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Books Not Bombs

By James Speir

If you were roaming around campus and heard people shouting, "NO WAR, ONLY PEACE!" would you flashback to old home movies you've seen of your parents during their "Hippy" phase back in the 60's? That was very much the scene of the "Books Not Bombs" rally at noon on Wednesday, March 5 in front of the Dining Commons.

The event attracted roughly 250 students; 120 of them marched around campus with picket signs and shirts that read, "No Blood for Oil" and "Iraq's are People Too." Students Kevin Miller, Rhiamon Oleary, Marisa Mercado, Laurel Lionetti, and Shane Mahon organized the rally. The event was held in conjunction with the New York State Crime Prevention Coalition (NYSCP). The NYSCP sponsored rallies that took place simultaneously on over 500 campuses around the country.

Students took advantage of the rally to voice their opinion against the war in a productive, outspoken manner. Some students went even further by not going to classes or work. Visual and Public Art major Shane Mahon created a chalk masterpiece on the sidewalk that read, "Make Art Not War." Students took advantage of the opportunity to perform a hilarious parody of Abbott and Costello's "Who's on First?" involving current government officials.

Lawrence Samuels, Vice-Chair of the Libertarian Party of Monterey County, represented the Libertarians Against the War coalition by setting up a booth with flyers. During his speech, Samuels said, "America is no longer a democracy. Empires strike at the expense of the people. The drag ball will kick off with an open mic, skits, and dancing shoes as the last half will be a shakedown."

Education pays (really!)

By Colleen M. Cooney

Sharpen your pencils, get out the calculator, and for goodness' sake, stop grumbling! Yes, tax season is once again upon us, but that doesn't mean we have to grit our teeth and suffer through it—there may be ways to alleviate the pain.

Being a poor college student does have its (tax) advantages. For example, the Hope Scholarship credit is worth up to $1500 paid for two years of college. Have no fear juniors and seniors, because there is also a Lifetime Education credit that will refund up to $1000 of tuition and related expenses.

But be careful, because you cannot claim both the Hope and Lifetime credits in the same year. They also cannot be used if you are single and make more than $40,000 a year (or $80,000 if married and filing jointly), according to www.smartmoney.com. Both of these credits cover only tuition and related fees and cannot be used for costs of books or room and board.

For those who are trying to get a jump on student loans, there is a deduction for interest on college-education loans of up to $2500, as earned income tax credit (EITC) can save money for those without dependents. According to Richard Barber, a local tax consultant, a single person between the ages of 25 and 65 that makes less than $10,700 in regular income can be credited up to $364 dollars. Someone with children may receive up to $5,000 or $6,000 depending on income and number of dependents.

Once you are ready to file, Barber cautions against taking a refund-anticipation loan. Though the instant money may be appealing, the interest rates on these loans are extremely high. Filing online, while there may be a fee, is much cheaper and almost as quick. "If you do it on the internet and do it yourself," says Barber, "it takes probably two weeks to get your refund."
From Vietnam to Iraq: What have we learned?

By Zachary Stahl
ZACHARY_STAHL@CSUMB.EDU

The sounds of a screeching U.S. Phantom warplane and the beating of a Vietnamese peasant's terrified heart fill the University Center conference room. The smell of burning gasoline envelopes the air as napalm sets fire to the farmer's huts below. "Where's mamá?" a little girl asks her sister in front of their flaming home. Her sister cannot say a word, only point to the burning remains of their hut.

Earl Martin, a conscientious objector during the Vietnam War era, transported his audience to the rice fields of warplane and the beating of a Vietnamese during the Vietnam War era, Tran of SBS organized the colloquium. Behavioral Sciences · (SBS) Social Justice

burning gasoline envelopes the air as peasant's terrified heart fill the University

Colloquium · entitled "The Last cannot say a word, only point to the burn­ing remains of their hut.

The three-day event started March 10 with a film festival, featuring three films of Tran Van Thuy, a Vietnamese documentary filmmaker. The next day, all CSUMB institutes were involved in 22 in-class work­shops relating to the event's theme: "What lessons derived from the U.S./Vietnam war should inform how the U.S. acts in the world today?" The colloquium culminated with a panel discussion that evening and ended with a workshop by Martin on March 11.

The film festival brought to the surface many of the horrific images and emotions from the U.S./Vietnam war. Thuy is a former combat cameraman who not only captured the bloodshed during the war but, more importantly, the lingering effects after the war.

"The Sound of Violin in My Lai" documented the return of Vietnam veterans to My Lai 30 years after the massacre. The chilling testimony of U.S. soldiers and Vietnamese survivors was enough to send some of the audience into tears. The film ended with a veteran named Mike Boehm playing his violin beside the grave of massacre villagers. "I gave an offering of music to the spirits of the dead: of the dead Vietnamese people and the dead American people," Boehm said in the film.

The in-class workshops hosted an array of guest speakers and class discussions. Mel Mason, a former Black Panther Party member and current CSUMB counselor, spoke with Service Learning and Institute of Management International Entrepreneurship (IMIE) students about the impending war. "War is always about two things: money and political hege­mony," said Mason. "As we go bring 'social justice' to Iraq we don't have social justice in this country."

Mason's comments were not readily accepted however; much disagreement and confusion arose among the students. One student said he "didn't hear enough logical reasons for no war... It made it sound like it's all about oil when it is not a black and white issue."

Perhaps the most awaited event of the colloquium was the panel discussion. Students and faculty gathered in the lobby of the University Center to examine images of Vietnam casualties and sweatshop workers displayed on poster boards by the Visual and Public Arts (VPA) department. Inside the conference room, people were huddled around televisions, previewing Thuy's documentaries.

The panel consisted of Thuy, Martin and Ila Mettee-McCutcheon, who called herself "a hawk between two male doves." Mettee-McCutcheon is a retired colonel who served for 26 years in the U.S. army. She is also mayor of Marina. Having all served during the Vietnam/ U.S. war, the panel was asked what the United States should take away from the conflict.

Martin worked in Vietnamese refugee camps during and after the war through the Mennonite Central Committee. He reminded the audience to "keep focused on the human face of war... true security comes through relationships of respect," said Martin as he advocated for a third way to peaceful resolution for the conflict in Iraq.

Thuy, whose words were translated by Tran, recounted the innumerable times that he escaped death during the war as a combat cameraman. People "shot each other without knowing each other" and because of this Thuy said he "didn't understand the meaning of death... There has got to be a different way other than war."

Mettee-McCutcheon focused on the strategic lessons that the United States should learn. "Strategic goals must be solid, understandable, and achievable," said Mettee-McCutcheon. "We need not only the support of leaders and Congress but also the support of the American people" before we go to war.

After addressing their concerns, the panel answered questions from the audience. Martin was quick to respond when Mettee-McCutcheon suggested that Iraq's connection to terrorism is a threat to U.S. national security. Martin refuted the official pronouncements that make this connection by saying that "the primary assertions are a little dubious when viewed by an impartial party." The crowd gave Martin a round of applause.

None of the speakers thought that war with Iraq is justified. Thuy said, the U.S. "doesn't know the cause and effect of Asian philosophy... whatever seeds we sow right now will become fruits in our future."

