You cut what?

By Zachary Stahl
ZACHARY_STAHL@CSUMB.EDU

40 students and faculty came to the UC conference room on Feb. 19 to battle out the current budget crisis with Karen Mendonca, vice president of student affairs, and Dan Johnson, vice president of administration and finance.

The Student Voice-sponsored event, entitled "You Cut What?" was designed to allow students to ask questions and receive answers from the administration. Johnson and Mendonca started out with some opening comments.

For next fall, Johnson mentioned a $198 dollar-per-semester increase in student fees and "the ability for the university to do business" is dependant upon this increase. The CSU system "is still the most cost-effective education in the U.S.," said Johnson.

Mendonca said, "the political process is anything but static," and that students should look for Gov. Gray Davis's May revise of the budget. She encouraged students to get involved and "use Student Voice to be your voice" in order to maintain shared governance in the budget process.

When asked whether the cutting of HWH classes and others is related to the budget situation, Mendonca said classes have been cut for efficiency reasons only. CSUMB was offering many courses that were consistently below capacity, and the budget crisis has demanded a reevaluation of these small class sizes, she said.

One student commented that President Peter Smith is paid more than the governor and asked why CSUMB has a higher student-per-administrator ratio than any other campus.

Johnson said CSUMB "spends more on student education than any other campus in the state system."

Senior Iris Peppard asked why "students with a low poverty rate are charged extra

MOLD: Page 3

By Kara Alaimo
KARA_ALAIMO@CSUMB.EDU

Do you have a mold problem in your campus house or apartment? Staff, faculty and students alike have been experiencing relocation from Schoonover and Frederick Park due to the effects of mold in their homes.

The relocation process for one family started months ago, however the turmoil of the whole process endures.

Sam Prat, his wife Kelley and their two children have lived in Schoonover Park since June of 2001. This past September Prat noticed mold growth in one of his three bathrooms. He then took the next logical step and contacted Fort Ord Asset Management (FOAM) to make them aware of the problem. FOAM let three months pass before they entered the home to deal with the mold invasion.

When FOAM finally arrived, the repair job was mediocre. "They did a half-assed job," Kelley said. But the mold was gone—or so they thought.

One month had passed when Kelley found mold spores in the closet of their children's playroom; she immediately contacted FOAM. This time FOAM moved a bit quicker, but not by much. "It took around 2 weeks before a contractor was sent to the scene," Kelley said.

Once the mold was inspected another 10 days passed with no word from FOAM. Kelley tried numerous times to contact Heather Church, the operations manager for FOAM. After receiving no response, the Prats became very upset with the way they were being treated. "The communication with FOAM was awful," Kelley said.
Karen Mendonca and Dan Johnson discussed the current budget crisis with concerned students.

**BUDGET** From Page 1

fees with no talk of lowering administrators' salaries."

Johnson reiterated the fact that "one-third of all new fees will go directly to financial aid to help the most needy of students."

"How are the priorities set?" asked Junior Rhiannon Oleary.

Mendonca answered that the chancellor directs some cuts while others are under CSUMB's jurisdiction. Johnson said that the administration is pushing for fewer cuts so that there can be more latitude in deciding the budget priorities.

Katherine Murphy, Student Voice public relations director, asked what cuts are currently on the administration's table.

Mendonca said that the administration will face cuts in professional development and travel. She also mentioned a hiring freeze on all non-critical positions.

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President of Student Voice John Charter asked how students could help prioritize the budget cuts. Mendonca said she would be happy to present the priorities to Student Voice as the process develops and that they would like to meet with students again in the near future.

Charter said that Student Voice is "working to get student input on budget priorities" by having students brainstorm ideas and submit them. A priority list was compiled during the event.

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**WASC Educational Effectiveness Review**

This is the second part of our two-part Initial Accreditation Review and is an open session for students.

1pm - 2pm University Center Living Room. Free.
Contact the WASC staff at csumbwasc@yahoo.com. Please note that this email address will be active from Monday, February 24 through Monday, March 3 so that the team has an opportunity to review correspondence before they arrive on campus.

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**Living, Naming, Telling:**

Women Sharing Testimonials

This event is sponsored by the Multicultural Feminist Group, Events Work Group, the Institute for Human Communication and Community Research.

Celebrate and honor Women in our local communities and around the world with local feminist speakers, recognition of phenomenal Women, information on community services, our keynote speakers—Ten authors from the Giusavas Myes award winning book "Tell to Live" entertainment by San Francisco's Loco Bloco Dance Ensemble.

Book signing to follow event. Refreshments and Child Care provided at no charge.

6pm - 9pm University Center. Free. Contact Janine Smith via FirstClass.

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**Final step in accreditation process**

By Karen Bailey

Karen Bailey@csumb.edu

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) will return to CSUMB March 5-7 to conduct the Educational Effectiveness Review, which is the final step for college accreditation.

This visit is the second stage of a seven-year process. The WASC review team will evaluate the unique vision and mission statement of the CSUMB campus.

Primarily they will focus on university learning requirements (ULRs), major learning outcomes (MLOs), capstone projects, and teaching methods.

According to HCOM professor Qun Wang "accreditation is not a one-time thing; schools are reviewed every ten years".

The most important challenge for the campus in preparing for the Educational Effectiveness Review is to articulate CSUMB's expectations for its graduates and the knowledge that they are expected to demonstrate.

