Faculty seeks to protect classes, jobs

By Zachary Stahl, Managing Editor
ZACHARY_STAHL@CSUMB.EDU

With next year’s budget cuts threatening the students and faculty of the CSU system, the California Faculty Association (CFA) is stepping in now before it’s too late.

Last week was Campus Equity Week when activities promoting fairness for part-time faculty were staged on college campuses throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. The CFA, a California teachers’ union, organized events on all CSU campuses—including CSUMB—and circulated petitions calling for the protection of classes and instruction as California tries to balance its budget.

Although the state’s budget won’t be finalized until this coming summer, CFA Lecturer Representative Karen Davis insists that “We don’t have any time to lose,” adding that, “there may well be mid-year budget cuts.”

Former Gov. Gray Davis proposed a cut of 20 percent or $482.6 million to the CSU Board of Trustees in September, and the board is still deliberating on what that will translate to for students and faculty.

According to the Campus Equity flyer going around campus, “it could mean one or a combination of an additional 90

UNION continued on page 4

Tai Chi in need of numbers

By Warren Lee, Staff Reporter
WARREN_LEE@CSUMB.EDU

Imagine having to take a $139 class in addition to tuition this semester. For some Tai Chi students, this was their only option.

In order to take Tai Chi, Chi Kung II and Scuba Diving this semester, participants were required to pay $139 on top of tuition. The classes were offered through Distributed Learning and Extended Education (DLEE), a program used for community members who pay fees on a per-class basis. This method was, in large part, used because of low enrollment.

“Any class enrollment that has 15 or fewer students is looked at,” said Bobbi Bonace, director of Health Performance and Wellness Education (HPWE). Because the enrollment in a few HPWE classes was so low, the minimum requirement was extended to 26 students. “If there were less than 26 students, the class was asked to be canceled,” Bonace said. Intermediate Tai Chi was one such class.

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Price v. people
AS split on organic cotton

By Erica Ruedas, Staff Reporter
ERIKA_RUEDAS@CSUMB.EDU

A controversial resolution that would require all student organizations to purchase organic cotton for promotional items is moving through the Associated Students Senate with resistance.

If passed, all promotional T-shirts, excluding intramural sports, would have to be made from 100 percent organic cotton and promotional items like Mardi Gras beads from recycled materials. The resolution is currently being re-written by Associated Students (AS).

Nat Rojanasathira, environmental senator, proposed the resolution in the hopes that CSUMB will stick to its principles of social justice. The resolution seeks to discourage the use of harmful pesticides, which “are contaminating our air, soil and ground water resulting in long-term human and environmental health damage.”

The Senate first drafted a resolution last year, and is now refining the details. Vito Trigilia, Events Workgroup chair, said, “This resolution is lacking,” however and is “still being worked on.” Some people believe that labor issues, such as not supporting sweatshops, should be included in the resolution.

Organic cotton does cost about 10 to 300%
CSUMB moves toward substance-free housing

By M. Cristina Medina, Staff Reporter

Martha_Medina@csumb.edu

After midnight on the quad, it's the same scene almost every night: intoxicated students stumble and crawl, trying to make it back to their dorm rooms and disturbing the peace in the process. Partying may soon be restricted, however, as efforts are underway to make certain floors or dorms "substance-free.”

Residential Life wants to propose either a floor or a building free from the pressures of drinking. There is a considerable amount of students that live on campus who would like to live in a safe and healthy environment, and Residential Life is considering to start with 90 dorm spaces.

"This proposal has been on the table since the introduction of the new housing buildings," said Michelle Jean Donohue, assistant director of Residential Life. "The only reason why it has not been hosted before was to not send a mixed message of how there were some ‘issues’ of students getting intoxicated.”

Students wanting to live in a substance-free housing would have to agree to the terms and conditions contracted by Residential Life. These rules would be applied to help create a healthy environment 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Students would have to agree to not use or possess alcohol in the building, not enter the building under the influence, consent to hold all guests to the same guidelines and to support all programs which benefit the substance-free community.

"Mainly parents whose college students have had substance abuse problems in the past are interested in these living arrangements to help their children not fall into the temptations of substance abuse," said Donohue.

There have been many students who have gone to rehab more than once and are trying to reestablish themselves into society without the pressures of alcohol use.

Resident Life seems to be leaning toward having a substance-free building. "A floor would be harder to regulate and it would be easier to regulate a building," said Teleidramatic Arts Technology junior Theresa Babcock. She considers it a good idea to start with a building to see how it goes, then consider adding more buildings if more students are interested in these living arrangements.

Babcock believes that this new concept will be helpful for those students who don't want to get caught up with the pressures of underage drinking, and that it would provide both a safer and healthier environment for students who are tired of being caught in the middle of the ‘party climate.

Although drinking is both illegal for minors and not allowed in the dorms, many students fall into the temptations of experimenting. "There are other students who are frustrated with the scene," said Randy Hanlin, assistant director for Residential Life.

Last year in the fall of 2002 there were eight alcohol poisonings, and in spring 2003 there were two, a total of ten alcohol poisonings. "This semester alone there have been four alcohol poisonings, which have been reported to either Residential Life or Campus Police," Donohue said. With this "party climate" there have been issues of having outside visitors come to both the dorms and east campus housing, and causing brawls between the students. Some of which have been gang related, while other brawls included weapons.

This concept of substance-free housing and the theme housing is to make residential life feel worth students' while and make them feel comfortable about their living arrangement. It may seem like a new trend, but it is a concept that was first adapted in universities on the east coast including Hamilton College in New York and Livingston College in New Jersey.

The final decision on the substance free housing will be made before Dec. 1, expected to be put in effect the beginning of fall 2004. Residential Life is looking for suggestions from the students for theme housing. For more information contact Michelle Jean Donohue via FirstClass.

Tai Chi

"I was also thought that since DLEE was sponsored by the university, it would be free, Bonace said. But "in reality, even students had to pay." As students who wanted to take Tai Chi learned they had to pay an additional fee, they were less motivated to participate.

"Because the class was shifted to DLEE, I had second thoughts about having to pay extra for classes I feel I shouldn’t have to," said Kryn Corpuz, a sophomore and Japanese major who took Tai Chi last semester. Corpuz chose to opt out of Tai Chi this semester because of the $139 tab.

Leonard Han, Tai Chi instructor at CSUMB, said the switch to DLEE reflected badly on his class, "DLEE presented Tai Chi poorly, and I was very disappointed," Han said.

Bonace agreed, "How do you pay for DLEE? How do you enroll? How do you basically sign up? The program was very unclear." According to Bonace, because of the price tag and miscommunications, DLEE will not be used again.

Tai Chi will once again be offered in the CSUMB catalog next semester, but to ensure it isn’t canceled enrollment must increase. "There is a great response; they're interested," Han said.

Han said it just is matter of getting the word out on Tai Chi. "We need multiple sources of communication. There is a limited amount of coverage, the marketing is inadequate." Han also stated he had only one student who knew about the class.

Corpuz reiterated, "Since there really isn’t any advertising about Tai Chi, not many people knew about it.”