Senior Kevin Miller said, "It was spooky to see what was going on in the Vietnam/ U.S. war and to see that we are going down that same path we did 30 years ago... we haven't learned from our mistakes in the past."

The final event of the colloquium was a discussion led by Martin about the Human Shields for Iraq project and the Oil Self Tax plan. The latter project is a plan by a group of Martin's colleagues in Pennsylvania to tax them 50 cents per gallon of gas they purchase.

The money collected has been used to support alternative energy projects and the Human Shield project. This project sends community members to Iraq to be with the people and to stay with them if bombing begins. "For our own souls' sake we must walk in solidarity with the Iraqi people," said Martin.

An estimated 700 students and community members participated in at least one of the events. Co-organizer Tran said the event "could not have been at a better time to help prepare our reflection of this impending war." Tran said participants could "learn from history to reexamine current belief systems."

If you have any comments or questions about the event or if you want to participate in the planning for next year's social justice colloquium contact Gerald Shenk or Angie Tran via First Class. "

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Student housing rates will make an increase of up to $555 next year including the cost of the meal plan. Discussions have already started in regards to the up and coming rate increase and why it is at all necessary. We all know that mortgage is not cheap, especially for a college campus but somebody has to pay the bills so why not the students?

“Although I get financial aid… I may have to pay out of my own pocket... I don’t have money,” said freshman Estela Hernandez.

With our recent budget cuts many students are worried about how big of an increase the CSU system is going to make on student fees. Just how far will we have to go until we are out of deficit and our expenses are balanced with our revenue?

Last April, the costs for living in the residence halls were set for the next three years by the Foundation Board; fees have been agreed upon until the 2004-05 school year. Next fall the rates for a single room will increase $255 placing the rate at $5,355 per year. Doubles will increase $190, leaving the rate at $3,990, and triples will go up by $165 putting the rate at $3,465 for next year.

Why you ask? “We need to bring additional revenues in,” said Andy Klingelhofer, director of the office of Residential Life. The renovation of dorm 211 is partly responsible for the up and coming increase in housing fees, given that it cost $6.5 million to renovate “it’s more expensive to renovate than build new,” said Klingelhofer.

Not only are the housing fees on the rise but also the meal plans. The meal plans are set to increase $300 next year giving the students $2,200 to spend on food. Students who live in the dorms have no other choice but to take the meal plan package though students who live in the campus apartments are not required to purchase one.

The housing rates for campus apartments are also on the rise; they will increase up to $50 by next year. ”It’s hard to find a job and with prices going up everywhere, I don’t know if I’ll be able to pay,” said sophomore Jesus O. Lopez.

Although many students are in uproar about the recent budget crises and fee increases, this university is still ranked amongst the lowest for campus apartment rates. Students may see it as a huge increase but it seems CSUMB is getting closer and closer to the rates other CSU’s are charging. It is fair to say that we live in a society where very few things are cheap, especially the housing.

By Marian Muhammad

A call for nominations

By Emily Oberheim

Are you a senior getting ready to graduate and would like to nominate yourself for a commencement award? Or are you a staff or faculty member wishing to nominate a senior for an award?

April 7 is the application deadline for the seven awards to be presented at the 2003 Commencement Awards Ceremony. The ceremony will take place 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. May 23 at the University Center.

The awards are: President’s Award for Exemplary Student Achievement, Provost’s Award for Exemplary Academic Achievement, Outstanding Senior Award for Tri-County Achievement, Outstanding Senior Award for Social Justice, The Alumni Vision Award, Service Learning Award, and the Scholar Athlete Award.

Ruth Kim, Student Activities coordinator and Awards Ceremony chair, said, “There are different types of awards and I recommend students to apply and faculty and staff to recommend student nominees for the different type of awards.”

Each award has different criteria:

President’s Award for Exemplary Student Achievement
A student must have participation and involvement as a student leader and positive innovation and action with demonstrated service back to the students of CSUMB. One had to serve on one or more university committees or task forces that focus on the CSUMB vision, policies and practices. They have to achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.0.

Provost’s Award for Exemplary Academic Achievement
A student must have faced and overcome multiple challenges and or barriers while pursuing a college degree, and achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 or higher.

Outstanding Senior Award for Tri-County Achievement
A student must have coordinated a special project or activity for the tri-county community and serve as a positive role model to other tri-county students.

Outstanding Senior Award for Social Justice
A student must have coordinated or participated in a project with the objective of promoting equity and justice and or generate awareness of the historically under-served populations. The student must be seen as a strong agent of change.

Alumni Vision Award
Recognizes a graduating student (graduate or undergraduate) who best exemplifies the Vision of CSUMB.

Outstanding Senior Scholar-Athlete Award
A student-athlete is presented this award in recognition of exemplary academic achievement.

Service Learning Award
This award is given to one graduate in each major who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to service in the local community.

If you have more questions about the awards you can find the application packets in Building 44, in the FirstClass Conferences/ Commencement Folder or at http://csumb.edu/grad.

Bolted down by Nazi hate

By Jody Bowland

How can a man who covered his body in Nazi symbols, fought for the death of Jews, and recruited teenagers into the hate movement become one of the nation’s most persuasive advocates for the importance of diversity and cultural appreciation? This question floated through the minds of all audience members on Friday, March 7, when TJ Leyden told of his remarkable transformation.

A confident gentleman stood in front of the stage at the BBC, pacing back and forth as random strangers filed into the rather empty seating area. A Powerpoint presentation sat in front of the viewers with the words “StrHate Talk” in bright red.

“I want to start off by stating that there will be some rather racist terms used throughout my speech,” said Leyden. “This is not to offend anyone, or to seem as though I’m bragging. It’s merely to help you understand what I am about to tell you.”

How often can you say you’ve sat down to watch a speaker who throws a disclaimer your way, before even starting? What about a speaker that uses such graphic detail when describing a fight scene that each audience member cringes, and some even turn pale? This was the atmosphere as Leyden told his story.

After fifteen years as a neo-Nazi white supremacist activist and recruiter, Tom “TJ” Leyden experienced a profound change of heart, turned away from hate, and began teaching tolerance.

Leyden grew up during the “punk rock movement,” also known as the grunge or alternative era now. His close-knit Irish-Catholic family was centered in Fontana, California. An earth shattering divorce from his parents pushed him into the punk rock scene, which gave him an outlet for his anger. He would vent his anger by slam dancing, and fighting at weekend concerts.

“We would fight the band if they sucked, kids in the crowd if they hit us wrong while pitting, or merely because we were bored in general,” said Leyden.

At the mere age of 15, his violent temer and actions began to catch the attention of local skinheads, and soon had even started his own skinhead group in Redlands, California. At age 21, Leyden joined the United States Marines where he prospered as a leading recruiter, organizer and propagandist for the white supremacist movement.

“I would hand out the Turner Diaries while in uniform to anyone that would take it from me,” said Leyden.

Leyden had much to say regarding the United States military, as well as their take on racial prejudice. The Marine Corp claimed they were unaware of the meaning behind his numerous tattoos; one including blackened Nazi bolts, a double SS, on his neck. (Having this tattoo means you have killed a minority).

After being discharged for heavy fighting and drinking, Leyden married a woman who was known to be deeply committed to the white supremacist movement, and eventually brought two young children into their hate-filled environment.

