Trouble in Butterfly Town:
Pacific Grove businesses are suffering

The quaint city of Pacific Grove, known as "Butterfly Town, USA," recently changed its slogan to "It's a small town thing;" but for small businesses, a slogan change has not been the answer for suffering businesses trying to survive in the picturesque city.

Last year Pacific Grove opted not to participate in the Monterey County Tourism Improvement District (TID), an initiative nearly 20 years in the making, aimed at creating a well-managed platform to promote Monterey County tourism. This decision has worried many PG business owners whose businesses as a result have been excluded from visitor maps located at most popular tourist destinations.

Sanya Liddie, owner of Synergy Day Spa on Lighthouse, is concerned about what the effects of Pacific Grove's absence from the TID will be. "Obviously, most tourists go to Fisherman's Wharf or to Cannery Row," Liddie said. "This community needs tourism, just like Monterey or Carmel, so shops aimed at residents are useless to us."

In recent months, many PG businesses
have closed down including: Pasta Mia, 68 Skate, and the SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). Some rental properties have quickly filled again, such as the SPCA, which is now an art gallery. First Noel closed and has now become Futons & Such, formerly located on Alvarado Street in Historic Downtown Monterey.

"There are not really fun places to shop in Pacific Grove anymore," said Liddle. "Why would they want to take furniture back with them?"

The TID is implemented by the Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau (MCCVB). Shannon Marshall, MCCVB Director of Communications, spoke about the ambitions of the TID. "Our efforts focus on marketing Monterey County and bringing people to this magnificent destination," said Marshall. "We look at it from the perspective that this is one destination with many unique communities and personalities, and we are committed to highlighting each jurisdiction's attractions."

PG may not be included in these plans as of now, but Chamber of Commerce President Moe Ammar believes the decision was in the best interest of the city, and suggested that PG residents are happy with the current state of business.

"If you look anywhere in the area, there are far more resident-serving businesses in downtown Pacific Grove than in downtown Monterey or Carmel," said Ammar.

Because the district was initiated this year, effects of its campaign have yet to be fully seen. "Once the Convention Bureau starts marketing more, we may begin to be affected," said Ammar.

Nearly every other city in the area is participating in the TID, and in the case of PG, a contribution of $86,000 and a small increase in Transient Occupancy Tax for overnight guests would have been required to participate.

Joan Hittner of the Antique Clock Shop has had her business on Lighthouse Avenue in for 19 years and she too, has seen changes in the city's popularity.

"Everyone needs tourists, this whole Peninsula is based on tourism," Hittner said. "By Pacific Grove not paying that money, they're going to lose tax dollars, and it's going to hurt them."

Although the PG may not technically be supported by the TID, destination marketing brings tourists to the region, many of whom venture to PG as consumers.

"We have our regular out-of-towners, who've supported us 30 years, and our locals, but we've seen a drastic drop in tourism through the city," Hittner said.

In addition to the drop in tourism, shopkeepers have recently noticed a smaller number of Peninsula residents traveling to the city than they have seen in the past.

"A lot of people don't live here, their houses are second homes for vacationing," Hittner said.

This is all the more reason why Pacific Grove businesses rely on destination marketing -- the basis of the TID.

According to a press release from the MCCVB, the district will generate an additional $2 million, which will be used exclusively for destination marketing.

Although the city may not be a part of the MCCVB promotions, Ammar is confident the city will have sufficient marketing. "Via Magazine recently recognized Pacific Grove as "the best seaside sanctuary," he said. "Coastal Living Magazine said that PG is "a prime dreamy retreat."

Although these recognitions may help bring some people to the city, business owners remain skeptical about the lack of participation in the TID because of the diminishing number of patrons.

Bunrim Pin, owner of Pacific Grove Coffee House, has had his business in PG for only three years, yet he too has noticed the change in the city.

"I've seen a lot of turnover -- so many businesses coming then going," said Pin, who added that before, even in the rain, people would fill the town's PG's streets. "It's a chain reaction. In Pacific Grove the spirit of the town is gone."

