
- 700,000 elderly, people with disabilities and families with children

If you would like to get involved with Christmas in April next year in your local community please contact Catrina Flores via First Class or call 582-3996.
Service Learners to be featured on Court TV

By Tracy Anne Burke

Human Communication’s Spring 2001 Service Learning Class, Social Impact of the Mass Media (HCOM 307SL), will be featured in a national Media Literacy television special this month entitled: “Mind over Media: Helping Kids Get the Message.”

Students in the class, led and instruct-ed by the Executive Director of the Media Literacy Alliance of the Central Coast, Brenda Shinault, meet once a week for three hours to discuss major issues in the media including the economic, social, and political influences which shape and mold how media users view the world. They work with a curriculum, “Beyond Blame,” which is set up for elementary school age children. The curriculum focuses on prompting the children to examine their own television viewing habits and to recognize the hidden gimmicks media uses to keep their attention during sponsor breaks. After reviewing the curriculum, the HCOM students head to their sites at Salinas’ Cesar Chavez or Seaside’s Manzanita elementary schools to talk to 10-14 year olds about how the media affects them and social behavior.

“Working in a classroom setting with a small group of kids seemed daunting at first but has turned out to be one of the more rewarding and educational parts of my education at CSUMB,” says Caroline Musto, HCOM senior and Editor in Chief of The Otter Realm. “This class has forced me to examine my own television viewing behavior and to recognize how and why television holds our attention. It’s all about the bottom line. Period. It’s beyond getting the kids to realize TV is make-believe. It’s getting them to realize that it’s more about manipulation.”

“To see how the children grew in eight short weeks makes me feel that I have accomplished something important,” says Mary Porter and HCOM senior. “Even if just one child in our group speaks out about violence on TV or in his/her community in the future, we have made an impact on their lives. To make this kind of impact on a child’s life makes me feel thankful that I could make this small contribution to society.”

The program—a product of collaboration between Court TV, the National Education Association and Cable in the Classroom—focuses on links between media, youth behavior, culture and violence. The program will be aired Thursday, May 24 at 2:00PM, Saturday May 26 at 1:00PM, and at 4:00AM every Saturday in June on Court TV.

HCOM will be requesting assistance from campus media specialists to tape the program via NEA Safe Schools Satellite Now network satellite feed. For those interested, Satellite coordinates can be found at www.safeschoolsnow.org.

Reservation week leads to high anxiety

By Cory Schmidt

The fear of remaining in the Res Halls for another year or the even more daunting alternative of missing out on housing altogether brought nearly a hundred CSUMB students out of bed before the sun on Thursday April 26, 2001.

The Frederick Park apartment reservation was a week-long process with days designated for students to reserve the same spot that was occupied this year, and another for those hoping to move from one apartment to another. But, the most hectic by far was Thursday, April 26, the day marked for residence hall students moving out to the dorms. E-mails circulated the campus prior to reservation week not only asking students to come prepared with paperwork and fees but warning that there was a lack of housing. “It was about a two week process,” stated Andy Klingelhoefer, Residence Life Director. The e-mails in turn led to rumors, and the worry of not getting housing seemed to permeate the campus. Students moving from the residence halls out to the campus apartments were encouraged to come in groups of two or three as there were very few to no full units available. The crunch is due to more students coming in to CSUMB with housing needs than those leaving the campus said Klingelhoefer.

When reservation week arrived, if the line on Thursday April 26 seemed to drag on, unmovning for hours, it was because it did. Marek Piecyk, Mike Palleschi and Norwood Cole were the most eager students, camping out all night to ensure their spot. This crew began their adventure around midnight, braving the cold and the unusual happenings around them. An alarm was even set off a few doors down from the campers, which prompted a visit from the campus police. But the campers remained through the night. “We heard there were very few apartments left,” said Palleschi. “We wanted to make sure we were number one!”