The turning point for Leyden arose from his children. This incident involved his child calling his father out, and using racial slurs, at the mere age of three. Since this slap in the face, he has turned away from the hateful lifestyle that he once led.

“He is the only known former skinhead to leave the movement and retain his own name,” said Judy Shepard, Executive Director of the Matthew Shepard Foundation.

He eventually walked himself to the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, California, and turned over every bit of racial evidence he ever possessed. Since then, he has worked for the Simon Wiesenthal Center, teaching on the culture of hate and the importance in fighting back against it.

However, he continues to live his life in fear. Leyden receives death threats on a regular basis and must take “extraordinary measures to protect myself from my former friends,” said Leyden.
Stalin’s War

By Adriana Gomez
Adriana_Gomez@CSUMB.EDU

Stalin’s War is a hardcore punk band originated in Santa Cruz by its founding members Moana Strom (lead vocals) and Matt Cleaver (guitar).

The remaining members are John Christopher Van Lanen (guitar), Rocky Allemandi (bass) and Rick Holbrook (drums).

The distinctiveness of this rock band comes from its female lead, Moana Strom. "Being a female in front is tough, especially in a male dominated scene," said Strom, "I find that many guys in the hardcore scene feel that girls are supposed to be on the side lines, looking cute, not on the stage." She’s occasionally mistaken for a groupie when seen before gigs.

But despite the disadvantages of being a female lead, Strom does get encouragement too. "I also find a tremendous amount of support from the girls, not just in the scene, but everywhere," said Strom.

Strom and Cleaver have been in the group since the beginning. "He writes the music, takes care of the equipment and basically manages the band," said Strom. His influences are in the punk and hardcore genre, but he also listens to Classical and Jazz.

Rocky Allemandi, senior at CSUMB, joined the group as a replacement for the band’s first bassist. He became the band’s bassist after practicing ten hours a day, for a week. "I’ve never worked at something so hard," said Allemandi. He also said the band brought a sense of unity because of the band members and also the support from other independent bands. "Although their albums are great, it does them no justice," said Dave Gamble of the band Minor Catastrophe. "Stalin’s War are great live."

They also play with other bands, such as Los Dryheavers, Uzi Suicide, and Over the Top.

Van Lanen joined the group three months after the first tour, as the rhythm guitarist. "John is the funny one. When we’re bummed about something, or totally tired from driving all night, he keeps us awake, and keeps us laughing," said Strom.

The summer of 2001 Stalin’s War was forced to cancel a planned tour to find a replacement drummer. After auditioning the part was given to Rick Holbrook. "Rick is the one with all the good ideas, and is the glue of the band," said Strom. "Without a drummer we would be nowhere." Since the final lineup, the group has had many accomplishments.

They released, "Because Man Invented War" the band’s first independent album in 1999, which was followed by a tour a year later from California to Nevada. In the past year, Stalin’s War has toured Santa Cruz and the surrounding areas. If you’ve seen them before, it might have been at The Ocean Thuder in Monterey. They also released their second album (self-titled) in 2001 and have recently completed a new album.

The music of Stalin’s War is everything your parents warned you about: anger, frustration, political activism and intense sound. Although they come off as rebellious teens, they have a worthy cause. "We hope to make people open to new things, make a positive change and create political awareness," said Allemandi.

Their vegan, vegetarian and straight edge beliefs are also common topics in their music. The focus of the song entitled "Death Warrant" is cruelty to animals and "Peace and Freedom" is on the subject of police brutality. They’re trying to teach people aware of what’s going on in the world politically, not only in the music but also by distributing contact and current event information about animal rights, politics and vegan issues. Besides the music being about politics, it also has the song "Face Off," written in dedication to a friend of the band that died of a heroin overdose.

The strongest points of the album are the solos and passionate lyrics. It also adds to the growing trend in female-led punk bands. The album has a good dose of passion but to get the full effect you have to go to their show and take in some of the high-energy aura.

So what have we learned? Females can lead punk bands too and the truth is still out there. Check out their website at www.stalinswar.org.

Turtle Island pays tribute to Miles Davis

By Morning Star Vasquez
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Wednesday March 12 at the World Theatre Turtle Island String Quartet performed using unorthodox methods for a classical string quartet such as a jazz viola and a cello being used alternately as a bass and percussive instrument. In a program entitled "Blue in Green: The Legacy of Miles Davis," the group paid special tribute to jazz legend, Miles Davis.

The first half of the program consisted of five songs, three of which were from the group’s Grammy nominated album, Danzon. Each was introduced from the stage beforehand by the quartet’s members, in keeping with the jazz tradition.

"Strapping," a jazz- rock extravaganza, detailed a subway ride in New York. The piece was fast, then slow in the style of jazz. Chaotic, then peaceful. The cello was used alternately as a solo and percussive instrument.

"You’ve Changed," a jazz standard with a distinct Cuban-American flavor, the strains of bossa-nova making you want to get up and dance.

Excerpts from Beethoven and contemporary jazz bassist, Ron Carter were wedded in a piece called "Shizzo Grosso," arranged by Evan Price, the second violinst. The piece developed into intense jazz riffs by each player resolving in a classical trademark entrance.

"Wapango" a heavily percussive and rhythmic piece pulled upon traditional Mexican sounds, beginning with a rich viola solo quickening and intensifying using vigorous plucking and rhythmic changes. The violins were used as percussive instruments with the players slapping the wood.

In the second half of the program the spirit of Miles Davis breathed life into the group’s playing. "Seven Steps to Heaven" brought the instruments closer to horns with cello and viola solos.

The cello and viola began unannounced in a bluesy, sultry exchange in "My Funny Valentine." In "Milestones" Mark Summer used his the cello like a bass going places the cello has not gone before, up and down the fingerboard.

"Blue in Green" began with a memorable violin solo, the piece becoming heavily layered and impassioned to calm and tranquil lines.

The final piece "On Green Dolphin Street," by Bronislav Kaper roused a standing ovation. It began with a swing flavor, and again, viola player Danny Seidenberg showed his versatility with his instrument in a solo. The sound changed to a Rumba with some amazing plucking technique from all four instruments.

During intermission one student said that the group sounded like background Parenthood or her reproductive health clinician within 72 hours.

Emergency contraception is used in the case of unprotected vaginal intercourse. Emergency contraception is provided in two ways: using increased doses of certain oral contraceptive pills or the insertion of a copper intrauterine device, commonly known as an IUD. The IUD needs to be inserted within five to seven days after the unprotected vaginal intercourse. The emergency contraception pills work best if taken within seventy-two hours, reducing the risk of pregnancy by about a seventy-five to eighty-nine percent. It can work up to one hundred and twenty hours after the unprotected sex.

Emergency contraceptive pills are the only form available at the CSUMB Health Center Planned Parenthood offers both forms of emergency contraception.

The CSUMB Health Center and Planned Parenthood can also test you for sexually transmitted infections and will perform a free pregnancy test for CSUMB students. Staff and faculty will be charged if their health insurance does not cover it.

If you do become pregnant, the CSUMB Health Center can help direct you once you have decided to either keep or terminate the pregnancy. Please contact the CSUMB Personal Growth and Counseling Center if you are undecided about your decision. They can help you counsel through making the correct decision for you and your child.