Without a modest enrollment, Tai Chi could be canceled next semester. But Han said if more students are aware this class exists, and if more advertising is used, perhaps there will be a decent number of Tai Chi practitioners next semester.

Flamingo Follow-up

By Erin Lawley, Sport Editor

Erin_Lawley@csumb.edu

For those who didn’t make it to “Late Night With the Otters” on Oct. 22, one highlight was Operation Otterfied’s public appearance giving CSUMB President Peter Smith an ultimatum regarding the return of his precious flamingo, Gertrude.

Ren Herring, RallyCom’s chair, is the current representative for “The Flamingo Snatchers.” He spoke at “Late Night” and demanded two last requests to be met: for CSUMB to have an “Otterfied bonfire,” and for a school flag to be shown proudly at athletic events.

“I have no problem with any demands,” Smith stated. "I have a number of ideas on how to do some things.”

Although Smith is more than happy to discuss these demands, he states that he and his wife are “so sad and lonely” without their beloved Trudy.

The Smiths have secured a lighted flamingo in a front window of their campus home to light the way in the hopes that Trudy might escape from her capturers.

A mediation meeting is set for Smith and The Flamingo Snatchers to discuss the details of the return of Trudy and the demands set by General Fagguberrite and her troops.

More to come in the Otter Realm’s next issue, on stands Thursday, Nov. 27.
Ord Bowling
Campus planners ponder bowling alley’s future
By Maxwell Green, Staff Reporter
MAXWELL_GOOD@CSUMB.EDU

On the edge of the CSUMB campus across the disc golf course from Building 84, sits a boarded up bowling alley. Whether this bowling alley is to be re-opened or not is a big question that has yet to have a definite answer.

According to Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA), the bowling alley was built in 1960 by the military and was supported by the Soldiers’ Recreation Fund. Some of the local residents say the bowling alley was a social place for the whole family in its hey day.

In the FORA database, it is listed to be given to CSUMB as a public benefit in the future. The university has plans to “deconstruct and recycle” the facility, said Robin Katsuki, department director of Design & Construction. The department will tear down and re-use the wood or the basic structure, explained members of Design & Construction via e-mail.

“I think we have a great resource and it should be retained as a bowling facility.”
-BILL TRUMBO, ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

Many students have been asking why CSUMB has not done anything with the bowling alley sooner and what the plans are. According to FORA’s records, a lease request was submitted by the university and was canceled for unknown reasons. To this day the bowling alley is still property of the U.S. Army.

It has been boarded up and preserved for approximately one decade. Though it has been preserved, both the department of Design & Construction and FORA have agreed that it has deteriorated and the main computer system is missing. It would require between $800,000 and $1 million put in working to restore and order, said Athletics Director Bill Trumbo. Campus planning vice president Niraj Dangoria said, “The bowling alley is a difficult endeavor to reconstruct and sustain from a facility business perspective.”

Dangoria also pointed out that the bowling alley was a temporary prefabricated metal building with a 20-year life span.

He admitted that having a bowling alley would be nice, but it just does not look like a possibility.

Trumbo had a slightly different view. “I think we have a great resource and it should be retained as a bowling facility.” Trumbo said that the building had a lot to offer, because there are no bowling alleys in Seaside and Marina. Having an alley on campus would draw a lot of people.

Student Activities Coordinator Mary Anne Drummond, who is siding with Trumbo, said the bowling alley is an “opportunity hanging in the balance.”

Even though costs to get it up and running would be around $1 million, Trumbo expressed that it was not completely out of reach. He said that there are companies that feel the bowling alley is repairable and even though the structure is past its lifetime, it has no major problems. The main costs would be updating the building to code and doing mild repairs.

The answer to the big question, “What will happen to the bowling alley?” is still undetermined. At this point the University will be getting the property from the Army and plans to deconstruct the bowling alley, or if a way becomes available, the bowling alley could be remodeled and reopened.

For more information visit Campus Planning and Development at http://cpd.csumb.edu or FORA at www.fora.org

Cotton

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more than non-organic cotton, and there is a wider range of colors that can be used with non-organic cotton. An organic cotton t-shirt will cost about $2.50 more if it is a simple white t-shirt with no design.

Ren Herring, RallyCom chair, said that RallyCom ordered 75 t-shirts about 2 weeks ago, and the cost for 75 non-organic cotton t-shirts was $525.50 while the cost for 60 organic cotton t-shirts was $1500 to $1600.

Triglia believes that the university has a responsibility to the vision statement and encourages people to see the greater good behind the cost of organic cotton. He supports the resolution, but said, “Labor rights should definitely be a part of it.” Other CSUs, like California State University, Chico, have passed a similar resolution.

Herring said that CSUMB is a young school in comparison to Cal State Chico, and that the AS budget for CSUMB is $300,000 a year, compared to Cal State Chico’s AS budget of $3 million a year.

Only four CSUs have passed a similar resolution, and the students have the option of choosing between organic and non-organic cotton. “I think that we should encourage our campus to go organic, but we shouldn’t demand it,” Herring said.

According to Herring, when CSUMB does order organic cotton products, they come from Mexico, because only 4 percent of the cotton growers in California grow organic cotton, and they can’t keep up with the demand.

Those in support of the cotton resolution believe that even though demanding that CSUMB use organic cotton will require more work and will cost more, but it will be worth it. “The ability to sleep well at night is worth it,” said Triglia.

It’s Online.

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Clubs unite for affirmative action

By Zachary Stahl, Managing Editor
ZACHARY_STAH@CSUMB.EDU

"Brown, yellow, black, white, same struggle, same fight" echoed through the quad on Oct. 30 as a diverse group of CSUMB students staged a small rally for National Take Affirmative Action Day.

Organized by the NAACP Youth & College Division and the United States Student Association, rallies demanding racial justice in higher education were held at college campuses throughout the nation. In 1996, affirmative action was banned in California with the passing of Proposition 209. The students were protesting for it to be reinstated.

"We fought for it and it should have never been taken away from us," said Misty Tyson, Black Students United (BSU) president.

Club members from BSU, Associated Students and Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (M.E.Ch.A.) participated in the rally.

The students marched into the University Center to show their support for CSUMB faculty during the Campus Equity event, chanting, "They say cut back, I say fight back.

They even marched to President Peter Smith's office, but Smith didn't come out.

At the end of the spontaneous rally, the students agreed that it was time to form a new club, an organization where the existing clubs can come together. There needs to be a club "for us to unite as students," Tyson said.

Going on the air at CSUMB
KAZU radio an untapped resource for students

By Adam Swanson
ADAM_SWANSON@CSUMB.EDU

The phone is ringing incessantly, line 2, line 4, programmers talking in the right ear, audience in the left, the lights of the control board flicker, over the air this is KAZU, a community service of California State University of Monterey Bay.

"Welcome to the real world, this is reality," said Bernhard Drax, news director for KAZU, a radio station owned by the Foundation of CSUMB.

Many students are unaware of the potential resources available through CSUMB. For students interested in broadcast journalism, KAZU is an excellent resource to learn "the ropes."

CSUMB runs a weekly program through KAZU called Studio CSU that has been up and running for five semesters.