When asked about the high rate of business turnover, Ammar sees things from a different perspective.

"I see it not as a decline, but rather I see a renaissance; it's cyclical," Ammar said.

Business owners, however, are still trying to bring back patrons.

"Some, a few of us lucky ones, are able to keep a group of clientele that pretty much keep us alive," Pin added.
The bidding process officially opened March 9 and will affect the Otter Express, Dining Commons, Otter Bay Café and Black Box Cabaret.

CSU Monterey Bay’s food service contract with Sodexo is set to expire this coming June. The Foundation of CSUMB, the nonprofit organization that, according to their Website, offers “operational expertise to implement and manage commercial enterprises and activities,” is accepting bids for new contracts.

The bidding process officially opened March 9 and will affect the Otter Express, Dining Commons, Otter Bay Café and Black Box Cabaret. The first three locations have a combined revenue of about $3 million a year.

As of March 26, CSUMB has received a Request For Proposal from several different companies including Maryland-based Epicurean Group and Philadelphia-based Aramark which earned $11.6 billion globally during the last fiscal year.

“We have had 14 companies request the RFP and about half of them came to the pre-proposal conference,” said Maria A. Garcia, in an email. “That’s very encouraging and I’m anticipating getting three or four proposals on April 30.”

The RFP is a 42 page document outlining CSUMB’s requirements for a food vendor. The requirements range from a biannual cleaning of the vents to “special diet menus, vegetarian and vegan options.” In essence, the RFP lets interested companies know exactly what is needed and expected by the CSUMB community. According to the RFP, a decision will be made no later than May 31, by a “committee comprised of staff, faculty, and students.” The new contract would take effect August 1.

There are currently two different meal plans offered to students in the residence halls. North Quad residents can receive a $1,100 meal plan while residents in the dorms are required to buy a $1,250 meal plan, with a new investment being required every semester.

Students eating all meals entirely on campus for one semester would translate to a $10 per day allowance.

If there is any remaining balance at the end of the year, the amount is forfeited by the student to Sodexo in order to offset the opportunity cost of making un-served food. Prices have inched up annually much to the dismay of students. Students in the past have seen this as an intolerable offense. Former Otter and current UC Davis student Kevin Irwin-DiLoreto took the issue into his own hands. When he was enrolled, he constantly stole food and drinks from the Dining Commons. He did so “in order to not get sick from the Ord water.” I stole Odwalla Juices that were the price of what I could get in a larger size at Safeway.”

Critics of Sodexo often cite the prices on goods, such as Odwalla and Snickers, as evidence of price gouging. For some products, that is not always the case. A bottle of Odwalla costs $3.21 at the Dining Commons and book store and $3.69 at Albertsons in Sand City. Candy bars on the other hand go for as low as 25 cents at the Grocery Outlet and are four or five times that amount on campus.
In the University Center living room there stood a dressing screen with costumes flung over it...

Megan Comstock, News Editor
Megan_Comstock@csumb.edu

a projection screen and one stage light as people poured in at the last minute to see "Rape Buzz." March 29 marked the eleventh annual Social Justice Colloquium at California State University Monterey Bay with this year's topic as Empire, Asia, and the Feminist Response.

The evening started with the short one-woman play "Rape Buzz," created and preformed by Dessa Quesada. The play is comprised of different women's responses to a rape case in the Philippines. Quesada played five women including a 16 year old, an opinionated neighbor, a feminist advocate, a prosecutor, and the rape case victim, Riza.

Before the play started Dr. Kathryn Poethig of the Global Studies department introduced Quesada and said, "We are indeed privileged to have her among us."

Based on real cases the play is about a young Filipino woman courted by a German foreigner who gave her family gifts, promised her marriage and then raped her. The play closed with Riza playing the guitar and singing a song about the pain she experienced, leaving a few eyes misty and receiving loud applause.