Calling all comments, suggestions and ideas to Sex 101. Please email my Public Relations Director at carolyn_drouin@csumb.edu.

March 26, 2003 | The Otter Realm | 5
March 3–March 7 marked the first week of a two-week long exploration of our common histories and shared ancestry within the Americas.

"We did this in part because of the fissions seen in the student body," said Amalia Mesa-Bains, director of the Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) department and speaker in the events. "White students thinking that Latino students were getting too much privilege. Black students not feeling connected to Latino students. We wanted to reintroduce or reexamine the idea of mestizaje as a contemporary way of acknowledging that we in fact all have a shared history in the Americas."

The History of Mestizaje: Colloquia on African, Indigenous, & European Sources of Identity in Americas used art and music, presentations and lectures to illustrate the historical and political ramifications of three races coming together, Indigenous, African and European.

The events began with the movies "Mambo Mouth," in which actor/comedian John Leguizamo plays 7 different Latino roles, and "Black Orpheus," a film set in Rio de Janeiro and based on the legend, "Orpheus and Eurydice." Wednesday, March 5 Mesa-Bains, Kia Caldwell, Rina Benmayor and Diana Garcia presented "Women's Poetry and Art. Benmayor, an instructor in HCOM, called it "a journey exploring what has been made lost, using history and present day manifestations."

Pun y pasteles were served as first presenter Mesa-Bains showed caste paintings that illustrated the mixture of Indigenous, Spanish European and African races in 18th century Mexico. These paintings appeared to be serene and beautiful renditions of family, but if you looked close underneath each painting was an inscription of what caste the woman belonged to, what caste the man belonged to, and subsequently their offspring.

"They accounted for 53 different combinations that could arise out of Indigenous, Spanish and African ancestry," said Mesa-Bains. It was a way of regulating and controlling the social sphere, and a form of apartheid. From the beginning the people were burdened and plagued by the categories of separation; there were laws that forbade mulatta women to wear lace, satin and gold jewelry so as not to be confused with a woman of another caste said Mesa-Bains.

Caldwell, professor in HCOM and teacher of African American studies used the 19th century Brazilian Adage: Branca se casar (a white woman for marrying) Mulato para forniciar (a mulato for fornicating) Preta para culinaria (a black woman for cooking) to illustrate the idealization, objectivism and subordination that Brazilian women have faced, and continue to face in their daily lives.

She showed images of two Brazilian women, Xuxa, a valued representative in Brazilian media, and Valeria Valenska, a mulatto globeteza whose image has been prominent since 1993. Xuxa is a white woman of European ancestry with very pale skin and blond hair. Presently no black women are portrayed in Brazil's media although South America has the largest black population in the world second only to Nigeria said Caldwell.

Valenska is a symbol for TV globo network and a global beleza (beauty). She was shown in Carnival regalia painted in gold and then only covering centimeters with her large hips accentuated, a very sensual and provocative image. The historical image of the "wet nurse," or "Mammy," was portrayed in a United Colors of Benetton billboard advertisement showing a white baby nursing from a black woman's breast.

Continuing in the strain of contemporary manifestations Benmayor used the individual experiences of her students. Three stories were told through digital storytelling. Mireya Albarran's digital story "Broccoli Daze" chronicled her childhood as a daughter of Mexican immigrants whose main source of sustenance was the broccoli they picked in the fields.

Diana Garcia, the University's resident poet, chose pieces that addressed the complexity of being of mixed race. She read a poem about a light skinned African-American woman entitled "Passing" who could pass for either race, and "Like the Trails of Nkadikina," a person of French and Indian ancestry who is starrted at her own image which bears the resemblance of her forefathers.

A room full of people showed up at Thursday's event, The Fifth Annual International Women's Day. A crowd of women and their spouses, friends, boyfriends and supporters showed up to hear the women speakers, women dancers and many others were there to support the local women in our community.

The highlight of the event was the readings from the Gustavus Myers Award winning book, Testimonio: Latina Feminist. The writers themselves with intensity and thrill did the readings. The stories told were about seven women and their lives from childhood to adulthood; the stories encompassed their professions and told how they got to be where they were. Most of the women in the stories talked about the different stages of certain experiences.

One of the speakers, Patricia Zavella, a Director of the Chicano/Latino Research at UC Santa Cruz, spoke about the experiences of these women getting together to create the book. She explained how each woman's goals were different when they first came together but in the end they created a masterpiece.

Celia Alverez, one of the writers said, "I hope our telling and sharing of our stories inspires you to tell your own and create circles of dialogue, find in our differences the commonalities within."

A celebration of a local woman and one of the founding members of CSUMB was done in a presentation about Cecilia Burciaga. The presentation was to recognize all she has done for the community and CSUMB. She cared about the vision of CSUMB in the first days of the campus. Cecilia gave words of thanks in a short speech.

Toward the back of the room were different tables set up with programs on campus and off campus. They included: Planned Parenthood, Peace Coalition of Monterey County, Women's Crisis Center, Community Action Partnership, CSUMB's Multicultural Feminist Group, Citizenship Project, and the Chicano/Latino Grad club.

The weeklong events ended with a presentation by John Santos in the Music Hall. Very few students attended this night. In a long presentation Santos spoke with animation about the development of Latin Jazz, which he says permeates our modern day sounds in genres such as rock and pop. He spoke of the Rumba, the Bomba, and the Danzon each manifestations of African influence in Cuba.

"The music is who we are as Americans," said Santos. "The styles, lyrics, developments tell a story about our cultural, social and political history."
Photography offers insight

By Morning Star Vasquez
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In its final days, The History of Mestizaje: Colloquia on African, Indigenous and European Ancestry presented a key component in the exploration of our shared ancestry in the Americas through the black and white photography of Tony Gleaton.

The pieces, 44 in all, are from the collection "Tengo Casi 500 Anos-I Have Almost 500 Years, Africa's Legacy In Mexico, Central and South America" and are on display in the library.

BSU (Black Student Union), M.E.Ch.A. (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán), CLFSA (Chicano, Latina, Student Faculty Association), and VPA brought Gleaton to the CSUMB campus to mingle with students, discuss his work and share his insights the week before spring break.

The body of work can be described as a love affair between artist and work. "It was the same rapture as if I had fallen in love with a woman," said Gleaton. "That same entrancement with something outside myself."

His interest was sparked in the project while he was living in the mountains of Mexico. He discovered that African slaves had worked in the mines of Hidalgo de Parr in Chihuahua 400 years ago. He was spurred to begin a project that centered in the coastal lowlands of Guerrero and Oaxaca (pronounced Wa-ha-chá) Mexico, continuing throughout most of Central America and as far south as Uruguay in South America.

The photographs are intimate and direct. They show children, men and women, and families about their daily lives, in their traditions and customs. "Tres Hermanas," shot in Oaxaca, shows three girls smiling happily for the camera; their mixed ancestry is evident in their faces. "La Boda de Murillo y Teresa" shows a arranged marriage between an Indigenous girl and a young African man. Perhaps the most powerful of the images shot in Mexico is "Abrazo de la memoria" (Embrace of Memory) a picture of an old woman of African decent con-

trusted with the youth of her granddaughter who is of mixed heritage.