"This is, I believe the second of two visits I have received by students, it is a shame. This is an amazing resource, it is a tremendous opportunity to learn hands on the technical aspects of radio and broadcast journalism," said Drax.

When the Foundation of CSUMB proposed the idea of owning a radio station there were certain aspirations and intentions for the radio station. Foremost, the radio station could act as a vehicle for the university's mission statement, through educating the community.

During the first year of the Foundation's ownership a market research survey was conducted on the prior state of KAZU. As a result of these market surveys KAZU switched from the format of a community based programming to that of a National Public Radio station.

The data collected from the market surveys indicated that the community wanted more news during the day and more culture at night," said Maria Garcia, operations and compliance manager for the Foundation of CSUMB.

"The first order of business is to build a budget and retire the debt," stated Steve Reed, assistant vice president of student relations. Due to the switch both membership and listener-ship are up. "The Foundation of CSUMB exists in order to support the university, the money received by the Foundation goes back into the school," said Reed.

The Dec. 5th edition of the Monterey County Herald stated, "The Federal Communications Commission approved the license transfer from the Monterey Bay Public Broadcasting Foundation to the Foundation of CSU-Monterey Bay," which made CSUMB the station's new owner effective Nov. 30.

According to Reed the first job in acquiring the station was to "bring it to the point of sustainability." In order to make the university's ownership of KAZU a long-lasting resource both for the university and the community an audience needs to be established.

Students may think that by simply taking a class on radio broadcasting they can be let loose on air, but that is not the reality. In order for a radio station to thrive there must be an audience.

"In the long term, I hope to see more student, faculty and staff involvement, but we need to establish a stronger sense of stability first," said Reed.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming involved with the radio station and learning technical aspects of radio and broadcast journalism through hands-on experience contact Bernhard Drax via e-mail at bdrax@kazu.org. }
Paving the road to higher education

By James Speir, Photo Editor
JAMES.SPEIR@CSUMB.EDU

Do you remember when you were a senior in high school scrambling around, trying to decide which college to go to? Asking yourself, “What’s the point of even going to college?”

On Oct. 3, 43 students from Roosevelt High School in Fresno got a chance to get their questions answered. They took a tour of CSUMB as part of the Road Runners Club, a student outreach program here on campus. The club is dedicated to becoming a bridge between high school and college.

The students are a part of the Health Academy Program (HAP), directed by Daniel Jueng, at Roosevelt High School. HAP is an intensive course in which high school students learn about the medical profession of their choosing.

The tour consisted of going to the Media Learning Center where they got an introduction to the benefits available to them through the CSU system. They toured the dorms, had lunch at the Otter Bay Café, and topped it off with a trip to Point Lobos to relax and enjoy the wildlife.

The highlight of the tour was a stop at the Watershed Institute. The students got to participate in germination and transplanting experiments involving native plants from the Fort Ord area.

Miguel Angel Gomez, Zoila Avila, and Ernesto Rojas along with Bruce Wade, their cross country coach at Roosevelt High School, founded the Road Runner Club in 1997. It started out as a way for the cross-country team to practice during the off-season without having to join the track team but evolved into a collaboration with HAP at Roosevelt.

Wade points out that, “Anytime you allow kids to have connections with colleges, the more successful they can become. Community service, social skills, and education all contribute.”

Miguel Angel Gomez, co-founder of the original Road Runners, is now a senior here at CSUMB majoring in Social and Behavioral Sciences. Gomez along with the original founders, decided to form a new branch of the Road Runner club here at CSUMB. Only instead of running, they are paving the way for less fortunate students to go to college.

The club organized the tours with the help of P.R.I.D.E. and SOAR, two other student outreach programs on campus. P.R.I.D.E. provided the food at the Otter Bay Café, while SOAR helped to gather the information and help plan the tour.

“I came here because of a tour I took in high school and I loved the campus,” Gomez said. “I want to give these students the same opportunity.”

Working in conjunction with HAP, Gomez has made it his goal to provide less fortunate students a chance to get into college. They come to CSUMB to get answers to their questions and get a feeling of what the campus is like.

“Now it’s all about giving back. If the students come to Monterey, great. But if they go to college all, that’s the best outcome,” Gomez said.

Maiseng Vang, a junior at Roosevelt High School and member of HAP is appreciative of the Road Runner program. “I’ve seen it help out many people,” Vang said. “It has helped me to expand what I think of my major and broadened my horizons.”

Although northern winds blew most of the smoke and ash into the peninsula, a huge plume of smoke from the Army’s prescribed burn left a shadow over campus for four days. The fire was supposed to only clear 500 acres but the flames jumped the line from day one and ended up charring three times as much land. The burn was part of the Army’s ongoing objective to clear the vegetation blocking them from removing a heap of unexploded ordinances on old firing ranges.
Love thy neighbor?
All-night parties not appreciated by families in campus housing

By Adam Swanson, Staff Reporter
ADAM_SWANSON@CSUMB.EDU

It’s Sunday at 2 a.m. when a young man and his pregnant girlfriend are jolted from their sleep by a large group of people congregated on their lawn. It seems yet another party is over and 60 people need to find a place to go.

This scene has become all too familiar. For many of the families situated within campus housing it has become a living nightmare.

"One afternoon, I looked down the street and saw some children playing basketball, but all over the ground was broken bottles from another all-night party ... this cannot be tolerated at CSUMB!" said Jeff Shindell, foundation representative to Associated Students. Lt. Jay McTaggart of the University Police Department said, "We have a somewhat unique situation here at CSUMB. Here, a high percentage of faculty, staff and students make CSUMB their home."

By living on campus, students and faculty are able to take advantage of affordable housing.

But, this financial solution is turning into a social problem. "Singles living with families does create a dynamic living environment," said M.J. Donohue, assistant director for Residential Education.

This dynamic she speaks of is that of college kids who want to enjoy the social experiences of college life, and parents who want to raise their families in a safe environment. Both are entitled to an equal standard of living.

When discussing the issue of partiers and families, Shindell said, "I've been there, I’ve partied with the best of them, but there is a point when the line needs to be drawn."

"The obvious issue then is to maintain a balance ... we do have family-focused streets, but we also don't force anyone to move if they don't want to," said Donohue.

According to Randy Hanlin, assistant director of Residential Life, currently 185 families reside alongside 776 singles. These families are somewhat designated to three various streets: Saratoga, Yorktown and Wilderness.

Shindell suggests the residents become more involved in building a stronger sense of community and neighborhood. A closer bond among the residents will build a mutual respect for both the students and the families.

The school has begun building the North Quad apartments and suites. The suites will be reserved for students of sophomore status and the apartments for students above 21 years of age or of junior status, but in the mean time the student and family friction will remain until the point where population demands more housing.

"These problems are right next door," said Shindell. "The campus mission statement talks about an 'enhanced educational experience' and that has to do with a quality of living as well."

Campus Visitors' Center expected by end of 2004

By Colleen M. Cooney, News Editor
COLEEN_COONEY@CSUMB.EDU

What now looks like an empty barren lot of dirt and grass will soon be home to a bustling hub for visitors and newcomers to CSUMB.