Global Studies senior Rachel O'Brien had the opportunity to lunch with Quesada and Dr. Namsoon Kang who would present at the colloquium later that evening. "The actress was very charismatic and brought you in," said O'Brien.

At the end of her performance Quesada said, "Advocacy and education has to happen," in order to resolve issues of rape and the response to it in the Philippines.

Quesada is a senior artist-trainer of the Philippine Educational Theater Association (PETA), a Fulbright scholar and Chairperson of the board of the NGO Gender Watch Against Violence and Exploitation. She was invited to be part of the panel who spoke at the colloquium following her performance.

"Why are you here," asked Dr. Kang as she took the podium to do a presentation before the roundtable discussion at the colloquium. To a mostly quiet crowd she repeated her question and then said, "I am imitating Jesus." She explained that Jesus once suddenly asked this question to the people around him, he wanted them to think about and consider why they were with him. Kang believed that the crowd was there to learn and said that her presentation would address, "Why we see it [imperialism] as a problem."

Dr. Kang is described as an Asian feminist, theologian. She is Associate Professor of World Christianity and Religions at Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University and is currently vice-president of World Conference of Associations of Theological Institutions (WOCATI) as well as co-moderator of Congress of Asian Theologians (CATS).

Dr. Kang covered many topics in her presentation. She spoke of the process of "othering," or looking at the world as us and them, the others. "Once you draw the line between us and them you don't see the individual person," said Dr. Kang. She explained that by not seeing the individual person and only seeing the "others," is how genocide can happen.

After Dr. Kang’s presentation the panel had a roundtable discussion of women, empire and social justice. The panel included Dr. Kang, Quesada, Izumi Wakugawa and Lejla Mavris. Dr. Wakugawa is co-founder of Global Majority and a native of Okinawa, Japan and Marvis is the executive director of Global Majority and hails from Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The event is put on by the Division of Social, Behavioral, and Global Studies; however, they received support from World Languages and Culture, Music and performing Arts and the CSUMB World Theater. "We have really a collaborative effort across the university," said Poethig.
Julaine Espanio, a devoted, enthusiastic member of the California State University Monterey Bay staff, passed away late afternoon on March 8, 2007 after a long battle with cancer.

If someone met Julaine Espanio they would remember a giving person, full of life. She had “a heart that was so big it could never say no to anyone in need, man, woman, child, or those creatures with feather or fur,” said Lisa Lane, a close friend.

Being one of the original employees hired for the campus in June 1994, she has contributed a great deal to the structure and morale of CSUMB. Espanio was originally diagnosed with breast cancer in 2003, received treatment and went into remission. However, it metastasized this past year and spread to her brain and many vital organs.

Upon re-entering sickness she decided to remain at home surrounded by friends and family. She died peacefully with her mother and other close friends at her side. Espanio worked in a number of offices on campus including Financial Aid and Residential Life. She was also a Residential Fellow for two years. She became a “mentor, friend, cheerleader, confidante and ‘mom’ to many of the students on campus,” said Flo Miller, a friend and colleague.

When she was diagnosed she started her deep involvement in the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life by chairing her own team for the Monterey Peninsula. According to Lane, her team was named “Nemo: In Search of a Cure, Hawaiian Style.”

Through this effort and others including the Breast Cancer Action Group Bowl-a-thon, she was able to exhibit “tireless fundraising ability and find a way to assist those who were simply in need,” said Lane.

As a firm believer in CSUMB, she contributed her efforts to the university as well, “many of her closest friends included staff members and students,” said Miller.

To remember her history of service to CSUMB, a memorial service of Hawaiian tradition was held in the World Theater on March 17 followed by a luau at her home.

She will always be remembered for her involvement at CSUMB and her “unflagging enthusiasm and hard work in search to find a cure for breast cancer,” said Hideko Graves, a local attorney and friend.

Those interested in contributing to her memory may send donations to:
Breast Action Group of the Monterey Peninsula
PO Box 221582
Carmel, CA 93922

CSUMB Remembers Julaine Espanio...