In Central America, Gleaton traveled through the counties of El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Panama capturing "Pero no hay negros en El Salvador" (But there are no Negroes in El Salvador), a picture of two boys in a Barber Shop and "The Extasis of Santa Anne" (The Ecstasy of St. Anne), in Livingston, Guatemala, a woman caught in ecstasy at her kitchen sink among others.

Gleaton continues into South America through Colombia, the mountains of Ecuador, Peru, and down to Uruguay, his photographs telling a similar story of ancestry and race. The collection "Tengo Casi 500 Anos" totals 120 photographs.

Gleaton is quick to point out that the photographs do not capture a moment but rather manipulate it. "They are completely contrived," he said. "But a lot of little lies add up to a greater truth." The power of the collection comes from the suggestion that there is more than what meets the eye.

And that greater truth? Gleaton wouldn't know. "I went into the project thinking I knew everything, but discovered that I knew nothing." Smaller glimmers of truth came from his assertion: "there is no such thing as too white, too thin, too rich." This, he said, is a modern day manifestation of a colonial past. "The body of work is a questioning of our own assumptions of race and those of others. The only way to be completely universal is to be completely personal."

What Gleaton means by this can be interpreted individually, but perhaps by taking yet another look at the photographs of the various men, women and children in Mexico, Central and South America will lead us to a greater understanding and appreciation of our common ancestry in the Americas. 

More than words

By Adriana Gomez
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Christian Rock bands Kaizen and Second Nature rocked the quad March 6 with more than just a new sound—they had a message. The show headlining Kaizen with opening act Second Nature and topped off by student speaker James Macnair, was sponsored by the Otter Christian Fellowship.

To the average passerby the crowd of about 150 people coming and going throughout the night seemed a bit on the crazy side as they sat in the wet grass in the dark, cold night for what might have been conceived as just another punk band. But the lyrics and the speeches revealed a message far deeper than the average visiting indie band.

Kaizen blared out their distortion laden chord riffs with passionate punk style lyrics based on Christianity, the disappointments in life and God. The band even stuck around afterwards to talk and hangout with anyone and everyone. Their sound somewhat resembled a more hardcore version of the Christian modern rock band, Everyday Sunday.

Following the music portion of the show, a band member gave a testimony of the trials he has faced in his life and how he got through them with his Christianity. Student speaker Macnair also gave a heartfelt, inspirational speech about God's presence in his life through his times of despair.

This event was seen as a major success by the Otter Christian Fellowship and came as the result of a lot of time and planning. "For all the hard work that Otter Christian Fellowship put towards making the event happen, it was amazing," said Greta Dobie, one of the organizers of the event. "It was a lot of meetings and a lot of staff that we had to deal with."

"I thought that the night was pretty prosperous and a lot of fun," said Macnair, who is also a member of Otter Christian Fellowship.

For more information on Kaizen, visit their website at www.kaizenmusic.com. For more information on the Otter Christian Fellowship, e-mail Julie Scott or the Otter Christian Fellowship conference folder on FirstClass.
Visual and Public Art senior k. tollefson kessey creates several styles of art to educate and interact closely with people of all ages. A painter since she was three years old, she has added photography, sculpture, 3-D installations, and digital imaging to her artistic palette. "She creates art because, "It's a part of my nature. It feeds me."

k. tollefson kessey has been showcased in exhibitions around the country, received numerous awards including the International Women's Alliance Award for sculpture, and has received offers to showcase her art in Paris. She has also been very involved with charity auctions for the past fifteen years. And she did all of this while trying to raise three children (two of them now grown).

So why, after all of these accomplishments, would she want to come to CSUMB? "CSUMB & VPA are extremely focused on community contributions/involvement—I can not get this anywhere else. After doing juried shows for a long time I realized that my success there were always anti-climatic. It was because it was just me and my "art"—pretty boring. I learned from working with students that art really comes alive when you share it and its creation is a collective experience. You never know where it is going to take you—and that is the adventure I want to continue."

This CSUMB artist has been a part-time student "forever," and is working toward her goal to teach other students how to create and appreciate art. "I want to teach Junior College because of the diversity in the people that attend."

k. tollefson kessey's last community project was with the YMCA helping kids design and build costumes and a float for the "First Night" parade. She is currently talking to the YMCA about implementing a recycled art program for children."
By Chris Ashton

At first glance it would not appear that the Lady Otter Golf Team has the season under control. One who makes this prediction based solely on their national ranking may be correct. However, the Otters have been able to maintain a first-place ranking in the NAIA Cal-Pac division since the beginning of the 2003 season.

Recently the Otters competed in the San Jose State Invitational at Corral de Tierra Country Club on March 4 and 5. The Otters did not compete as well as hoped, finishing in last place. The Otters used this tournament solely for experience.

Teams that competed in this tournament were NCAA Division I, except for the Otters who are NAIA Division II. Three of the 14 teams that competed were ranked in the top 15 in the nation for NCAA Division I. "This tournament was just good experience for our players," said Head Coach Marcia Juergens. "They were able to test themselves against some of the nation's best players."

The Otters continued action by traveling to the Chico State Women's Invitational at Butte Creek Country Club in Chico on Mar. 10 and 11. Their performance at this tournament was not stunning, but rather a good learning experience for the younger players on the team.

Juergens said, "We didn't do well and that's because we left our top 3 players at home to prepare for the following tournament. I took girls to this tournament who normally don't have the opportunity to compete which allowed them to gain tournament experience."

Had Juergens decided to take the top three players, the outcome may have been more positive, but because the Chico tournament was not an NAIA points event that would have helped their national ranking, Juergens felt best at giving other players the opportunity to compete.

Of the five Otters that competed, Rikki Pani placed highest in 11th place with rounds of 85, 86. Other scores were; Samantha Clawson 89, 87; Anna Pozzi 89, 95; Alison Sahli 98, 85; and Jenny Arakaki with 109, 93.

Arakaki showed the biggest improvement over the two-day tournament with a second round 93. "I am pleased with Arakaki's performance, she stuck it out and came back the second day," said Juergens. "We didn't play very well at all, but I know we are doing well in our conference and should finish the season above the rest if we keep playing well in our Cal-Pac tournaments," said Sahli.

Should the Otters continue to compete well in their Cal-Pac tournaments they will head to the Cal-Pac Conference Championships in late April. Until then, the Otters need to improve their national ranking by competing well when they travel to Phoenix, Arizona to compete in the Grand Canyon Invitational on March 30-April 1.

"We are excited about this tournament, where the top three players will be back in action," said Juergens. "Competing in the Grand Canyon tournament will be Faren Lauser, Katy Murphy, Jessica Frather, Anna Pozzi, and Samantha Clawson."

Happy Partying
Men's golf springs into Cal-Pac play

By Skip Powers

For the past four seasons the CSUMB men's golf team has firmly rested atop the Cal-Pac Conference. As the spring season starts to bloom, the Otters find themselves in the unfamiliar position of being the hunters and not the hunted.

Although ranked No. 13 in the nation by Golfstat.com, the Otters trail fellow Conference members Holy Names College and the rest of the Cal-Pac standings.