To be nestled on the busy corner of Third Street and General Jim Moore Boulevard, the proposed Visitors' Center is intended to create a central point of orientation so that people won't feel displaced when first arriving on campus.

"It is very easy to get lost on this Army base," said Niraj Dangoria, assistant vice president of Campus Planning & Development. He hopes that the Visitors’ Center will be a place where people can find information about the campus. "It will make everybody’s life easier," he said.

The center will contain a public area for visitors to use as a gathering point, and the University Advancement department will also be housed in the new building.

Kathleen Ventimiglia, assistant director of CP&D, said the Visitors’ Center will be a first-stop for newcomers to get directions or to meet for tours. "It will serve as a gateway for visitors, and alumni will have a place to come back to."

Activity on the site will begin in February, starting with the deconstruction of the two existing buildings on the plot. Materials from these structures will be recycled with the university’s materials recovery facility and reused in parts of the new building.

"We haven’t exactly figured out to what extent to use the materials," said Ventimiglia. The main part of the structure will be built from new materials, but the recycled wood will be used for trim and interior finishes, she said.

The 13,500 square-foot building is expected to be finished by the end of 2004 and will carry a price tag of about $3.5 million.
Who would've thought running was so fun?

By Colin Pfaff, Staff Reporter

Colin_Pfaff@csumb.edu

Now that baseball is over...the NBA begins!

- 80:1- Odds that the Florida Marlins would win the World Series this year.
- 100:1- Odds that bench coach Don Zimmer would win in a fourth round knockout over Pedro Martinez.
- NBA basketball started last week and all it really makes me think is that college hoops are right around the corner.
- As the NBA season begins a lot of confusion is boiling over who won the championship last year. Does anyone remember?...Seriously?
- Shaquille O’Neal is using a new “mailman” this year to get some pretty harsh messages across to Kobe...take it easy Shaqadddy, show a little “glove.”
- Can someone please explain to me the point of Lebron James’ new commercial where he holds the ball and the entire other team and stadium gets silent and just watch him? I’m sick of it!
- As any good sports columnist would say about Lebron James, “I told you so.”
- So this is me telling you, I told you so about Lebrilliant James!
- Three things that I miss in the NBA game today: pure shooters, team defense, and Dennis Rodman.
- I can’t even imagine being Kobe Bryant and playing in visitors arenas this season. Most notably, Wednesday Jan. 7 vs. the Denver Nuggets in the whole state of Colorado.

Running is nothing new for Michael Lancaster. It has become something natural that oozes out of his skin just as easily as sweat. Currently Lancaster runs for the CSUMB men’s cross country team helping them pound along steadily.

Lancaster came to CSUMB by way of North Carolina, placing 10th at the 1999 World Junior Biathlon, which was a running and cycling race. This standing gained Lancaster notoriety when applying to schools. After bouncing from North Carolina to Louisiana, Lancaster wanted to attend a California school.

At the same time CSUMB was looking for someone just like Lancaster. “We needed some leadership in the cross country team,” said Yi Mao, CSUMB men and women’s cross country head coach. “Michael called us, and over the phone I got a pretty deep impression of him,” said Mao.

When Lancaster came to visit CSUMB he was very impressed. “The environment, coaches, and area is impressive,” he said. “I also wanted to be coached by an elite runner, someone who had been there and done that.”

Lancaster has always participated in sports. The first sport he played was Australian Rules football at the early age of 4. “I just lived and breathed football,” stated Lancaster. Since then he has grown into a solid athlete who has an ambitious attitude towards sports.

Playing sports at such an early age taught him more than just how to play the game, but also the philosophy and techniques that are incorporated within sports. Knowing that a person’s skill is limitless on the field and that there is always room to move up to the next level of skill makes Lancaster push himself to excel.

“I work hard and I play hard,” he said. “One has to reward himself for the hard work they produce.”

Lancaster changed his focus at 16 when he discovered that he was a little too short to continue playing football at the level he wanted. He started to compete in triathlons then later focused on running itself.

He wanted to be able to give his all to the sport, but competing in several events made it difficult. “You can’t give 100 percent to running if you have to train for two or three different events and it doesn’t allow your self to give full focus in one area.”

“(CSUMB) is just a good environment for training, races, and people,” He said. “It all just gels here.”

Teammate Andrew Lamont commented on Lancaster saying, “I think as Captain he brings a lot of experience and leadership to our team.”

The team runs together six days a week covering 45 miles every week. Running doesn’t only build skill and endurance but also bonds the team as a strong unit.

“We all work really hard, every one of us is a highly motivated athlete,” stated Lancaster. “Not too many need a push, the runners are motivated and have the want to run and compete in the races.”

During this past summer, Lancaster along with teammates Lamont, Nick Mount and Eric Palmer, trained relentlessly to improve and hone in on every aspect of their sport. They wanted to raise themselves to the next level.

“We look to him (Lancaster) for advice and strategy in our training in racing,” Lamont said.

These are the kinds of steps the Otters want to be making in their running. “The coaching is wonderful,” Lancaster said. “They have lots of experience to give and ways to improve the running of the team.”

The team’s bond and commitment to running has paid off. After the recent California Pacific Conference cross country meet on Oct. 26, four CSUMB runners made the All-Conference Team. Lancaster, Lamont, Palmer and Ernesto Rojas were honored. This title is only awarded to 10 players and CSUMB took four of those spots. The Otters earned the most All-Conference spots out of the six teams eligible.

“I am very proud to be a member of the cross country team,” Lamont said. “Although it has been a very tough and grueling season we made it through by staying friends and working hard.”

Outstanding Otters

Information taken from sports.csumb.edu

12 Otters named All-Conference for CSUMB’s soccer teams.

A four-year starter for the Otters, senior Nate Northup has continued to dominate by receiving his fourth First Team All-Conference award. Teammate Tommy Hernandez earned his second First Team honor. Nick Lackey stepped it up this year by earning his first First Team All-Conference slot. Lackey was named as a Second Team selection last year.

Marissa Prescott and Brittanii Donnachie both earned their third First Team slot for the All-Conference team. Donnachie has lead her team in scoring for two years strong. Junior Megan Minnick earned First Team honors as she played offense and defense for the Otters.

Jane Campbell is the only underclassman for the women’s soccer team to receive post-season honors by landing a spot on the CCAA’s Second Team. Senior Crissie Lukacs earns her third All-Conference honor by landing a spot on the Second Team. Nicole Taylor, also a senior, marks her territory with her second All-Conference honor.

Transfer student Kyle Archibald lead the Otters in goals this season with 15 earning his first honor on the All-Conference Second Team. Senior defender Mike Clark was named to Santa Clara’s All-Tournament team along with earning a spot on the CCAA’s Second Team. Sophomore Nic Torricelli makes his second round as Second Team player.

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Men still kickin'
Despite loss, Otters advance to Regionals

By: Colin Pfaff, Staff Reporter
Colin_pfaff@csumb.edu

No coach, no problem. The men's soccer team advanced to the second round of playoffs by beating a tough Menlo College team Tuesday Oct. 28 at CSUMB. Coach Artie Cairel was not allowed to coach the team because he had received two yellow cards in the previous game on some controversial calls during a 2-1 loss at Dominican University the week before.