Kate Lemley, Staff Reporter
Kate.Lemley@csumb.edu

Fresh, simple, unique flavor!

Dishes
BISTRO & GRILL

2006 Carmel Magazine's
Critics Choice

...what a gem...
Penelope LaFontaine
Monterey County Weekly

Dinner nightly from 5pm • Closed Sunday
330 Reservation Road • Marina • Reservations 831.883.1207

A Variety of Fresh Seasonal Seafood
Salmone, Ahi Tuna, Swordfish, Seabass, Halibut, etc...
Grilled, Pan Roasted or Blackened.

Free Range Steaks
Filet Mignon, Rib-Eye Peppered or Grilled.

Free Range Lamb Shank.
Vegetarian and Pasta Dishes.
Pork Tenderloin Medallions, Chicken Breast Piccata
Home-made Desserts
Crème Brûlée, Tiramisu, etc.
On March 28 the CSU-Monterey Bay Associated Students Senate (AS) voted to not support the Elections Committee's (EC) decision to disqualify the AS presidential candidate, Robert Graham.

With much controversy surrounding the AS presidential elections, CSUMB students stood up and voiced their opinions about the disqualification at an AS Senate meeting. Many felt that the EC was not a fair representation of students and that if the AS voted to uphold the EC decision to disqualify Graham they would not be representing the students.

"The EC was not representing the students from the beginning," said Patricia Poston, CSUMB senior who spoke out at the meeting.

The EC warned Graham on Feb. 27 about early campaigning, which was followed by an early campaigning formal complaint filed by opposing candidate, Zackary Kasow. On March 7, the EC met with Graham to give him the option of writing a letter of apology and giving up all rights to future hearings or being immediately disqualified. Graham released a letter of apology.

On March 9, two independent complaints of slander against Graham were filed for remarks he made at the AS candidates forum on March 8. On March 11, Graham was disqualified by the EC.

After the EC’s disqualification of Graham was released, AS decided to review the election code in which the EC and candidates must follow. With an overwhelming demand, AS held their emergency meeting.

The vote was optional to the AS senate members in attendance, resulting in four votes not supporting the EC, one in support, and two abstentions.

After the vote to overturn the disqualification, the decision to honor the results of the election or to hold an emergency AS presidential election became the issue.

At the emergency meeting AS purposed an extension to the April 2 to hold a new election. This would exceed the 14-day time allotment stated in the bylaws. The proposal of the deadline was not coherent with AS guidelines and therefore was not upheld.

"There were mistakes made in all parts of this process."  RACHEL O'BRIEN, AS VICE PRESIDENT

"The decision was really made last week," said AS Administrative Liaison, Andy Klingelhofer, of the March 28 controversy to hold an emergency election.

Many AS members agreed that not only were extension rules violated but attempting to hold another election would be a very difficult task.

"That would be a disastrous idea," said Christy Cozby, AS senator at large. Cozby urges the AS members to "take responsibility for your action" and accept that they had not supported the EC's decision. Graham, having won the popular vote, was the new AS elected president.

The results of the presidential election showed Kasow with 137 votes to Graham's dominating 378 votes.

"It wasn't like it was a close election," said Graham in defense of the right to adhere to the popular vote. AS members feel that many mistakes have been made in this election and it is not one person's fault.

"There were mistakes made in all parts on this process," said Rachael O'Brien, AS vice president.
Political Mom Wants Peace

Laura Newell, Staff Reporter

Outside, the soft sounds of peace sing through the cold rain; inside people eagerly await speaker, Cindy Sheehan. Students, faculty, and community members stood and applauded as Sheehan walked onto the stage at the UC Center for Diversity Days on Monday, March 26.

The theme for Diversity Days has been a World of Peace and "she fit right into the theme," said Snehal Naik, Manager of Student Activities and Leadership Development. Sheehan has been working to promote peace since 2005 and is well known throughout the country for her efforts.