In conference play last fall, CSUMB was unable to field a team to play in a Cal-Pac tournament hosted by Maritime Academy due to a schedule conflict. The scheduling mishap was one of the main reasons the Otters took a dive in the rankings. Since teams receive points for each Cal-Pac tournament they participate in, the Otters received an automatic zero for their no-show.

Despite the rankings, the Otters are optimistic that they can regain their old form. With a Cal-Pac win at the CSU Hayward Tournament and a good showing at the Roadrunner Invitational hosted by CSU Bakersfield, the Otters are gaining momentum at the right time. "We have some potential with the younger guys that came in," the Australian native junior Andrew Streatham said. "We just have to put it all together."

At the CSU Hayward Tournament held on Feb. 20 the Otters made a statement to Holy Names and the rest of the Cal-Pac. As a team, the Otters shot a 299 on the par-71 course, outdistancing Holy Names and the rest of the field by 8 strokes.

The Otters were led by freshman Phillip Martinez who shot an even 71 on the 6866-yard Monarch Bay Golf Course in San Leandro. Martinez was closely followed by senior teammates Jason Patterson, who finished with a 1-over-par 72, and Drew Kuehl with a 2-over-par 73. Streatham also finished the day with a 2-over-par 73.

Just four days later the Otters took to the links at the prestigious Roadrunner Invitational, finishing fifth out of eight teams. The competitive field included Cal Poly from the NCAA and four other teams that are ranked in the top 20 in the NAIA by Golfstat.com.

The Otters had a strong individual showing finishing three in the top 20 led by Streatham, who placed third in the three-round-par-216 tournament with a 2-under-par 214. In the second round Streatham came back to the Seven Oaks Country Club clubhouse with a 4-under-par 68 on the par-72 course. The Otters also got strong performances by junior Mark Calder, who finished the three rounds tied for 17th with a 9-over-par 225, and Patterson who chipped in with a 19th place finish with an 11-over-par 227.

The Otters got another key Cal-Pac victory at Spring Hills Country Club in Watsonville on March 6. The Otters swept the first three spots to outdistance CSU Hayward 293 to 310.

Streatham led the way for the Otters with a 2-under-par 70. Streatham was closely followed by teamates Martinez and Kuehl, who shot a 1-over-par 73, and a 3-over-par 74 respectively.

Four days later the Otters took their hot streak to the Santiazu Club in Del Mar to partake in the 53rd SoCal. Intercollegiate Championship. Despite placing sixth out of seven teams, the Otters got a strong individual performance by Streatham, who scorched the field by placing first out of 41 golfers. Streatham finished the two-day tournament with a 3-over-par 216.

With two more Cal-Pac tournaments and the Cal-Pac Championships ahead on the Otters' busy schedule, CSUMB has season left to take back the Cal-Pac throne. "As the season goes on we are looking pretty good to make a jump back to the top of the Cal-Pac standings," Calder said.

For the first time in the Otters' storied program there is no margin for error. Every drive, chip and putt means more than they did in the past. Even though the Otters' backs are to the wall, the momentum they are creating for themselves early this spring might propel them back atop the leader board.

"If we play our game, I don't know anyone in the Cal-Pac that can beat us," Calder said. "We know we are better, we don't worry about it."

Otter Baseball

Jacob Pickering

The CSUMB baseball club has been up to its usual bat-swinging action these past two weeks, playing against Bethany and Fresno Pacific. The team has had some close games.

Starting off with the game on Feb. 28 the Otters played Bethany at home at twelve o'clock. The sun was out and the coast wind was blowing through the field as pitcher Collin Martin switched his throwing arm to strike mode, with Erik Adams ready to catch as they started the first inning.

The action picked up quickly in the second inning, which was packed with runs and close outs. Bethany picked up four runs in the inning, but was cut short when a runner on first tried to steal second, junior catcher Adams threw a zipping ball to second base just in time for Doug Cannon to make the final out of the inning.

The Otters retaliated with two runs of their own in the bottom of the second inning. Then in the powerful third inning "three more runs were brought in. Two of the three were a result of Cooper Bacon knocking a single so Thom Dekleer and Andy Kihn were able to come galloping home to bring the score to a tie."

The runs did not stop there: Bacon finished the inning by gaining a run scattering the tie and pulling the Otters ahead in the game.

Wait! Trying their hardest, Bethany still could not gain any runs in the third inning. On the other hand the Otters used Bethany's error at third base so Dedekeer could get home safely. Bacon tried the same thing but the dust from his sliding must have gotten in the umpires eyes because he called a safe run out.

The Otters were up until the last inning, when Bethany made four runs to pull ahead of the Otters leaving the score 10-7.

On March 8 the Otters are played Fresno Pacific. The Otters were looking at a double header this time; the first game lasted seven innings with plenty of long balls.

The game did not start until the bottom of the third inning, when Behling came up to bat. The game was scoreless and there were no runners on base. His mighty swing smashed the ball to the top of the wall at the edge of center field. This gave him enough time to come home to second base.

Trevor Foley followed and hit a rocketing grounder just past second base, sending Behling home for the first run of the game.

The second run came from Jorge Vega from an error at first base.

When asked about Fresno Andrew Kihn said, "I have no pitching," this statement became very true when Fresno's pitcher made a wild pitch, allowing Bacon to come home for the final and winning run, making the score 3-2.

That was not the only game that was played that day. After a small break the Otters picked up their bats and gloves and went back to the field to defend their home turf once again. This time the game was a total of ten intense innings, which included plenty of jaw-dropping plays and a very surprising comeback.

The first and second inning Fresno came back strong from the break and scored eight runs to the Otters' two. Not letting their spirits down the Otters looked at this as a challenge. Making his first appearance, Colin Pfaff came up and slammed the ball out between center and left field for a cheering triple, bringing in two more runs.

The scoring did not stop there. Brian Laatsch also scored twice, raising the score to 6-6 in favor of Fresno Pacific. Following Laatsch to the plate Behling and Trevor Foley, each added another run to the tally. Now the Otter's score has passed Fresno's and are ahead by one run at the end of the eighth-inning.

The top of the ninth inning Fresno had two outs and managed to bring home two runs before the Otters could make the final out. That was not the last chance the Otters had to come back. In the bottom of the ninth inning the Otters scored from an error, bringing the score to a tie.

Fresno stepped up to start the top of the tenth inning and scored only one run, breaking the tie and holding the chance to win. The Otters never stopped, rallying desperately to score. Fresno held them and did not allow them to score any more runs. The final score: Otters 10, Fresno 11.
IT'S ELECTION TIME!
Have a say in YOUR Student Government

Run for a Position ~ Attend the Candidate Forum ~ Vote in the Online Elections

5 Positions Are Still Open!!!
Declaration of intent to run due by March 27th

Candidate Forum

This Wednesday, March 26th
@ the Black Box Cabaret
7:30 pm Debates Start / 9:30 pm Live Music
Live Music Featuring: What About Jimbo & Ethyl 80

Online Elections Held April 8th and 9th

✓ No hassle walking to the polling place
✓ Only takes 3 minutes
✓ Voting 8 am to 10 pm
✓ Candidate statements at your finger tips

To file your Declaration of Intent, cast your ballot, read candidate statements and have your voice heard visit:
http://voice.csumb.edu

For disability related accommodations or sign language interpreters, please contact Carolyn_Drouin@csumb.edu no later than April 4th.
**Student Organization Obligations**

1. Complete all appropriate recognition forms; keep them up to date, and on file at SACD, (which includes filing a new registration card each semester).