Senior forward Jason Del Porto felt pretty confident going into the match against Menlo. "We know what we gotta do and we just gotta do it," Del Porto said. "We believe in each other and I think that's all we need." Kyle Archibald's goal in the 70th minute from the middle of the box helped jumpstart the Otters attack. The Otters were on a constant prowl and scored again but had the goal taken away.

Like Del Porto said, the belief showed. An amazing goal by Nate Northup in the 81st minute on a free kick gave the Otters a 1-0 lead. CSUMB's offense was so aggressive they had 21 shots on goal compared to Menlo's four.

They also hit Menlo's goal post or crossbar for a combined six times. Goalkeeper Jared Racz, who held Menlo scoreless with three saves for the entire game, felt the Otters played exceptionally well for not having their coach. "We stuck with the system and it worked," said Racz.

They secured the win and advanced to the next round of the playoffs where they then had to face archival Notre Dame de Namur from Belmont. Notre Dame beat them 1-0 earlier this season in conference play.

The Argonauts proved to be a bit too much for the Otters Saturday afternoon. NDNU had 17 shots on goal compared to CSUMB's five. NDNU's Melk Phifer scored the first at the 69:37 mark while teammate Alex Valenzuela netted another at 72:45 in the match.

Goalie Mike Whittaker showed why he is the top goalkeeper in the NAIA conference by shutting out the Otters and giving hi team an automatic bid to the Regional Tournament.

CSUMB finished its season 5-2 in conference play and 9-13 overall. They will lose 11 players next year including goalkeeper Ismael Jiminez, forwards Dal Porto and Justin Arthur, midfielders Scott Muleady, Rodrigo Reyes, Ricky Jones, and Northup along with defenders Nick Lackey, Mike Clark, Tommy Hernandez, and Jonathan Reedy.

CSUMB will wait and see if there is an extended invitation for the Otters to play in the regional playoffs despite losing the Cal-Pac championship game.

Otters' season ends with hard loss
First-half Playoff ejections shutdown the Otters

By: Colin Pfaff, Staff Reporter
Colin_pfaff@csumb.edu

There have been many positive things about CSUMB's women soccer team this season. After finishing second place in NAIA conference play with a 6-1 record, The Otters won their first home playoff game against Dominican University, 1-0 Wednesday Oct. 29. CSUMB dominated the game by having 30 shots on goal compared to Dominican's five.

The Otters lone goal was scored on a nice cross pass from sophomore midfielder Jessica Martelle to senior midfielder Crissy Lukacs who finished the play with a header that landed behind Dominican's goalkeeper.

Dominican threatened CSUMB's lead a few times late in the game when they shot the ball off Monterey's crossbar. The ball shuffled around for a minute when Dominican regained possession but was called for a penalty giving the Otters the ball back.

Otter goalkeeper Melissa Moen made an impressive save with eight minutes remaining in the second half by knocking the ball above her head and out of play on a rocket shot by the Penguins.

After shutting the Penguins out, the Otters traveled to Belmont for the Cal-Pac championship against rival Notre Dame de Namur. Junior Britanni Donnachie felt confident going into the game into NDNU. "Despite losing 6-0 (CSUMB lost to NDNU Oct. 18), we still feel confident winning this game."

CSUMB couldn't hold NDNU's offense back losing 2-0. The Argonauts showed why they are ranked number four in the NAIA by holding the otters scoreless and scoring a goal in each half of the match.

The Otters got off to a rocky start with two ejections in the first half from Lukacs and Martelle due to fighting. After losing two key players, the otters couldn't outplay the Argonauts.

NDNU out shot CSUMB 24-3 on Saturday. The ball was kept in the Otter's territory throughout most of the match making it difficult for an Otter goal. Sophomore goalie Melissa Moen produced nine saves.

CSUMB finished its season 6-1 in conference play and 11-7 overall. They will lose four seniors next year including defenders Natalie Aboi, Nicole Taylor and Marissa Prescott along with midfielder Lukacs.

The Otters are in the midst of appealing the game due to some controversial calls by the referees that resulted in two red cards meaning ejection from the game.

"It was really disappointing to have to lose the final game with two players down from a ridiculous situation and some ridiculous calls," junior defender Megan Minnick said.

If the appeal is not granted, the season is over for CSUMB. The team will await the ruling and find out by the end of this week.

Athletic Events

to post an event, contact
Erin Lowley via FirstClass

Friday, Nov.7
Women's volleyball vs. Menlo College. OSC. 7:30 p.m. $2 for students and faculty/staff, $5 general admission.

Saturday, Nov. 8
Men's basketball at Long Beach Problems exhibition. OSC. 7:30 p.m. $2 for students and faculty/staff, $5 general admission.

Sunday, Nov. 9
Free Dive the Sanctuary. Lovers Point. 10 a.m. $15 for students, $20 for faculty/staff, $25 general admission, all equipment provided. Contact CSUMB Adventure Connections at 582-4644 or e-mail adventure@csumb.edu

Saturday, Nov. 15
Men and women's cross country. CSUMB Turkey Trot. 9 a.m. Women's basketball vs. Oregon Tech University. OSC. 3 p.m. $2 for students and faculty/staff, $5 general admission.
Web of Love
Dating online to meet your match

By Enjolina Moss, Staff Reporter
ENJOLINA_MOSS@CSUMB.EDU

Many a time, in a fit of boredom or just plain curiosity, I browsed the local Personals, scoffing at the “Alternatives”, while engaging in nervous laughter at the sight of “Want to Strap It On?” No, thank you, but what exactly is a “Hot Bottom” and who would write these sorts of things? Eccentricities aside, more and more people are now turning to a modern and high-tech form of solicited love: online dating.

Subscribers to the seemingly ancient personal ads have been relentlessly stigmatized as lonely, desperate, weird, sometimes even ugly people. I wonder what makes online dating sites so different. Perhaps the ability to post a photo lends to its credibility. It is as if the users are saying, “See, I’m not weird! I have all my body parts and no extras!” Maybe it is the extreme degree of detail possible for an online profile. Or perhaps when horror films begin to feature personal ad mishaps—think Single White Female—abbreviations and four line summations just lost their charm.

The growing popularity of Internet dating sites must say something about people’s belief in its potential for attracting that special person—or even “the One.” That is to say they have the potential for discovering someone “normal.”

Bar fly is not a label I would ever want applied, nor is party animal, though I do enjoy a good time once in a while. Since most people go to bars to drink and drunk people act like fools in light of the fact I’m not looking to date a drunken fool—perhaps the traditional venues are no longer par for my dating course.

I know better than anybody my perfect man will never be the Aqua di Gio-doused, leather-clad stud drinking a Budweiser while ogling women with presumptuous eyes from across the bar. After a couple of years of trying to ignore “Damn, baby, you are fine!” over the latest house beat, avoiding slurred conversations next to the keg, and dodging grapes from the guy who “just wants to be [my] friend”, I know I will never find him at a bar or club or raucous house party.