"We wanted to bring...a well known person...to campus to have students start talking about these issues and thinking about her message," said Naik.

Naik was impressed with the turnout at the event, and feels it was an excellent way to end Diversity Days this year.

On April 4, 2004 Sheehan discovered that her son Casey died in Iraq while serving in the military. He joined the military in 2000 to receive college benefits to help his family with the financial burden of school. He was promised many college benefits including a new laptop, a $20,000 signing bonus, and that he would not be in combat; none of those promises were kept. "Casey was in combat for five days before being killed," said Sheehan.

After the death of Casey, Sheehan was in a state of misery and gloom. However, she was awakened and inspired to make a difference after hearing her oldest daughter read a poem that she wrote about Casey's death. Soon after, on Aug. 3, 2004 she watched as the news announced that 14 new marines were killed in the war and was astonished and felt concerned for all the mothers learning of the death of their sons.

Sheehan became inspired by concerned groups of mothers, such as Mother's Against Drunk Driving, who were speaking in support of social actions regarding tough issues. As a result of this inspiration, she has been working for peace through the Camp Casey Peace Institute since 2005.

Sheehan said that "my first thought is always for the mothers, whether they support the war or not."

Sheehan has worked with many organizations including the Military Family Speak Out and the Gold Star Family for Peace as a speaker and activist for mothers. "[We] have to work for peace not just war," said Sheehan. As a result of her work and writings she was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize.

Currently, Sheehan has a book out titled "Peace Mom: A Mother's Journey through Heartache to Activism" that stresses her thoughts as well as what caused her to become an activist for mothers and the war. Her daughter's poem is found within the book.

Sheehan said, "this is our world that we are screwing up...if not a war it will be the environment...everybody has to do something to contribute to [helping] the world." By speaking at CSUMB she hopes to reach out to the younger generation to save the planet.

Pat Hanson, a faculty member for the Service Learning Institute, was thrilled to meet and hear Sheehan speak. Hanson currently has a son fighting in the war after being recruited out of the Air Force Academy and wanted to learn more about what she could do as a mother to help the cause. "Her beautiful soft words inspire me, and her intelligence amazes me," said Hanson.

In the upcoming weeks Sheehan will be working with the Camp Casey Institute for "Camp Casey Easter 2007." A peace protest will occur at the Texas White House from April 5 until April 8. More information regarding this protest can be found at http://www.gsfip.org/article.php?id=320.
CSUMB’s Masterplan goes to the U.S. Supreme Court

Between 1998 and 2006 the CSU Board of Trustees has been involved with a court case that has set a precedent regarding how state agencies deal with mitigation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

As the named party in this case, CSU Monterey Bay, is currently redoing their Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and readopting the Master Plan. CSUMB Chief of Staff John McCutchon explained that CSUMB was hit hard by this case because the documentation must be redone, while other CSUs affected just need to pay their fair share of off-site mitigations.

The process of redoing an EIR is long, but necessary. An EIR is a legally binding document that must complete a certification process. This process is crucial to make sure all parties involved have reviewed and agreed with the projected impacts of the planned development. Every development must have an EIR. The impacts in the EIR are everything that will be affected by the development, explained Mehul Mody, assistant director of space management and campus planning.

Impacts such as noise, water, habitat, health, safety, and especially traffic may be affected by our development. McCutchon stated, “Our share comes into play through these impacts.

Second Avenue is an example of how the campus took impact on improving traffic [in this area].” Due to such impacts, all possible parties affected, like Cal Trans or FORA, must be made aware of what changes may need to occur around the development. By each party taking a fair share of the costs, the development may continue smoothly, but in this particular case, there is more to it.

Since CSUs are considered state agencies reasoning must be provided on how funding can be transferred. For funding to go to a state agency, such as an educational institution and then be transferred to another state agency for a different purpose is something that has never been done.