The majority of students began the line-up at 5:00 AM, but the doors remained closed until 8:00 AM. “At 5:00, there was a six-car race out to the apartments,” stated Logan Murray, junior. Blankets and sleeping bags and lawn chairs were brought out and students bundled up for the three-hour wait, as others continued to trickle in, lengthening the line. Games of hackey sack and football were played to pass the time, and a laptop served as a minmovie theater with ten or more students huddled around it. Joshua Gardiner and Taylor Brutzman were crowd favorites, returning from a “food-run” bearing bags of McDonalds and bagels. As the doors prepared to open, FOAM (the management company who runs the Frederick Park housing) employees began to shout out instructions to the line. “The first day of dorm housing was the busiest,” said Susie Deaz who heads up the FOAM office. “It was surprising because they were lined up from the front door, down the driveway and into the street.” Tickets with numbers were passed out to students to avoid confusion. The first thing the FOAM employee told the crowd was that there were about ten full units available, so only the first forty in line were guaranteed spots. As everyone began to check their numbers and count the students in front of them, chatter erupted through the crowd, and whatever else was said by FOAM seemed to be lost on the students in line. “I was trying really hard to listen, but it was almost impossible because everyone in line was talking and yelling,” stated Jody Bowland, sophomore.

The reservation week seemed to run fairly smoothly. Even the day designated for residence hall students to reserve spots passed by with few glitches. Problems occurred only because “Most people had a particular spot they wanted to move into,” stated Deas. But, in the end, “all were accommodated that met the eligibility requirements (about a hundred),” stated Klingelhoefer. All together “there were about 650 folks reserving, including Res Halls,” continued Klingelhoefer. This number is up from last year, which explains the crunch. “Hopefully next year, there will be more housing opening, because the numbers are continually increasing,” stated Bowland.
Rugby tradition

By Chanelle Raboteau

Tradition plays a major role in all sports but, unlike most, rugby traditions are a little more eccentric. Traditions such as "shooting the boot," which involves drinking out of a dirty rugby cleat after scoring your first try and "Zulu warrior," which involves running in your underwear to the nearest convenience store to purchase something to prove you where there, are just a few of the eccentric traditions that exist in rugby. However, none of these traditions can compare to that of the "Rugby Whore."

"Most do not know the true meaning of a 'rugby whore'," said Matt Duditch, who helped coach the women's rugby team at the end of the season and is a player himself. "This is in no way a derogatory comment or reference toward women. If a rugby player were to play at a tournament, but did not belong to a team, that person could play for another team—or act like a 'whore' in rugby terminology."

Why the need for edification on rugby whores? Well, the weekend of April 28th, the CSUMB women's rugby club exposed themselves to the "rugby whore" tradition.

Keep in mind that a team needs 15 members to play. Friday night, 10 women headed down to a tiny hotel room in Santa Barbara with little more than a desire to play. Where they were a little short on numbers, they made up for it in heart. San Jose also was short on numbers, so the two teams joined forces for the first game against Stanford.

Even though it was a lopsided victory for Stanford, 22-0, the women's rugby team had fun. Especially CSUMB Team Captain and Coach Carolyn Drouin "I had a lot of fun, learned a little and got in a lot of playing time."

The following game was against CSUMB rival, the UC Santa Cruz Banana Slugs. CSUMB picked up a victory, 10-7, over the Slugs, along with the bragging rights to next season. San Jose couldn't help during the game, so the Otters turned to the women without a team, the "Rugby Whores", some of whom actually assisted in the win.

"I would be lying if I didn't think the whores we picked up along the way didn't play a key role in helping in our victory," said Angela Diffenderfer, who played three games for CSUMB and whored herself to San Jose for another three.

The third game for CSUMB, but more like four or five for some of the Otter players, was against UC Davis. The score was another lopsided victory for the opponents but, despite to the fatigue felt by all it was a hard-fought, defensive match. After the game against UC Davis, some team members went their respective ways to shower and bandage wounds, while others stayed to help out other teams.

"Cheers to Belmont for all the whoring action they gave us," said Drouin. "It was the biggest boost for our team to have such friendliness, knowledge and love for the sport playing for us."

Hail to the "rugby whore" tradition, without which the 10 women from CSUMB would be left with little more than a grand desire to play.

CSUMB hosts summer sporting camps

By Brian Kees

Sporting camps have been launching grounds for many talented athletes to discover and perfect talents in sports. With the growing popularity of sports on the Monterey Bay and CSUMB, the school will host several sporting camps over the summer including a high profile women's basketball camp.