Wang said the team will approve but "certain areas will need improvement." The language and technology requirements are currently under review.

Irene Feinman, professor and assistant of the Democratic Participation ULR said that the areas of improvement would be ULRs: specifically how they work and what students learn from them and how students benefit from the Capstone project. Of course, this only an example of what the team is reviewing.

CSUMB degrees are covered from CSU Fresno, meaning if a student graduates from CSUMB their degree is legitimate for graduate school or to obtain a job. This is the final visit and accreditation will be determined July 2003.

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**WASC Educational Effectiveness Review**

Report to the campus community

10am University Center ballroom. Free. Contact the WASC staff at csumbwasc@yahoo.com. Please note that this email address will be active from Monday, February 24 through Monday, March 3 so that the team has an opportunity to review correspondence before they arrive on campus.

Diversity Days 2003 Event:

"Turning Away From Hate"

After 15 years as a non-Nazi white supremacist activist and recruiter, I EXPERIENCED A profound change of heart, turned away from hate and began teaching tolerance. In this amazing story we might find the key to combating the spread of hatred and violence in our country and a path to turn away from our fears and prejudices.

6pm - 7pm University Center. Free. Contact Irene Steffens via FirstClass.

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**Unveiling the Online Journal**

Come get introduced to the new online journal for students by students. Learn how to get published and celebrate the first issue.

6pm 4BC. Free. Contact Remberto Nunez via FirstClass.

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**Career Day Tips**

Learn Strategies to successfully talk with potential employers. Please pre-register at http://sac, csumb.edu/

1pm - 2pm University Center Ballroom. Free. Contact Ruth Kim via FirstClass.

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**Pizza Night for Students**

The CSUMB Alumni Association is sponsoring a free Pizza Night. Pizza Night is an opportunity for students to gather with alumni and enjoy a break from their studies.

6pm - 8pm 4BC. Free. Contact Amy Lauder or Lin Blackkost via FirstClass.

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**Mock Interview Day**

Come dressed for success and get some practice and tips on interviewing for a job. Please pre-register at http://sac, csumb.edu/

9am - 4pm Building 44. Free. E-mail career_development@csumb.edu, or call 831-582-3845 to make an appointment.

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**WACD (We Care About Disabilities)**

Meeting with guest speakers, Richard Gallo and Rosie Cantillas from the Central Coast Center for Independent Living who will speak on the subjects...
Activities incorporating action

By Jody Bowman
TOU m呼唤CSUMB via FirstClass.

The activities planned by student leaders from the University Service Advocate (USA) Program of the Service Learning Department at CSUMB for the week of Feb. 16 promoted action on our campus as well as in the local community. All five activities took place with large results.

On Feb. 16, students from Hartnell College, MPC and CSUMB joined in with the almost 200,000 other peace activists in what the Coast Weekly called "one of the largest antiwar demonstrations ever held in the City of San Francisco."

Local students were transported to San Francisco to participate in a demonstration against the war in Iraq.

"I figured they are the biggest demonstrations in history. I wanted to see for myself what was going on," said CSUMB student James Green.

On Feb. 18, students hosted a workshop on Citizenship and the INS. Speakers and panelists were included in this workshop.

"Approximately 115 people attended this event and posed thoughtful and engaging questions for the four panelists. The panelists shared insightful information on the immigrant act, what it means to be a U.S. Citizen and the difficulties of getting citizenship as an immigrant," said Christina Luza, participant of USA.

On Feb. 19, students hosted a Teach-In surrounding the recent budget cuts. This was meant to inform students about the budget cuts and provide options for action in the future. This workshop was known as the "Who Cut What?" workshop and created a lot of discussion regarding CSUMB.

"About 50 students were informed by the VP of finance and student affairs. Students were encouraged to host more informational events such as this to increase awareness," said Luza.

Feb. 20 held a workshop for middle school students. The focus of this particular workshop was merely to inform the students of necessary high school classes that will help meet college entrance requirements.

"The background for this particular event came from the fact that over 70% of high school students in the Monterey County Community have not yet taken the proper classes to meet these requirements," said Luza.

"Looking for the need in the community, we did a presentation to eighth graders about getting to college. It was perfect timing because the following week they were choosing their classes for high school," said Lucy Zumtuche, one of the three USA leaders of the workshop.

Finally, on Feb. 21, a community planting was held at Natividad Creek Park.

"The planting event inspired seven CSUMB students to lead 75 elementary students in planting 750 plants. The children were enthusiastic and intrigued about the planting process," said Luza.

Roughly 25 students show up for the one-sided lecture about why the government is really going to Iraq.

MacGregor Eddy gave her opinions on the war and websites for students to visit. Her goal was to get the students interested in learning and researching the history leading up to the war.

The USA program is a service learning leadership program of the Service Learning Institute here at CSUMB. Through this program, the USAs are able to provide support to faculty, students, and the community through such events as these held in the past week. For more information about the students and work of the University Service Advocate Program, contact Tania D. Mitchell or Christina Luza via FirstClass.

*Some names have been changed to protect all parties involved.*

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**MOLD From Page 1**

Todd Fridley, the project manager at FOAM, assured the Prats that the mold had been tested for toxicity. When Kelley heard this she was concerned for the health of her children. "FOAM never reassured us the house was safe for us to live in," Kelley said.