So I wonder: Is online dating the way to meet people for my generation? Could online dating be the new social mixer?

Letting it all hang out
Short of warping myself through the phone line and into people’s bedrooms or offices, or wherever people date online, I describe myself in less than two thousand words. Not bad for a journalist plagued with verbosity. A step-by-step process of data entry guides me to create an expressive and attractive profile guaranteed to lure in destiny, at least that’s the feeling I get.

I put it all on the line, online in fact: my face, dimensions ethnicity, hairstyle, political slant, childbearing potential, activities, and desires. Thankfully “athletic and toned” is not nearly as misleading as what I put on my driver’s license. Now over 1,000 people can tell you that blond hair and blue eyes float my boat, Quentin Tarantino is a genius in my eyes, and I am a girl at heart.

It was not difficult to fill in the blanks, since I decided to be honest. Of course my biggest concern now was how I could possibly talk to a guy who “Definitely” wants children when I insist on “Someday”. While I expected to feel vulnerable and exposed with so much information—and pictures to boot—available for anyone to peruse and scrutinize, I somehow felt at ease surrendering my fate to the Match.com gods.

And in less time than it took me to post it, I forgot about it.

One short response, one giant leap for my self-esteem
Within the first 24 hours of posting my profile I received five emails. After deleting one with a creepy, romanticized poem and another from a guy in Los Angeles—far from my type—I was left with one local student, one handsome fella.

LOVE continued on page 13
SUGAR SKULLS: Not a Halloween Candy

By Morning Star Vasquez, A&E Editor
MORNING_VASQUEZ@CSUMB.EDU

Falling deceptively close to the celebration of Halloween, El Dia de los Muertos can be easily seen as part of the Halloween celebration with ghosts, goblins, skeletons and skulls.

But sugar skulls can be traced back to the pre-Hispanic tradition, as far back as the Aztecs. When the Spanish came to Mexico they tried to stop what they considered the pagan practices of heathens such as the worship of multiple gods and human sacrifice. But the practices and traditions of pre-Hispanic America were too strongly ingrained to be eradicated. What evolved was a fusion of religion and tradition between the two races.

"The Spanish came to America to convert the heathens to Catholicism and discovered that they could not do that," said Gilbert Neri, assistant professor in Visual and Performing Arts. "They came halfway between Catholic religion and indigenous beliefs. You could say that the Indigenous beliefs were Catholicized or that the Catholics were Mestizos."

Any which way you blend it, for both parties, The Day of the Dead and the tradition of sugar skulls within that is a spiritual one.

Sugar skulls are meant to represent family members who have died. They are colorfully decorated with icing, pieces of tinsel and colored sugar. Often the skulls say the name of the relative. Once decorated, the skulls are placed on an altar, or "ofrenda," along with flowers, photos and other mementos of the dead, and the spirit of the deceased family member is lovingly invoked to return to their home.

"This is not Halloween," said Neri, "It is an ancient celebration to reconnect with the dead. The skulls are conduits to a mythical past and future and a way of remembering."

Dia de los Muertos celebrates culture, tradition and music

The main altar is scattered with decorated sugar skulls. There is a plate of pecan pie, chocolates, loaves of pan de dulce, bowls of fruit, and, 5 cigarettes? Many candles light up the room, some depicting the Virgin Mary and other religious symbols. Skeletons sing and dance on a mural, and did somebody mention Johnny Cash?

This can only mean one thing, Dia de los Muertos, The Day of the Dead. On Nov. 2, celebrated in the University Center with ofrendas (altars) for the dead, Aztec dancers, and an appearance from recently deceased musician Johnny Cash and others.

Students, members of the community and children alike attended the annual Day of the Dead celebration put on by Visual and Performing Arts in a thoroughly splendid evening celebrating culture and tradition.

The theme for this year's Day of the Dead was the Underground Unity Tour. Students from a two-unity course in VPA that teaches about the tradition and customs of Dia de los Muertos decided to remember musicians and artists who had recently died. A highlight of the evening was a puppet show filmed by the class with deceased artist Frida Khalo as VJ. Johnny Cash crooned "Memories are made of this," Robert Palmer rocked to his "Simply Irresistible," (without the girls); Jam Master Jay from Run DMC rapped "It's Tricky." The appearance of puppet singer Celia Cruz performing "La Vida es un Carneval" brought many laughs.

"So many musicians died this year," said Whitney Deatherage, a student in the course. "We wanted to give them a fond farewell. At first I was going to do Barry White but decided to do Johnny Cash instead because I grew up with his music."

Dia de los Muertos is a day for remembering and honoring the dead. Altars strewn with food and other goodies beckon the deceased home; the pungent smell of the Marigold, Zempasuchil, and in Ancient Mexico a ceremonial dance with drums and fire are ways to draw back the dead. Popokapatepetl, a group of California
dancers, performed to a riveted audience various dances of the Aztecs.

Dressed in full regalia with full head feathers, masks and beads, the group first led the crowd in a candlelit procession in the parking lot. Inside they further awed the crowd with vigorous footwork and loud, syncopated drumming in what were welcome dances for the dead. “We are inviting the dead to come back and visit,” said a dancer in the group who preferred to be called Antonio Moreno.

The main altar created by the Dia de los Muertos class was stunning. Lit with many candles, and lined with sugar skulls big and small, it had three tiers. Within the main altar were mini altars dedicated to the dead musicians Robert Plant, Celia Cruz, Johnny Cash. Looking closer many little items caught the eye: small fruit bowls, a pack of cards, candy, cigarettes.

A mini altar with a draping white satin sheet and orange roses was dedicated to Taylor Bratzman, a student in VPA who died last year. Nearby, her friends put together a table with her favorite foods and other items characteristic of her.

Three other altars were assembled by various campus clubs. Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán, in its usual spirit of activism, put together an ofrenda dedicated to war and all the people who had died in wars. “Not just in Iraq,” said Orlando De La Cruz, a club member, “but wars everywhere in the barrio, in Watsonville – there are wars everywhere.”

Sigma Theta Psi, a multi-cultural sorority, created an altar, draped in pink and lit with candles, dedicated to women with breast cancer. The club’s philanthropy is the awareness of breast cancer. “One of our sisters mother is battling breast cancer so this is especially important to us,” said Veronica Reyes, Sigma member.

Another altar was decorated by the club Gamma Zeta Alpha Fraternity, Inc., “dedicated to deceased ancestors,” according to club member Alfonso Lopez Jr. The club used photographs of grandparents, uncles, and even pictures of the tombstones of grandparents to decorate their altar. Candles lit up religious objects, pan de dulce, fruit, candy and even tequila.

“There is a lot of food for the dead,” said Lopez Jr. “Candy for the children and tequila for the adults, fruits, bread, they come back and eat it. We remember who they were and what they liked.”

Outside the November weather was very cold. Inside the University Center people sipped hot chocolate and ate loaves of pan de dulce. Colorful papeles picado hung in multitude from the ceiling, and large pictures of dancing skeletons lined the walls characteristic of the celebration of Dia de los Muertos.