Herm Edwards is a famous name in youth football and hosts camps all around the country. For the sixth straight year the Herm Edwards Football camp will be held on the CSUMB campus. Although it is not sponsored by CSUMB the camp should be helpful to kids ages 9-17. Many former and current NFL players will be present to assist in the coaching including All Pro safety for the Tampa Bay Bucs, John Lynch, and NFL referee Jim Tunney.

There will be two soccer camps for youths over the summer. The CSUMB Women's Soccer high school training programs helps to train college soccer players of the future. One camp date is currently in session, but there are two left in June and July. The other camp is the CSUMB Soccer camp, open to boys and girls between the ages of 7-14.

Coaching director for the Camp is CSUMB Men's coach Hector Uribe. The camp will focus on developing complete players with the highest possible levels of technical and tactical skills.

Basketball, which is a big sport on the CSUMB campus, will be the focus of two events during the summer. The first annual Monterey Bay Youth Basketball Tournament will be held July 20-22. The tournament is being hosted by CSUMB, and being presented by Oregon Prep Basketball. The tournament is open for boys between 6th and 12th grade, and girls between 7th and 12th grade.

The highlight of the summer camps will be the Pete Newell Tall Women's Basketball Camp. This first and only camp of its kind will focus on developing fundamental skills of promising college and high school players. The camp will be held July 5-8, applications from thirty college women and thirty 11th and 12th grade high school players will be accepted with a coach's recommendation on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Newell, inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1978, is held in high regard for his extensive career in basketball. He was the men's basketball head coach at the University of San Francisco, where he led the team to the National Invitation Tournament championship; UC Berkeley where he took his 1959 team to the NCAA National Championship; and Michigan State.

Newell's twenty-one years of coaching led to an Olympic Gold Medal for his 1960 Olympic team. He went on to serve as the general manager of the San Diego Rockets and LA Lakers in the NBA. He later practiced his skills internationally as well with the Japanese Basketball Association, which earned him a place in "The Order of the Sacred Treasure" from the Emperor of Japan in 1987.

Also joining the coaching staff is Ann Meyers, UCLA All-American and National Basketball Hall of Famer. Meyers was the first player drafted to the Women's Professional Basketball League in 1978. She was named MVP of that league in 1979-80 when she played for the New Jersey Gems. Following that honor, Meyers signed a contract with the NBA's Indiana Pacers. She was the only woman to ever do so. Other members of the staff of the Tall Women's Basketball Camp will include Pete Newell, Jr, head coach at Santa Cruz High School, and Bill McClintock, head men's coach at CSU Monterey Bay.

Pete Newell created the renowned Big Man Basketball Camp in 1976, which has since been held in Honolulu every summer. These camps have prepared many players for collegiate and NBA careers. Bill Trumbo, director of athletics at CSUMB, sees the need for women and girls to "develop sound fundamentals of basketball," and has expanded the Big Man Camp concept to include tall women and girls. The Tall Women's Basketball Camp aims to bring some of the Newell magic to Monterey. "He's a thorough detail guy. This has been his passion," stated Trumbo.

With many camps in different sports it should be a fun summer for the CSUMB campus. If you have any interest in attending one of these camps, please contact the CSUMB Department of Athletics.
Olga Talamante announces the message of the Zapatistas

By Gabriela Lopez

Surrounded by vivid photographs of Zapatistas from Chiapas, Mexico, students, staff, faculty, and community members gathered at the VPA building to listen to Olga Talamante. Talamante, a Latina activist, was, along with a photo exhibit by Talamante herself, part of the weeklong events for “Semana de la Raza”, or Raza Week. Coordinated by Mujeres de Maiz and HCOM, Olga Talamante was a guest to CSUMB to tell her story and give the message from the Zapatistas.

Olga is native of Mexicali, Baja California Mexico, and at age 11, came to Gilroy on a Greyhound bus to work. She went to UC Santa Cruz and became involved in the UFW and MEChA. Olga went to Chiapas, Mexico and learned of the oppression happening to the indigenous people of Chiapas. In Mexico at the time, Olga says that Mexicans were oppressing other Mexicans not because of the color of their skin, but because of class; even she felt like an outsider. “I began to see that even us Chicanos coming from the United States were seen as foreigners”.

In 1974, Olga traveled to Argentina to be a part of the Peronist movement, and was arrested. In Argentina, “if you were suspected of thinking of changing the government, then you were arrested”, she said. Olga was arrested and tortured for 16 months in Argentina.