At this point Kelley did not know where she stood with FOAM. "I wish they would have talked to us more about what their plans were," said Sam.

Two weeks after getting no answers or results the Prats were told they were being moved into a guesthouse during the repairs to their home. The family collected possessions and moved into the guesthouse FOAM provided, with no time line of when they would be able to move back into their home.

The Prats went from a 3 bedroom, 2 bath into a 2 bedroom with 1 bath. "We were not happy with the move," said the Prats.

The family lived in the FOAM-provided guesthouse for over a month. During this month they withheld their rent from FOAM in protest. This action caused Heather Church to communicate with the Prats.

"I ran into Church as I was leaving my temporary housing," said Sam. During this run-in, "I was told that I could have moved back into my house a week ago," Sam said.

They have since paid their rent and moved back into their home. "I would have been fine with the whole situation if there were no mold," Kelley said.

"The relocation is being done because of the repairs that were made," said Kelley.

"Carpet was cut out and not replaced: two different colors of paint were used on the wall," Kelley said.

"Once the Prats were out of their home, three projects were to be going on at their home. The removal of mold from the closet, a wall to be knocked down to clean the doll inside and the construction areas were to be painted once the project was complete."

"We have contractors come in to remove the affected areas and replace them with new materials," Church said.

Within Fredericks Park and Schnoor have there been 15 residents relocated temporarily and 5 relocated on a permanent basis said Church. Some residents are moved into the guesthouses, like the Prats, and some are moved into other units. "Residents are moved into whatever is open," Church said.

For the folks moved into the guest homes they will enjoy a fully furnished apartment with a washer and dryer along with their gas and electric paid for. This is not the case for the residence moved into other units around the housing facility.

"The relocation is being done because of serious mold damage caused by residents that do not follow the instructions they were given about the vents in the restrooms," Church said. Restrooms are the most prone to mold growth.

Residents take hot showers and when they are done, they simply close the door and go on with their business. The fan is there to provide ventilation in order to prevent mold.

Letters were mailed out to everyone who lives in campus apartments and homes last spring. These provided steps to keep the room free of mold, as well as highlighting the need to use the fan after showering.

Stephanie Fagundes, a student at CSUMB and resident of a Frederick's Park apartment, had this to say about the mold in her bathroom: "It is becoming our fourth roommate." She said that any students come in specifically due to mold.

"Mold in people's homes in Monterey County is an occurrence, some mold is hazardous, but most are not," said Hartsock.

It is possible to be allergic to mold. Which types and the amount to cause the reaction are different with everyone.

"Common symptoms of allergies to mold are sneezing, itchy eyes, scratchy or sore throat, and a clear runny nose," said Hartsock.

A standard allergy test would detect mold allergies.

Dawn said, "Since I have been here I have not had any students come in specifically due to mold."

The Prats, along with other staff, faculty, and students, have mold, have had mold, and will get mold. Mold happens, and the cooperation of different groups is needed in order to eliminate the mold with as little hassle as possible. **

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**March 5, 2003 | The Otter Realm | 3**
Within the past couple of months there have been some very unlucky CSUMB students who have had their personal possessions severely damaged by anonymous suspects. As for the crimes committed, no one can explain the reasoning for such actions.

Between the hours of 11:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. on Feb. 23 and 24, unknown suspects threw several small pieces of broken white porcelain at the rear window of CSUMB dorm resident Jennifer Cosio’s car. Cosio said at approximately 7:30 the following morning from returning from her weekend family visit, she went to move her car and “saw that the back window had been shattered.” She also said that she had “found a small piece of a hard white colored substance on the trunk of [her] car, as well as a portion of a broken light bulb.”

Cosio said she has no problems with anyone in the building and does not know whom or why anyone would do this to her car. Being very angered about the vandalism, Jennifer Cosio posted a public statement on Open Forum, which read, in part, “This goes out to everyone who goes to this campus and visits it. This is the final straw. No one likes when someone or someone’s goes on vandalizing peoples property especially their automobiles. People believe they could do shit around Dorm BLDG 201 because its out there and that they will not get caught.”

Due to lack of suspect information, this case has been closed.

If you have any information about this crime, contact Jennifer Cosio via FirstClass. If you have been vandalized while being on campus and you want it publicized you can also contact me, Dawn Lee, via FirstClass.

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**NEWS**

**FIRST REPORT: Vandalism on campus**

*By Dawn Lee*

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**Integrated Studies stays course**

*By Patrick Kuhl*

Faced with the possibility of losing this semester’s 300 Major Proseminar for Integrated Studies Special Major (ISSM) to budget cuts, ISSM students and faculty took action to save the course from the brink of cancellation and possibly save the program at the same time.

Public support for the course and the potential repercussions of its demise prompted the Academic Senate to take up the matter as an “Emergency Issue” at the Senate meeting last Wednesday, February 19. Supporters of ISSM 300 claimed that if the course had been canceled the program would have suffered immeasurably.

The ISSM 300 course was nearly cancelled without going through the shared governance system of CSUMB. ISSM proponents want to put a halt to any action that detrimentally affects the curriculum and scheduling of courses until the faculty and the Academic Senate have had the opportunity to review the status and future of the program.