Jose Guererro, a psychiatric social worker, came from Monterey to attend the event. “This is a good cross section of the community,” said Guerrero referring to the events participants. “We can learn together about the customs and traditions. It is good to keep the tradition alive.”

Jose Guadalupe Posada’s broadsheet art was sold for a penny on street corners in Mexico City from 1890 to 1910 yet today his spectacular depictions of pre-revolution Mexico are celebrated internationally.

Not bad for a man who “never considered himself an artist,” according to Patrick Frank, Latin American art professor at the University of Kansas.

Kicking off El Dia de los Muertos was a lecture led by Frank on Posada, in which students viewed slides of his cartoons and graphics while discussing his artistic legacy.

Posada worked from a small print shop in Mexico City and created as many as 20,000 broadsheets, which featured illustrations and caricatures as well as songs, stories and news events. His most effective art form was a graphic accompanied by a corrido or popular ballad usually written in rhyme.

Posada is best known today for his satirical prints of calaveras, skeletons associated with the Day of the Dead celebration. For Posada “death was the great equalizer,” Frank said, meaning that despite class status all people are equal when it comes down to death. Posada often used calaveras to ridicule the autocratic rule of Porfirio Diaz, the dictator whose reign preceded the Mexican Revolution.

Posada became the voice of the pueblo or common people of Mexico, for his media not only critiqued the majority rule but also the mainstream media with many of his images retelling news events from a pueblo perspective.

Frank said Posada’s corridos were a spark for the revolution and served as inspiration for post-revolution artists like Diego Rivera.
Slack-key musicians bring Hawaiian culture and music

By Morning Star Vasquez, A&E Editor
morning_vasquez@csumb.edu

Rooted within the musical tradition of Hawaii, slack-key guitar (ki ho alu) is the least known of acoustic guitar traditions in the world. Ki ho alu is the music of the islands and speaks of the islands' beautiful tropical images, tells tales of its history, and is integral to island culture.

Perhaps because the island of Hawaii is so far away from land (it lies the furthest in the world from any major land mass), the music of the slack-key guitar has not reached mainstream radio waves of the continental United States.

Coming back to CSUMB by popular demand are two slack-key guitar wonders, Cyril Pahinui and Patrick Landeza, "The most recognized slack-key guitarist living in the country," said Professor Richard Bains, head of MPA.

As the second of the lecture demonstration series presented by MPA (the first featured Omar Sosa and his quintet), Pahinui and Landeza will appear at the MPA Music Hall Nov. 11, from 10 to 11:50 a.m.

"They will play traditional Hawaiian tunes and folk songs," said Bains. "They enjoy entertaining. There will probably be stories that go along with different songs. They always pack the house."

Like popular music of today such as pop and R&B, slack-key guitar is a blending of different musical traditions. In this case, the ki ho alu is a fusion of sound taken from Spanish and Mexican cowboys who came to the island of Hawaii in the 1830s to show the Hawaiian cowboys how to herd their cattle. The islanders quickly adopted the music they heard around the campfires at night and integrated them into their own sound.

The name ki ho alu means literally "loosen the key." Some of the strings on the guitar are 'slacked' from standard tuning. This is so that the player can produce beautiful tunings that suit his or her moods and emotions at the time. "The tunings are totally different from standard form," said Bains. "And even within different families, one family may have a different tuning than another."

Slack-key guitar brings to life the beauty of spirit and heart pulled through the fingers and into the music of the strings. The sweet and soulful sounds emitted are inspired by the beautiful and diverse scenery of the islands, the ocean, bays, waterfalls, volcanoes and forests, and even animals and plants. It is a tradition rooted deep in the culture and customs of Hawaii. "It is an international form of music handed down from father to son," said Bains.
Love

from Peachtree, Georgia and a financial analyst from Iowa, settled and waiting for "the One."

More emails pop into my box from men outside my county and even the state, and the purpose of online "dating" begins to seem more like an avenue for relating than a quest for love. As I continue to talk with the out-of-towners and a few locals, I discover that most of the men are not interested in using unwarranted flattery to woo me by email, but rather just enjoy getting to know someone fresh and new.

It was only after a short correspondence with a local soldier and a coffee invite that it hit me. It might be fine and dandy emailing one another and browsing our most pleasingly photogenic images. But one day, if I plan on actually dating the person, I’ll have to meet them. It may sound like a no-brainer, but when wrapped up in the obscurity and impersonality of looking for love at a computer screen, it is easy to forget the awkwardness, vulnerability, humiliation, anxiety or elation of getting to know someone over dinner, while suppressing either premature sexual tension or disgust.

Captain, take me away

Instead of resolving to be a webflower and waiting for my white knight to sweep me off my feet and carry me safely away to coupledom, I decide to be online what I am in real life: proactive, bold, outwardly fearless and most importantly, confident.

So far I have two promising invites for coffee and a bite to eat, both initially solicited by En_Joylina@talkmatch.com, as well as an increasingly pervasive, but enjoyable correspondence with a marketing director from San Francisco.

Unfortunately my adorable Army boy must report in November and is on his way to Texas, but I have an Air Force captain’s phone number and he will be here for at least another six months. Did I mention I have a weakness for a man in uniform?

It is easier making the “first move” online, with so many possibilities for an absent response—perhaps the e-mail did not make it or maybe they have been too busy to check it—instead of the most obvious conclusion: they just were not interested.

I took the first step and now I must take the last. The real date—the culmination of all this hard work browsing cringe-inducing profiles and sending and deleting e-mails, while lying spread eagle in front of millions—is after all, the most terrifying part.

Cell phone in hand, I dial... 🌟

Date Safely

Suggestions from Match.com’s, Trish McDermott, VP Romance

Take it slow and trust your instincts. Talk online to get to know the person. “Watch out for someone who seems too good to be true.”

Protect your anonymity. “Stop communicating with anyone who pressures you for personal information.”

Ask for photos. “A photo will give you a good idea of the person’s appearance, which may prove helpful in achieving a gut feeling.”

Talk on the phone first. “A phone call can reveal much about a person’s communication and social skills.” Use a cell phone or block your number for privacy.

“Meet when YOU are ready.” Remember, you have the right to change your mind.

Look out for red flags. “Pay attention to displays of anger, intense frustration or attempts to pressure or control you.”

Meet in a safe, public place. “…Always tell a friend where you are going and when you will return.”

Flu Shots

Please don’t forget that flu season is coming up and vaccinations are available at the Campus Health Center.

When: Appointments are scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Where: The Campus Health Center, Building 80, on the corner of General Jim Moore Boulevard and Third Street.

Cost: $18 due at time of service.

To make an appointment, call 582-3965.

Source: http://health.csusb.edu
A Multicultural paper for a Multicultural school

Submitted Anonymously

Whenever I have to fill out some sort of application, such as a college application, I have to check the white/Caucasian box. Yes I am white, but that does not really describe me.

There is American Indian or Alaskan Native, Black or African American, Mexican American, Mexican, Chicano, Central American, South American, Cuban, Puerto Rican, Other Latino, Spanish-origin, Hispanic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Asian Indian, Other Asian, Cambodian, Laotian, Vietnamese, Thai, Other Southeast Asian, Ghanaian, Hawaiian, Samoan, Other Pacific Islander, White, Filipino, Other, No Response, and Decline to State.