Olga now works with students of color and continues to link the struggles of Chicanos in the US with those of the people in Latin America. “We do have to unite, we do have to work together”, Olga said about working with people in Latin America. And Olga has been linking Chicanos’ struggles with those of the Zapatistas.

Standing before her audience, Olga Talamante shares her incredible experience of being in Mexico City with the Zapatistas. Behind her, a black flag with a red star and the letters EZLN on it and photographs of murals and Zapatistas illustrate the words she speaks with such passion.

Olga shared her experiences of the Zapatista’s march to Mexico City and spoke about listening to the “comandantas” give their speeches in the Zocalo, Mexico City’s main courtyard. Olga said that listening to the comandantas speak during International Women’s Day (March 8th) was inspiring. She tells of messages of two comandantas, Comandanta Ester and Comandanta Fidelia.

The message of Comandanta Ester, as told by Olga, was that women across the country continue to fight so that they do not continue suffering. Olga said that Comandanta Ester learned to read and write Spanish in the Zapatista struggle. Comandanta Ester chose to fight in the struggle because, “If I’m going to die starving, I’m going to die fighting.” Olga mentions that there are many women leaders in the Zapatista movement who, like Comandanta Ester, are dedicated to the struggle.

Comandanta Fidelia is another woman in the struggle who Olga Talamante spoke of. Talamante said that when Comandanta Fidelia said “Nosotros, aunque estamos feas, nosotros podemos pelar” (“We, although ugly, we can fight”), the audience responded with “¡No estan feas! ¡No estamos feas! ("You aren’t ugly! You aren’t ugly") Olga says that because the Zapatista women have their faces covered as part of the struggle, they sometimes think that others see them as ugly.

Olga also spoke of Sub-Comandante Marcos, one of the most known leaders in the Zapatista movement. Talamante says that Marcos is sometimes seen with cynicism, as he is not an indigenous person. She says that even she was a cynic as to why Marcos was part of the movement, but when she saw him, her views changed. Olga says that Sub-Comandante Marcos has a revered attitude towards the Zapatistas and that he respects all the women in the struggle. In his speech, Marcos said “The brains, the engine and the energy that made it possible for [them] to be here is feminine.” Olga stated that Marcos mentioned that Zapatista women are discriminated because they are indigenous, because they are poor, insurgent and because they are women.

Marcos also made it clear in the march that the Zapatistas are not fighting for power, but for equality. The Zapatistas illusion a world where everyone is welcomed and are not fighting to dictate the way the Mexican government dictates. In his speech, Marcos spoke to all people of all classes, colors and sexual orientations, said Olga. He told the audience that Mexico is the answer to their issues and their own problems and said that the Zapatistas are only a small part of making changes in the world.

“...Not the light but only the flicker. Not the way but only a few steps. Not the guide, but only the path to lead you to tomorrow.” Olga said that Marcos’ speech was admirable because he spoke to people of all sexual orientations, something uncommon for Latin American political leaders to do.

After the rally in Mexico City, the struggle traveled to the city of Xochimilco in Mexico for another rally. The Zapatistas were hopeful after the rallies, but were hit with the announcement that the Mexican government decided to cut all negotiations with the Zapatistas. Olga mentions that this is dangerous for the Zapatistas as all sovereignty and property rights will be taken away from them. Because of this, the Zapatistas need as much support as possible.

According to Olga, all forms of international support is crucial because it can provide a level of safety to the Zapatistas. There are many ways, said Olga, to help the Zapatistas, such as letters, donations, or volunteering. Although the Zapatistas have support, there is still much to do to help them.

Talamante relayed the message of the Zapatistas from her perspective as a Chicana activist: to continue the Zapatista struggle in Mexico and around the world. Her activism has helped inspire others and has been a help to students and to the Zapatistas and her photographs have illustrated what is occurring in Chiapas today.

If you are interested in helping the Zapatista struggle, visit www.schoolsforchiapas.org or www.ezln.org for more information.

Glossary

Comandanta: Commander. Woman leader in Zapatista movement.

Sub-Comandante: Sub-Commander. Second in command in the Zapatista movement.