In a call to action on the Academic Senate meeting agenda, former Director of Integrated Studies, Dr. Richard Harris, concluded “if the Integrated Studies Program is to be sacrificed at the alter of the FTE quotas and the current budget crisis, this is a matter for shared governance and for the Academic Senate to deliberate and decide in collaboration with the academic administration.”

The course is considered for cancellation by the Dean of University-Wide Programs, Henry Villanueva, in an effort to adhere to the state’s budget crisis because it only had eight students. Any course with less than the Full Time Equivalency quota of 26 students could be deemed financially unprofitable and sub sequentially cancelled. However, in a program that only supports about 30 students, it would be tough to enroll the required number of students needed.

ISSM courses scheduled for next semester are still in jeopardy because it is possible that there will not be enough students to meet the Full Time Equivalency quota per course. However, current students have been assured by Villanueva that they would be given the opportunity to complete the Integrated Studies Program. Villanueva says that the program was never in peril, just one course, and just this semester. However, some claimed that the cancellation of this one class could have had residual effects on the future of the program. ISSM 300 student Kyle Brandow said, “If they cancelled Proseminar then I would have one more course to take next semester and who is to say they won’t cancel it next semester too?”

Similar to other majors at CSUMB, the Major Proseminar course is instrumental in the completion of the Integrated Studies Special Major. The fact that it is such an important course multiplies the impact it could have had on ISSM.

ISSM 300 is one of only six courses that ISSM offers. Brandow pointed out, “The budget cuts have affected everyone at CSUMB but Integrated Studies shouldn’t be a stepping stone toward perceived financial gain. Just because there’s only 30 students in our major doesn’t make it any less valuable a learning experience.” The cancellation of the Proseminar would not have completely shut down the program but it is much too important a course to be dismissed.

The proposed cancellation of ISSM 300 was never meant to undermine ISSM, but its loss could have had profoundly detrimental effects on the program’s future. “I might not have had such high interest in Integrated Studies when I was considering majors if it had appeared to be in jeopardy. That would’ve been really unfortunate because it’s such a wonderful program,” ISSM Graduate Sya Buryan said. “It seems like the Integrated Studies Program will require a different set of rules when it comes to FTE quotas because there aren’t that many students in the major.”

A reasonable compromise needs to be reached. One such resolution appears to be a decrease in the number of students required to keep an ISSM course open. “It seems logical that a major with 30 students shouldn’t be held to the same quotas as a major with 400 students,” Brandow explained. The fate of a major is at stake.

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**Fall break is salvaged**

*By Zachary Stahl*

After disapproving action from Student Voice and the Academic Senate, the informal proposal to eliminate fall break has been rejected.

During the week of Feb. 16, the Academic Senate Executive Committee (ASEC) decided to maintain a fall break for the 2003-2004 Academic Calendar. The only change to the schedule is a shortened “welcome week.”

The calendar is by no means a dead issue, however. Discussions will resume late this spring on the placement of fall break and assessment week for the following academic year.

Discussions about the possible elimination of fall break commenced in the middle of last semester as various faculty members voiced their concerns with Betty McEady, chair of the Academic Senate.

According to McEady, certain faculty thought, “fall planning week (fall break) was more of an interference with the continuity of the curriculum.”

Students “forget everything we did in the first part of the semester,” said Herbert Martin, professor of Liberal Studies, in an Academic Senate meeting.

McEady brought up the faculty concerns in an Academic Affairs Council meeting. Coincidentally, Karen Mendonca, vice president of Student Affairs, had also prepared an addendum to the fall break issue.

Mendonca said that the orientation week was too long for students and that some students weren’t returning after leaving for fall break. According to Holly White, news and public information officer, Mendonca presented statistics that exhibited a problem with retention, especially among freshmen.

Next, the Academic Affairs Council “decided that the issue needed more input from faculty and students,” said McEady.

As the issue was discussed in the respective colleges, ASEC proposed a calendar with an extended Thanksgiving break, similar to CSU Chico and Humboldt.

Richard Crothers, manager of the academic scheduling office, drafted three calendar scenarios—one with fall break, one without, and one with an extended Thanksgiving break—to present to the representative bodies.

Student Voice had already begun gathering comments from students. Carolyn Drouin, statewide affairs director of Student Voice, distributed an email poll to students and received more than 150 responses.

Junior Melissa Hair said, “the time (during fall break) is very useful to catch up on schoolwork as well as responsibilities outside of school.”

Senior Kimberly Corley said “parents who are students often depend on this time to catch up with their children and save a little money on child care.”

These and other student concerns were presented at the Student Voice meeting on Feb. 10.

After hearing from both Crothers and the students, the cabinet voted unanimously in favor of some sort of break. The cabinet was evenly split between having fall break or an extended Thanksgiving break.

On Feb. 12, the item was voted on in the Academic Senate. Although some faculty mentioned the loss of momentum and bad timing of academic planning, the body voted to continue with a fall break.

Before the Academic Senate could vote on which scenario they preferred, Colleen Mullery, director of IMIE, tabled the motion to be sent to Education Planning and Policy Committee (EPPC).

Chair of the EPPC, Suzanne Worcester called an emergency meeting on Feb. 17 to discuss the matter. The EPPC recommended proceeding with fall break as usual in order to get more statistics and “come up with a more well thought out decision for the next calendar,” said Worcester.

According to McEady, the academic calendar will continue to be reviewed. “It is not just about retaining a fall break, it is a question of where assessment week should fall,” said McEady.