2. Financial responsibility with all club funds, University allocations, and club fundraising according to established policies. Special Interest Organizations will not have to publicize their National Funds. However, any funds collected/earned through direct university-based fundraisers must be made public.

3. Maintain a roster of at least 8 (eight) interested CSUMB student members.

4. Understand policies outlined in this manual and make an honest effort made to abide by them.

5. Attend mandatory organization orientation sessions.

6. Register current officers and attend mandatory organization meetings.

7. Each organization is advised to develop a constitution. In this manner, members will know what is expected of them. Continuity of positive leadership is very important. This includes following the constitutional by-laws set up by each organization.

8. The Student Activities Coordinator will review the status of each organization at the end of each semester. No organization will be guaranteed permanent status, and organizations must remain in good standing to continue to use university services.

**Amendments to Obligations**

M) Abraham Magana S) Jason Howard to change 20 to “80 hours of community service” on pg 8 item 2. Discussion.

\- They must be in line with the vision statement. 80 hours isn’t substantial. It is his understanding that the statement is combined hours.

VOTE: 4-2-3; MOTION CARRIES.

M) Gabriela Lopez S) Jason Howard to amend the pg 8 to include a section 9 to read “An event schedule of pledge week and pledge requirements will be given to SACD.” Discussion.

\- This is not covered in the SAR process.
\- It was clarified that rush week and pledge week are not the same. Rush week is when all Greeks get together to promote and recruit. It is similar to club showcase day.

VOTE: 7-1-1; MOTION CARRIES.

M) Abraham Magana S) Gabriela Lopez to add a section 10 on page 8 that reads “Holdings of off campus accounts held by Greek Organizations shall be reported twice a semester, made available upon request.” Discussion.

\- If Greeks were to be recognized, they will have a Foundation account, which will be public. Why does anyone need that info if the money can’t go to personal accounts anyways?
\- Alethea read from the current guidelines regarding accounts and it says that student clubs are prohibited from having off campus accounts.

VOTE: 4-1-4; MOTION CARRIES.

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**Greeks From Page 1**

and what opinions of those audience members are,” said Upper-Division Academic Senator Briana Krank in an email posted on Open Forum.

Audience discussion and questions directed at the Senate went on for 40 minutes as Senate members took notes and listened to each audience member portray their feelings on the issue at hand.

Those in favor of Greeks coming to CSUMB attempted to dilute some of the stereotypical views of Greek organizations which included Greeks as mere social groups.

“...we are service based fraternity dedicated to helping the community,” said Sophomore Steve Schirmer, a member of the CSUMB pledge class to Fraternity Omega Delta Phi.

However, community service and non-traditional Greek organizations were not the main concerns of some of the Senate members.

“As I spoke with other senators, many of them brought out issues of school money, community service hours, hazing/pledging the bidding process and secret recognition processes that weren’t in the Model,” said Multi-Cultural Senator Gaby Lopez.

After the audience made their statements to the Senate, the Senate then took time to make their decision on the issue.

Many audience members were not surprised at the outcome after many amendments to the Model had been made.

“Not really we had known that it was going to be tough because of personal views on the topic.”

Other reasons even Senate members were not surprised was the fact that many of the amendments made and time wasted and the people who made the changes still voted no,” said Schirmer.

We need Taylor.

For those that did not know Taylor this also affects you. Because this is a plea to take advantage of the time you have with your friends, you never know when they might decide they don’t want to be around anymore.

Some of her friends are looking at past memories and remembering the good old days spent in Dorm building 206. That’s right the class that entered CSUMB in the fall of 1999 were the first ones to roam the halls of 206 and the coolest so far.

Some of her friends are struggling to get their Spring Break, Taylor deprived all her friends of her company and friendship.

I am going to be selfish for a second and say that I don’t care what was on Taylor’s mind when she left us, I don’t care what kind of pain she thought she was in, we need her here.

We need Taylor.

In the case of Taylor, I along with all her friends may never know why she decided to leave us alone with just pictures and memories of our time together.

On March 14, when most students were starting their Spring Break, Taylor deprived all her friends of her company and friendship.

Some questions will never be answered. In the case of Taylor, I along with all her friends may never know why she decided to leave us alone with just pictures and memories of our time together.

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To be Greek or not to be

By Kara Alaimo
Karalaimo@csumb.edu

Sigmas, Gammas, Zetas: these are terms flying out of the mouths of many people on our campus. As for myself, I am not nor will I ever be in a Greek organization. I chose this position for myself years ago after seeing friends adapt to Greek life on a university campus in San Diego. I have since changed my ideas about Greek organizations because of my newfound awareness of the different types of Greeks. Now I write in support of Greek Organizations being recognized on our campus.

I am from San Diego, and down south at the big universities Greeks have been established for many years. These Greek organizations, from what I experienced via my friends are groups of immature individuals who get together to drink and belittle each other. I watched my friends binge drink and exploit themselves for what, to be part of a community chapter on this campus was born. The brothers of Gamma Zeta Alpha helped a lot of the students that want nothing more than to promote and do good for this campus, are being turned away. For example, Gamma Zeta Alpha does numerous amounts of community service and provides academic support for all who join. They pride themselves on a completely drug and alcohol free pledging period and accept any male who wants to join as long as he goes through the pledging process and meets the academic requirements.

The Greeks I once knew were nothing like the men and women of CSUMB who want to better this campus. I support what they are trying to do in bringing a special type of Greek Organizations onto this campus. As I said before I do not want to be in a Greek organization, because in the reality these organizations are not for everyone. In my life I do not need a group of girls to be my sisters. I do however want to belong to a university that encourages students whom support each other and their community.

What I have learned about the Greek organizations that want to be recognized by this campus is that they are not hazardous to our campus. I believe they will bring students together, help them make long connections that cannot be made with a club as well as help our campus continue to build partnerships for and amongst its students. Students who want to participate in Greek Organizations are still regular CSUMB students at the end of the day. Greeks are the same, as you and me and I believe it is important that we keep that in mind.

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**clubs calendar**

**every saturday**

Newman Community Meeting
11 pm SACD (Bldg. 44). Free. Contact Matt Peacock via FirstClass.

**In All Our Affairs**

The Al-Ator Family Groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength, and hope with others.

5 pm–6pm Saratoga Community Center. Free. Contact Charlene Stransky via FirstClass.

**every monday**

Alcoholics Anonymous
9 am–10 am Saratoga Community Center. Free. Contact Gary Rodriguez via FirstClass.

Business Club Meeting
The CSUMB Business Club's mission is to give hands on experience of the curriculum learned in our classes. The Business Club achieves this through fundraising, event coordination, interaction with real businesses and the local community.


**WCAD (We Care About Disabilities)**

3 pm TBA. Free. Contact Irene Nares-Guzick via FirstClass.

**Japanese Club Meeting**

Building 48 Kitchen. Free. Contact Victoria Salas via FirstClass.