EZLN: Ejercito Zapatista de Liberacion National (National Zapatista Army for Liberation)
II. Otter Happenings

By Elizabeth Ahrens

If you need disability or interpreter accommodations to attend these events, please promptly contact the event sponsor. If you are planning an event open to the campus community, and would like to announce your event in Otter Happenings, please contact Elizabeth Ahrens via First Class. All events listed are free unless otherwise noted.

Thursday May 17
What: Specter Dance Week Master Classes
When: Modern: 1:00 - 2:30pm
Contemporary Partnering: 2:30 - 4:00pm
Ball: 4:30 - 6:00pm
Pointe: 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Where: CSUMB Dance Studio, Building 84F
Cost: Single class $15, 5 class card $60, unlimited class $95
For more information: Please contact Fran Spector Atkins at 625-0453

Friday May 18
What: Specter Dance Week Master Class - Ballet from a Gyrotonics Perspective
When: 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Where: CSUMB Dance Studio, Building 84F
Cost: Single class $15, 5 class card $60, unlimited class $95
For more information: Please contact Alice Parziale via FirstClass

Friday May 18
What: Specter Dance Week Master Class - Cheerleading Tryouts
Where: 11am - 3pm
Where: Bldg. 90 (OSC)
Cost: Free
For more information: Please contact Sarah Brandt at 582-9606 or via FirstClass

Friday May 18 & Saturday May 19
What: Specter Dance Week Performance with guest artists
When: 8:00pm
Where: World Theater
Cost: $15 general / $12 children 12 and under
For more information: Please contact the World Theater at 582-4426

Saturday May 19
What: Specter Dance Week Master Class - Ballet from a Gyrotonics Perspective
When: 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Where: CSUMB Dance Studio, Building 84F
Cost: Single class $15, 5 class card $60, unlimited class $95
For more information: Please contact Fran Spector Atkins at 625-0453

Saturday May 19
What: Master of Arts in Education Second Annual Capstone Conference
Featuring the work of 13 new graduates, and distinguished guest speaker Dr. John Ogba
When: 8:45 am - 12noon
Where: University Center
Cost: Free
For more information: Please contact Hector Uribe via FirstClass

Saturday May 19
What: Spring Fling, casino night/dance
Sponsored by Student Voice Work Group, Thrift Hop will play, and there will be a DJ along with casino night gaming.
When: 8pm - 12midnight
Where: University Center
Cost: $2 at the door
For more information: Please contact Alice Parziale via FirstClass

Saturday May 19
What: Intramural Softball Weekend
Everyone welcome. Bring your own equipment or borrow theirs. All levels invited to this great stress reliever! Teams will compete in a mini-round robin tournament on Saturday (Frederick Park's softball field)
For more information: Please contact Hector Uribe via FirstClass

Sunday May 20
What: CSUMB Youth Soccer Clinic
When: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Where: Soccer Complex
Cost: Free for boys and girls ages 6 - 15 years old. All levels welcome.
Parking: Free near the field
For more information: Please contact 582-3512

Monday May 21 - Thursday May 24
Assessment period

Thursday May 24
What: Alice Thompson Student Recital
When: 12:30pm
Where: Music Hall, Building 30
Cost: Free
For more information: Please contact Nadia Santiago at 582-4085

Thursday May 24 & Friday May 25th
What: CSUMB Senior Capstone Festival
Students from CSU Monterey Bay's 12 majors will present their Senior Capstones. Senior Capstones range from presentations of research projects, art displays, discussion about personal histories, readings from original children's literature, and viewing of short films. Cost: Free, free parking is available all over campus
For more information: Please contact 582-3512

Saturday May 26
What: CSUMB 5th Commencement Ceremony, Former pub-isher Jay T. Harris will be the keynote speaker.
When: 10am
Where: Freeman Stadium near the CSU Monterey Bay Campus
Cost: Free
For more information: please contact 582-GRAD

Saturday May 26
What: Fourth Annual CSUMB African American Graduation Celebration
When: 6:00PM
Where: Monterey Temple Church Of God In Christ, Yosemite and Broadway Avenue, Seaside.
For information, call Michelle Hill at x6303 or Mel Mason at x4437

Sunday, May 27
What: Chicano/Latino Commencement Celebration
When: 2pm - midnight
Tickets are limited. No contact info was available at the time we went to print.

Monday May 28
Memorial Day, Campus Closed