Assessment week runs as late as Dec. 23 next year, leaving faculty and students a narrow window for winter holiday travels.
To err is human
By Adriana Gomez

Greg Lukas, a patron of the Vagina Monologues became one of the subjects of controversy and a target for ad hominem attacks on Open Forum after the Feb. 14 performance of the play in the World Theater. Director of the Presenting Program and World Theater, Dawn Gibson-Brehon, was made aware of the happenings at a customary debriefing of the productions at the World Theater.

"Towards the end of it (the show), there was an interruption by a patron who was sitting in the wheelchair section," said Gibson-Brehon. "At that point people were a little startled, kind of grumbled underneath their breath and after that there was another outburst and patrons were like 'that's enough, shut up'. Then this person quieted down and stopped."

"To those who have heard about the incident and have wondered what really happened, it's time to set some of the rumors straight."

"An evening of poetry, art and culture with special presentations by Amelia Mesa-Bains, Rima Benmayor and Diana Garcia."

7pm University Center Living Room, Free. Contact Amelia Mesa-Bains via FirstClass.

thursday 3/6
Lecture Demonstration by David Trasoff on Indian Sarode Music
10am-11:30am Music Hall (Bidg. 3d). Free. Contact Shariene Campbell at 831-582-3009.

"This Life"
A great night of free music provided by musical guest, Kaizen and a student speaker. This event is sponsored by the Ona Christians Fellowship.

7pm-10pm Main Quad. Free. Call 831-582-9087.

friday 3/7
Grrls Night Out
A tribute to women. GROUNDATION, a well-known roots reggae group will be performing. Opening band will be local band HauteRock. Come celebrate women and have a good time.

8:30pm BBC. Free. Contact Vito Trigilia via FirstClass.

thursday 3/13
Lecture by visiting artist
Tony Gleaton
Gleaton is best known for his project, Africa's Legacy in Mexico a collection of photos of descendants of African slaves brought to New Spain from 1590 through the 1700s.

6pm-8pm Music Hall, Free. Contact Joan Weiner at 831-582-4330.

friday 3/14
James Rote Endowed Professor Benefit Play
Proof
Proof is the story of Catherine, an enigmatic young woman, who faced the challenges of a genius father, her manipulative sister, an unexpected suicide, and a mysterious mathematical proof only to realize that love is the most complex equation of all.

7:30pm Thorne Theater in Carmel, located between Eighth Avenue and Ninth Avenue. $75 Admission. Contact Chris Hasagawa at 831-582-3796.

BBC update
The Photo Club is proud to announce a gallery showing at the BBC. A collaboration of works of many of the students in the Photo Club will be showing until March 12. So hurry down to the BBC and enjoy the pictures.

Do you like to perform? Do you like concerts and poetry readings? Then you should check out the BBC on Thursday and Friday nights. Thursday is Open Mic night where students perform poetry, music, comedy, dancing, and other entertaining acts on stage. On Friday nights, the BBC hosts a number of great bands from campus and international bands from around the globe. Check it out, it's a great way to start your weekend.

International Women's Day

As a tradition here at CSUMB, the Multicultural Feminist's Group is putting on an event in celebration of International Women's Day. Every year keynote women speakers who are considered role models for women everywhere will present what they have to say. This year the speakers are eight authors from the Gustavus Myers Award winning book Telling to Live. One of the authors is Rima Benmayor, a Human Communications professor here at CSUMB. During the night, there will be "Phenomenal Women Recognition Awards." These awards provide a chance to recognize all the phenomenal women on this campus and in the community. The event takes place March 6 in the University Center Ballroom from 6-9:30p.m.

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March 5, 2003 | The Otter Realm | 5
In Spanish, "alegría" means happy and joyful. That describes the mood at the CSUMB Music Hall Feb. 20, when a crowd of students gathered to hear Music and Performing Arts professor Paul Contos and his band, Alegria, perform and discuss Latin jazz. "It is just a band we play in," says Paul Contos.

Alegria has been together since the 1980s. The group consists of five members who consider this their freelance job. Steve Robertson, the leader of the group, said during the performance, "We play Latin jazz, our way of doing this music." All the music they played was in the traditions of Jazz, Afro-Cuban and Afro-Brazilian music. The Cuban songs the band played were energetic and very lively, similar to listening to the music of the Buena Vista Social Club.

Robertson said, "These songs are what happened when Cubans came to the states and met up with the jazz musicians." Murray Low played piano, Robertson was on drums, Contos played jazz saxophone and flute, Dan Robbins played 7-string electric bass, and Jeannie Muller filled in on the congas.

Contos said, "Everyone brings their own set of talent." Alegria has played around the Monterey Bay area and at many jazz festivals including the Big Sur Jazz Festival and the Santa Cruz Art, Wine and Jazz Festival.
Aaron Saucedo has been painting since he was 14 years old. Starting out by designing sets for school plays, he has evolved into an artist on a mission.

Saucedo uses acrylic paints to teach and inspire students of all ages by continuing to serve as an example for other artists in the community. He uses murals and collaborative paintings with high school students to beautify Morgan Hill and Gilroy.