I am not one to deny the many terrible wrong doings of the past that ‘white’ people have done, but how am I to blame for that?

There are many boxes but none of which apply to me except for White. That could mean anything. I could be Russian, Spanish, Italian, English, Scottish, or maybe a mix of many different nationalities. It is not fair that people that are white are bunched up in this one category.

Many people feel that being white means you have no culture. I can tell you that is absolutely not true. I come from a family that is very big on culture. We spend lots of quality time with family and celebrate in ways that have been passed on for many generations. If anyone needs some kind of example of a type of ‘white’ culture, just go rent “My Big Fat Greek Wedding”.

I am not one to deny the many terrible wrong doings of the past that ‘white’ people have done, but how am I to blame for that? I was born not too long ago long after many of the atrocities of the past. I for one am against and disgusted with the past and I use it to learn from.

This school is supposed to be multicultural, but all I get from it is “if you are not white, you are all right.” I did not choose what color my skin should be. I did not choose what nationality I should be. I was born of my mother without any of those choices, as were all of you. But I do not regret what I am. I am a human being just trying to live my life in this world. I do not wish harm on others. I do not judge people by the color of their skin. Why should I be judged by mine?

By Marco Munoz

In our Oct. 23 edition in an article entitled “It’s not easy being green...” the Otter Realm incorrectly stated that CSUMB does not have a contract in place for recycling collection. We would like to clarify that there is a contract to collect from the large blue bins, but there are no provisions for collection from smaller bins in other locations such as dorms and classrooms.
Like what you read in this edition of The Otter Realm? Tell us why or why not in a letter to the editor. The Otter Realm also welcomes comics, political cartoons and opinion submissions. Please send submissions to the Opinion Editor, Giovanni Digiorgio, via FirstClass. The Otter Realm reserves the right to reject submissions due to content.

Dear Editor-

I am writing in response to the article about the Multi-Cultural Feminist Club in last issue of the Otter Realm.

I have discussed it with other members of the club, both past and present, and we were concerned that the tone was just too flippant and that we were portrayed as some ladies' society club that made ornaments and talked about how oppressed we are.

We understand that an outsider could not get the full extent and impact of the space we create for women of different cultures and backgrounds to come together to talk and learn from each other. The club was created on the basis that women have different ways of knowing.

I just wanted to take this time to clarify a major piece of misinformation and that is the Multi-Cultural Feminist club has complete control over the International Woman's Day. There is no 'control' from anyone party. International Woman's Day has always been a collaboration between the Multi-Cultural Feminist Club and Human Communications. We have gotten strong support from other clubs on campus, most recently The Events Workgroup. In this collaboration we decided what will go on for this spectacular day. International Woman's Day has become one of CSUMB's annual traditions and it could not be done by us alone.

We appreciate the fact that Morning Star wrote this article and that she took the time to attend our meeting. We just felt a few things were left out.

Thank you for your time,
theresa gonzales
Multi-Cultural Feminist Club Member

CSUMB is "really nice, as far as my knowledge... amazed how relaxing and good people are. For example a young generation on the politeness and generous. What else do you want from college?"

ROBERT WHITE
OTTER EXPRESS

"I suppose more field trips in classes, more activities to get students involved, like in the middle of campus and during the day."

STEPHANIE RILEY
SOPHOMORE, HCOM

"We should have dancing classes, mechanic engineering program, interior design."

THERESA MERRIMAN
JUNIOR SBS

"I Wish campus had more of a night life, a college atmosphere...class structure is fine we need a night life"

DANIEL MENDOZA
SENIOR, HCOM
A true renaissance woman, Laurel Leonetti, a senior in Visual and Public Arts, loves collaborating with others to create huge works of art. Always busy doing some kind of artistic project, she said, “Sometimes I just get this feeling like I need to create something big. Then after it’s done, there is something wonderful for people to see.”

She uses several mediums such as paintings, sculptures, etchings and photos to create beautiful masterpieces. After she went to Italy during her junior year at CSUMB to study figure drawing and etching, her style changed dramatically.

“I went to Italy and it was so incredible,” she said, “I was able to see so much art because I could travel all over Italy and Europe to see art in museums and architecture.”

Leonetti likes to learn about different ways of expressing herself by choosing a medium and learning as much as she can about it. Then she incorporates that medium into her art and moves on to another type of art making. She said, “Every medium is a different way of moving, different ways of expression.”

Learning all types of art helps her to design and build tremendous mixed media sculptures. She likes working with found objects and said, “There is so much waste everywhere. I like turning it into art.”

She has always been interested in art and during seventh and eighth grades and in high school, she decided to take some special art classes off campus. Joanne Pfieffer, an artist in Los Gatos, taught contour and perspective drawing out of her home. Leonetti said, “She was my mentor and encouraged me a lot.” For two summers after that, Leonetti taught her own crafts class through Pfieffer’s program, which exposed her to the world of teaching.

After traveling around the United States when she graduates, Leonetti wants to go to the Waldorf Teaching School in Hawaii and get her teaching credentials. Then it’s off to Chicago so she can learn even more about art. When asked why she would go through all of this schooling and get so many degrees, she said that she just wants to develop as an artist and will never stop growing.

Her first public art piece was a 2.5 ton sculpture entitled “Life Delights in Life.” She made the whole sculpture out of cement and tile mosaic for her high school in Los Gatos. Only a senior in high school at the time, she proved her ability to collaborate with others and give to the community in which she was raised.

Since then, Leonetti has created several public art pieces. She collaborated with other VPA students to create the mural in front of the VPA buildings and a bus poster for the “Insight Outside” project through her digital mural class.

Not only is she dedicated to helping the community through her art, but she also founded a chapter of “Food Not Bombs.” This program cooks and serves food to the hungry in Monterey and Salinas.

In 1998, Leonetti decided to come to CSUMB right out of high school. Being a lover of all arts, she said she came to CSUMB because “I liked that I could combine majors like art, theater, and music, but only ended up majoring in VPA because I knew I was strongest in art.”

Already having created public art, she was also pleased that the VPA program was so involved with the surrounding communities. She also notes that the VPA program is “more philosophy and theory of how to do public art, less instruction on technique.” She is very glad that she went through the program because she was able to create a public sculpture for her senior project.

Her capstone was a collaborative effort to build a sculpture garden at Watsonville Community School. Together with Jessyka Weingreen, an ESSP major, they built a native plant and sculpture garden entitled “Garden Art Works” for the students to keep up and learn from. Every student that goes there will benefit from the esthetic value and the ability to grow and learn about different plants in the Monterey area. If you would like to learn more about this piece, go to www.ruap.org and click on “Garden Art Works.”

Leonetti always has something going on, and her latest projects have kept her extremely busy. She collaborated with Ian Sardegna-Stephens and other creative students to build the haunted house at the old prison on campus, which drew huge crowds and rave reviews. She is also working on a series of books with Polaroid pictures and always has some ink drawings and paintings ongoing.