Project: BASS
10 pm–11 pm Student Center. Free. Contact Elizabeth McChesney via FirstClass.

Pleecemakers meeting
Non-npm Building 84. C. Free. Contact Pleecemakers conference.

All in the Family meeting
9 pm Library. Free. Contact Nicole Jones via FirstClass.

**every tuesday**

**Dad's Group**

This group is for new dads, old dads, soon-to-be-dads and in-between dads.

12 pm–1 pm Personal Growth and Counselling Center (Bldg. 80). Free. Contact Gary Rodriguez by calling 831-582-3993.

**Chat the Movies**

Chat the Movies is a faith-based organization that meets every week to watch movies as a group. Chat the Movies will resume March 7th Saratoga Annex. Free. Contact Jean-Paul Hill via FirstClass.

**CSA (Graduate Student Association)**

8 pm BBC. Free. Contact Eric Tao via FirstClass.

**Anime Club Meeting**

8:15 pm Student Center. Free. Contact Rudolph Heuser via FirstClass.

**every other tuesday**

**E=MC2**

(Electronic Music Club & Culture)

Breaking down cultural barriers and making any form of entertainment dream into a reality.

8 pm BBC. Free. Contact Dennis Randolph via FirstClass.

**every tuesday & thursday**

**D.I.V.A.S. (Diversity, Identity, Visions, Academics and Service)**

8 pm Student Center Conference Room. Free. Contact Cristin Costello via FirstClass.

**every wednesday**

**Forum For International Issues**

Learn about International issues and discuss how they can be relevant to our everyday lives.

12 pm UC Living Room. Free. Contact Sasha Sanchez via FirstClass.

**Bilingual Education Student Organization**

12 pm Building 48E. Conference Room. Free. Contact Catalina Hernandez via FirstClass.

**C.O.O.L. Meeting - Cooperation Of Orientation Leaders.**

12 pm Bldg. 44. Free. Contact Heather Kohles via FirstClass.

**Black Student Union**

12 pm Library 101. Free. Contact Noel Hontington via FirstClass.

**I.C.A. - The Intercollegiate Chess Affiliation**

12 pm BBC. Free. Brown Bag Study Club


**Photography Club**

12:15 pm BBC. Free. Contact Jakob Kaufman via FirstClass.

**Music Club Meetings**

6 pm Building 30. Free. Contact Soen Seng via FirstClass.

**Multicultural Feminist Club**

8 pm UC Livingroom. Free. Contact Mariel Sainez via FirstClass.

**every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month**

**InterClub Council meeting**

6:15 pm University Center. Free. Contact Heather Kohles via FirstClass.

**every thursday**

**Spanish Club**

6:45 pm Building 49. Free. Contact Shaun Temple via FirstClass.

**MEChA - Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan at CSUMB**

8 pm MC (Building 18) Rm 120. Free. Contact Nelly Gutierrez via FirstClass.

**every friday**

**Multicultural Club**

5 pm UC Livingroom. Free. Contact Asya Guillory via FirstClass.

**Chicano Latino Grad. Association planning meeting**

5 pm TBA. Free. Contact Sandra Chavarin via FirstClass.

**M.O.F.O. - Microbrewers of Fort Ord**

6 pm BBC. Free. Contact Matthew Montevideo via FirstClass.

**Otter Christian Fellowship**

7:30 pm Bldg. 18 Rm 118. Free. Contact Julie Scott via FirstClass.

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Kara Alaimo
Take your pick!

By Marian Muhammad

Housing season will be here before we know it and many first-year students may not know enough about each dorm to make an accurate choice. Each dorm undoubtedly has its own perks and snags, but which dorm will prove to be on popular demand amongst the residents? Having nine dorms in which to choose from can, in many cases, be mind wrenching.

Before the time comes for students to choose a dorm, they usually already know which one they want. Prior to the big day students are already sizing up other buildings to see which one best fits them. Sophomore Maria Negrete said, "I knew a month or two before what dorm I wanted".

Usually what residents look for in choosing a dorm are location, room size, amenities, and where all their friends are going to be. When asked what amenities are important to her, Negrete replied, "the bathroom, because when you have to share the other people are nasty and they don't clean it".

Safety is also a key factor in choosing one's living space, but that aspect is rarely on students' minds while in search for a new home. "I'm worried, because you never know even if the doors are locked someone can still get in," said Negrete, although all the doors lock upon closing.

As many students know, not all of the dorms are equipped with the same amount of amenities; certain dorms, such as 208 and 210, have lofts as well as kitchens on each floor. Former 206 resident Cynthia Trujillo said, "I liked it because it was new and they said you will get a better wireless connection." Other dorms, such as 202-205, are equipped with a lobby on each floor with just one kitchen located on the first floor. When asked why she chose to live in 204, Sophomore Lida Velasquez said, "it was the only building that had a room that we did not have to share a restroom with the other room and it was a double."

Dorm 201 is set up much differently than any of the other dorms. This dorm has suites, which contain their own small lounge room, and it also has a lobby located at the entrance of the building. Dorm 206, the lone dorm located in front of the library on 6th street, is also enjoying a setup they will have at their new dwelling. With a little research and preparation (at least until the school year ends) one can be on popular demand amongst the residents.
If there was one other person you’d like to see running this country, besides Bush, who’d it be and why?

By Chris Ashton  
CHRIS_ASHTON@CSUMB.EDU

Grant Kohrmann, Sophomore  
TELEDRAMAIC ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
I'd still pick Bush because I voted for him. I'd rather see him in office because Gore would not be a good president in the situations we are faced with at this current time.

Jessica Proctor, Junior  
TELEDRAMAIC ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
Ralph Nader, because he seems to be environmentally motivated, he had no agendas, is a straight forward man, and Bush just gives me the creeps.

Eric Moore, Staff  
SUPPORT TECH
I'd still like to see Bill Clinton in office, he is a great mediator, and took great strides in foreign relations while he was in office. Clinton would be doing a much better job than Bush during this time.

Mario Romo, Junior  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, MULTIMEDIA & APPLIED COMPUTING
Santana, he tells things the way they are, we need more than brains in office, because we are the most powerful nation, we need someone who has heart.

Korina Sanchez, Junior  
MANAGEMENT & INTERNATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Bill Gates, he knows what he is doing financially and because he is the richest man in the world, he would be concentrating not on war, but rather the financial situation of the U.S.

Oren Trower, Freshman  
MANAGEMENT & INTERNATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Anybody but Bush, he's doing a crappy job, he doesn't have my support, he's just carrying out his daddy's work.

Tim Farber, Junior  
VISUAL & PUBLIC ART
I can only describe a type of person, somebody that was going to open things up, to distribute the wealth so that nobody is in survival mode. We need somebody who would give up global renaissance, so that it would be felt throughout the world.

Ashley Grimm, Sophomore  
LIBERAL STUDIES
The type of person I would like to see in office is someone with a sense of humor, strong sense of leadership without fulfilling their own needs.

Agha-Sigibinovia, Freshman  
MANAGEMENT & INTERNATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
I'd like to see Reverend Al Sharpton in office. He's been running for office for a long time and never made it, he tries to make a difference.