By using art as a way to “escape and let out emotion,” he creates outstanding works of art that seem to convey different meanings to everyone who looks at them.
Indian Sarode music explored

By Morning Star Vasquez

To most students on this campus, Indian Sarode Music is a mystery. On March 6, David Trasoff, an ethnomusicologist and teacher of North Indian Classical Music, will unlock some of the secrets of the soulful music of India. The free lecture/demonstration will take place 10-11:50 a.m. in the Music Hall (MPA building).

The classical tradition of Indian music dates back more than 3,000 years to the Vedas, the earliest Hindu spiritual texts. The Sama Veda speaks of "Nada Bramha," which is the concept that "music is the language of God."

The Classical Indian tradition includes such instruments as the dholka, harmonium, sarod, tambura, sitar and others. Most of the traditional Indian instruments that can be strummed (including the sarod) resemble the banjo but have extraordinarily long necks and up to 26 strings. The sarod is made from teak (a large Indian tree of durable wood) and its belly is covered in goatskin. It has 25 strings, 18 of which are sympathetic (sympathetic strings carry on the note after it is played) and the steel fingerboard is fretless which permits the use of slides, ornaments and microtones characteristic of Indian Music. A fretless instrument allows the player to move freely and slide different notes in the scale. "There are even notes in their scale that do not exist in ours. It almost sounds out of tune."

Trasoff has served as the Director of the Indian Music Ensemble at the University of California, Santa Barbara from 1995-1997, has taught in the Global Arts Program at California State University, San Marcos and in the Indian music program at the School of Music at the California Institute of Arts. Trasoff has participated in numerous theatre and dance, film and contemporary music projects in Los Angeles and composed and directed music for an acclaimed production of Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream." This is a presentation worth hearing. Trasoff has a website at sarode.com for further descriptions and information.

"It (the sarode) has amazing emotional depth. But you have to be open to that emotion. The scale used in Indian music is so strange, one that we're not used to hearing. They have notes in their scale that do not exist in ours. It almost sounds out of tune."

Khan, the man they are named for, is considered "India's Living Treasure" since 1972.

"Hello little rams, Wet weather getting you down? Consider it a blessing in disguise. You fire elements naturally coincide with springtime and all this rain means one thing for plants and animals... anyone else hear Marin Gaye's "Let's Get It On" in the background? So go out this weekend and join nature in stoking the flames of passion."

March 5, 2003

By Pandora

Aries: March 20-April 19 Hello little rams. Wet weather getting you down? Consider it a blessing in disguise. You fire elements naturally coincide with springtime and all this rain means one thing for plants and animals... anyone else hear Marin Gaye's "Let's Get It On" in the background? So go out this weekend and join nature in stoking the flames of passion.

Taurus: April 20-May 19 Now, Taurus, we need to talk. Your patience, loyalty and persistence are all good qualities. But lately you've let them rule your head and heart and it's turned to downright stubbornness. So whether it's not backing down in an argument or staying in an unhealthy relationship, take the time this week to reflect on what would happen if you gave a little. Would your world really crumble?

Gemini: May 20-June 20 Inhale deeply, my twins. The air is Gemini's element and where else but on the Monterey coast can you find anything so pure and clean? Don't take new experiences for granted this week. Contrary to the variety-loving Gemini regime, these experiences may stick around awhile. And who wants to think back and regret not appreciating a great someone or something from the start?

Cancer: June 21-July 21 The moon has been at its most beautiful these past couple of weeks. Have you noticed? Even if you haven't seen it, the moon's phases have been affecting you more than usual lately. Your mood swings should not be as dramatic this coming week, however, so you can feel free to welcome back all the friends and family who have felt left out in the doghouse since this started.

Leo: July 22-August 21 Okay, Leo. Settle down. I know facts have their humor in certain circumstances, but maybe you should spend some time directing that humor into something more meaningful. Ever thought about sharing your love of life with those less fortunate in the happiness department? Spend some time this week cheering up a friend who needs a little extra TLC. Goodness knows you have plenty to spare.

Virgo: August 23-September 21 I knew a Virgo who once gave himself hives worrying over an upcoming presentation. Perfectionism is inherent in your sign (you can thank Mercury for that one), but it doesn't have to rule your life. This week, try to strike a balance by repeatedly reminding yourself that imperfection is only human and you deserve your own trust.

Libra: September 22-October 21 Wait a minute, Libra. Whose arm is that you're clinging to? Do you really need that relationship, or can you handle things on your own? Take some time to look at the closest relationships you have right now... Do you see yourself getting as much as you give? You deserve balance, and Libra, right now is the time for you to focus on your self for a change.

Scorpio: October 22-November 21 You don't often equate scorpions with butterflies, but for this coming week, I want you to think of yourself as a scorpion with wings. You have undergone a great metamorphosis, and now is your time to shine. Show off the colors that have been muted and gray these past couple months and revel in your own beauty.

Sagittarius: November 22-December 21 Hey word, you Archers are sure an attractive lot. Your magnetism can land you some sweet jobs, but be wary of relying solely on your charm in romantic relationships. One of the reasons you get so restless after a few weeks of being with a new partner has to do with who you choose to be with. Use this coming week to make a list of qualities that constitute a good mate and stick to it.

Capricorn: December 22-January 19 You've been holding back, Capricorn, and your body doesn't react well with restraint. Take this week to harmonize your physical and spiritual sides by exerting yourself with a killer bike ride and a game of Frisbee Pursuit. The key here is to exercise body and mind. Flex those muscles and you just may find you are stronger than you thought possible.

Aquarius: January 20-February 18 It is said that you Aquarians like to try many things, but may end up mastering none. Take care this is not in your future by using this coming week to focus on what you love. Be it an instrument, a particular subject or even cooking, don't get caught up in trying to do it all. Despite what you may think, there is plenty of time to deal with things one at a time.

Pisces: February 19-March 20 Hey there my little water babies. What's that on your sleeve? Don't mistake that for some random dear. You Aquarians are sure an attractive lot. Your magnetism can land you some sweet jobs, but be wary of relying solely on your charm in romantic relationships. One of the reasons you get so restless after a few weeks of being with a new partner has to do with who you choose to be with. Use this coming week to make a list of qualities that constitute a good mate and stick to it.

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Trying to bounce back

By Chris Ashton

Although the women’s Otter Golf Team began their 2003 Spring season with a disappointing showing at the Santa Cruz tournament, it was in part a result of playing strong rounds of an 80 and 79, putting her in a tie for 21st. Other scores were Faren Lauser, with a 92, sophomore Jessica Prather with a 95, Sahil with a 96, junior transfer Sam Clawson with a 96 and Panis with a 106.

“We are starting off rocky this season, however things will get better as the season progresses and when we start playing to our full ability,” noted Sahil. Currently, the Otters are holding down first place in the Cal-Pac division.

“By practicing hard, playing well and to our ability, while having fun, we hope to continue to dominate the Cal-Pac,” states Lauser. The women’s team does look to be off to a rocky start as Sahil mentioned. However, they do have more tournaments to prove that they have a strong squad this year. Should you be interested in following these Otters, they will be in action on March 9-11 at the CSU Chico Invitational and then they travel a short distance to Carmel where they will compete in the Santa Clara Invitational on March 23-25 at Rancho Canada Golf Club.

Lady Otters wrap up season

By Collin Pfaff

The women’s basketball team finished the season with a loss to Notre Dame on Feb. 22 here at CSUMB. Despite being knocked out of the playoffs race a week earlier, the women came out and gave fourth-ranked Notre Dame a run for their money. The Otters lost 64-71 in a thriller that came down to the last three minutes. “It was our best effort of the year; everyone played hard,” junior guard, Lisa Mispley said. Junior guard Jami Ganskie netted 21 points while senior guard Peggy Huddleston added 17 points in her last performance as an Otter. Huddleston shot 3-6 beyond the arc and hit back-to-back threes at one point in the second half. “I think if we would have played with that much effort all year long, then we would have had a much more successful season,” Ganskie said.

The Otters lead by two at half, on 62 percent shooting from the field. With five minutes to play, the two teams provided an entertaining ending as they exchanged leads. The Argonauts, however, were too much to handle in the defining moments with their intense pressure and physical play. “The effort was there for 30 out of the 40 minutes,” coach Amber Magner said. “We had a few mental lapses when it counted, but overall, I was pleased with the effort.”

The Otters finished the season 8-22 overall and 5-13 in Cal-Pac conference play. The Otters landed in eighth place, which was just one spot from making the playoffs.

“We have to play like a team,” junior guard Shauna Flores said. “There were only a few spots where we played together and those times we collectively had fun because things just clicked.”

Don’t let their record fool you; they started four juniors who are all expected to come back next year. With some size and that experience, the Otters will be ready for next year.

Swatted Slugs go home

Cracking bats and whizzing fastballs: these are the sounds of CSUMB’s baseball club. Coming into a new season, the Otters have a strong outlook. With more than half of the team returning and a sprinkle of new players, the club is a strong one this season.

By Jacob Pickering

When asked about the upcoming season, sophomore, Collin Martin said, “looks pretty good, looking forward to the game this weekend.”

Now let’s see exactly what Martin was talking about.

The Santa Cruz Slugs came to the Otters home field on Feb. 22 at noon to play a double header.

This was the place where some very hungry Otters not just once, but twice ate the Slugs. The first victory was a close race to the end with plenty of runs, a double play, and stand-in-your-seat action.

Then the second game was the Otters showing the Slugs just who they are, a complete shutdown! The Slugs hung their heads low when the game was called after the Otters had pounded 10 runs onto the backs of the Santa Cruz Slugs.

In the first game, right-handed pitcher, Martin made sure the Slugs knew there was not going to be any fooling around on their home turf. By throwing rock-solid pitches throughout the game, he kept the Slugs to many scoreless innings.

Starting things off in the bottom of the first inning, the Otters centerfielder Brian Laatsch brought in the first run of the game. This catalyst launched two more runs in the third inning, one by the starting pitcher Martin.

Keeping up the shell-cracking attitude, first baseman Trevor Foley and second baseman Cooper Bacon sped the ball around to complete a double play in the sixth inning.

Then a storm of runs came in just in time for the bottom of the sixth, one more each for Martin and Laatsch and the last one being made by junior catcher Erik Adams.

With the score tied up, the Otters decided to tease the Slugs with an extra inning, just to let a numberless man step up to the plate. His name is Zach Cohen and he brought in the final crushing run to end the battle between the Slugs and Otters, concluding a 7-6 victory.

The Slugs had to pack up early the second time around, especially with Laatsch switching from centerfield to pitcher. He and the rest of the team did not allow any runs to be scored in all five innings.

Cohen did not just stop making winning plays for the Otters. Stepping up to the plate with the bases loaded and two outs, Cohen slammed a double and brought all three runners home. This was just third of the ten runs scored in five little innings by the Otters, bringing the final score to 10-0.

Despite losing some players to graduation, the team is still strong. Andrew Kihn wants to make sure there is “not tons [of] pressure and to have fun.”

After the game on Feb. 22, some fog lifted on the Monterey Bay baseball field, shedding a little light on the rest of the season. It could very well be a repeat of last year when they were a big 16-4. Catcher Erik Adams sees a “good team with a good chance to do really well.” Who knows? The team is going to have a good time and just play ball.

There will be some very challenging games heading their way, and maybe some easy ones too. With players like Martin and Laatsch muscling the pitching department and the rest of the Otters in the field, the team is rounded out for a good season.

If you are interested in joining CSUMB’s baseball club, don’t worry, it’s not too late to walk on the field and play some ball. The club practices on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from noon to 2 p.m. Contact Andrew Kihn on FirstClass for any additional information.

March 5, 2003 | The Otter Realm | 9
The forecast for rain and the previous day's rallies were expected to offset the San Francisco peace march on March 16, but instead rain came in human form as an estimated 200,000 protesters marched down Market Street to denounce the impending war on Iraq.

Lower Market Street became a human river of protesters, musicians, and spectators that flowed into the crowded banks of the Civic Center. The river often exploded with screams and cheers as the wave of human voices surged upstream. Signs reading “Real Men Negotiate,” “Who’s Sane? Not Bush,” and “Be a leader of peace, not a follower of war” were held high for onlookers to see.

Various marching bands employed instruments such as hand drums, cymbals and megaphones to rile up the crowd and supply a rhythm to the movement. One of the bands invited a call and response: “What do we want? Peace! When do we want it? Now!” Another band chanted, “Hey hey, ho ho, Bush’s war has gone down.”

Glover spread encouraging words: “We can win this war and make a better world.”

Jeremy Corbin, a British Member of Parliament, talked about the spreading of the peace movement across the world. He reminded the protesters that this was the first time there have been so many demonstrations before a conflict, and that the march has made history.

Some of the protesters came because they adhere to a principle of non-violence, while others argued for more evidence of Iraq’s nuclear capabilities. Other protestors decried the amount of money that would be spent on the war — when the nation is already suffering from a budget deficit. It was the idea that a complete stranger was wanted to go in our garage, “I looked over at the bong section and I was thankful that my roommates took care of our drug paraphernalia — wouldn’t that be bad if we got kicked out of here not because of mold, but because we are stoners?”

The marchers gathered at the Civic Center to listen to the speakers organized by International A.N.S.W.E.R. Actor Danny Glover spread encouraging words: “We can win this war and make a better world.”

One speaker called upon the crowd to exercise their democratic rights to give voice to the underprivileged, who are unable to participate in the movement. Another speaker reminded protesters not to drive home in their sport utility vehicles after the rally and go back to business as usual. The speakers also urged the crowd to organize walkouts and sit-ins in their local communities.

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These columns express the view of the author, not the Otter Realm. If there is something that pisses you off, or makes you laugh please let us know. We welcome letters to the editor and will print those that respond directly to the column and do not cut down the author. You can send letters to the editor at or@csumb.edu.

Thank you. Chanelle Rabateau, Editor-in-Chief.
How do you feel about efforts by the government to reinstate the draft?

By James Speir

Gabriel Garcia, Junior
LIBERAL STUDIES
I think it's all right but I think the war should have to be about the terrorists, because they are hiding the weapons, you know, in Iraq, and that's why, yeah, I think it's all right.

Sara Villagran, Freshman
SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE
So many people will lose so many family members that way. All I have is brothers, and the majority of my family is male. To think that I could lose all of that because we have to go get oil, it's upsetting.

Mike Devlahovich, Freshman
EARTH SYSTEMS SCIENCE & POLICY
I don't think I feel strongly against it because I don't think we should be in the war for the reasons we are in the war. I don't think that I should be forced to fight for something I don't believe in.

Annalisa Moore, Junior
TELEDRAMATIC ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
It's petrifying. I think that's really scary, because that's our youth, you know. And we are willing to kill our youth for what? For political vendettas of our government?

Carlos Zelaya, Junior
GLOBAL STUDIES
I think it's going to bring a lot of problems. It's going to be like the Vietnam War. It's going to cause a lot of protests. I think it's wrong. There is no need to do it.

Crystal Macias, Sophomore
SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE
It's the Vietnam war all over again. The government's not really thinking about what they are doing, they are just doing it. And I don't want my brother to go.

Jason Odonnell
COLLABORATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
I'm really against militarism and war. I think that we have a lot more resources, and that we could really use the international bodies that we have to deal with crisis like in Iraq in a way that doesn't cause the people in that country a lot of suffering.

Rebecca Wilner, Freshman
LIBERAL STUDIES
The draft can be a good and bad thing, just because all of the people are complaining about the way things are run here, and the only way to change it is to do something about it. I think it's good so you can fight for what you believe in and hopefully make a difference and change for the better.

Garrett Barnicoat, Junior
GLOBAL STUDIES
I feel the reinstatement of the draft is going to show a very interesting reaction and public opinion—like how much they are for or against the war.