Construction projects on campus that have already begun, such as the library, will have their mitigations and impacts negotiated with the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA). These projects are considered to be of the past, and will be continued as planned. For all projects from 2007 and on, the readopted Master Plan will be the guideline. According to Associate Vice President, Niraj Dangoria, the new EIR will be the legally binding document, and will clearly present a fair share of the payments needed from the parties involved.

It was made clear by McCutchon, that FORA has been collaborative, by saying, “It is important to understand that FORA doesn’t want to stop campus development, rather they wanted to make sure that the impacts were all addressed.”

This has been an ongoing court case since 1998. The 2006 Supreme Court Ruling has ended the suit and put many to work on documents in need of revision. This includes CSUMB and their new EIR and soon to be readopted Master Plan for all future construction.

Dear Otter Nation,

In response to recent letters the paper has received and postings on “open forum” regarding our practices, The Otter Realm will, from now on, include a letter in each issue to its readers. The intention of each letter is to make the operations of the newsroom transparent.

A letter of this nature is referred to as an “Ombudsman column,” which is a response to the audience concerns regarding the balance, fairness, accuracy, and good taste in a publication’s reporting. Corrections and clarifications are also included.

The Otter Realm is CSUMB’s sole, bi-weekly published news source as well as an HCOM class. Our staff is part of a lifelong learning process and in a constant fact checking mode. We welcome letters to the editor as well as story ideas. As members all from within the same community, we are here to serve you, the students, faculty and staff of CSUMB.

Each story published begins as an idea and ends with a story. If you wish to see one of your ideas become a story, feel free to e-mail us at Otter_Realm_Editors@csumb.edu.

Thank you for your continued readership and we look forward to producing future issues that continue to represent CSUMB and instigate discussion.

Sincerely,
Kristina Kendrick and Elliott Singer

Otter Oops

We strive for professional excellence and are conscious of our errors. The edition dated March 15 requires the following corrections:

Page 2: Headline “It’s final: White, Blue & Green” was not accurate. Forums regarding the new school colors were going on during time of publication.

Page 4: Tracey Woods’ name was misspelled in “Faculty raise money for students” story.

Page 5: In the “Fresh Otters” story, Faulkner’s first name is Mark.

Page 9: Renee Curry is the dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, not the HCOM department as reported in the “Speaker Series” article.

Page 12: Headline: “The Good Shepard of Theater” should be spelled shepherd as in someone who herds sheep.

Page 13: “Pyromaniac Art” article, Maori was misspelled.

Page 15: Articles “Organic panic” and “Photo maniac” were cut short accidentally. The finished articles can be found online at otterrealm.net.

We regret all errors. If you find an error, please e-mail otter_realm_editors@csumb.edu and a correction will be made.
player's Club:
a look inside
POKER CULTURE

Rose Fellom-Morris, Staff Reporter
Rose_Fellom-Morris@csumb.edu

According to poker.com, variations of the card game span back to China in 969 A.D. After several reinventions taking place everywhere from France to Egypt, poker's pique came in the 1970's with "Texas Hold 'em."

Today, the poker buzz has swept the nation and televised games are frequent and plentiful. College students all over the country have also been getting in on the buzz of the poker revival. CSUMB students are amongst those at the forefront of the growing revival. The name of the game: "No Limit Texas Hold 'em."

Many students find late night refuge in a land of garages, card tables, Bud Light and multi-colored chips.

"There's definitely an underground poker scene at CSUMB. You could say the scene is a tree with a lot of stems and branches as if there's a bunch of individual clubs where people hang out together, not limited to but mostly consisting of students," said Lee Hoellwarth, senior ISSM major.

Most of these groups play in tournament style formats placing set buy-ins that usually span anywhere from $10 to $50 per person. In a game with a $35 buy-in it's not unusual for first place to win $300. In tournament style "Texas Hold 'em" everyone receives the same amount of chips at the beginning and the game is played until there is one person left.

"It's more for fun than making money. It's a social even trendy atmosphere," said Hoellwarth.
At the Table

The setting is a Hollywood cliché: played late night, under hot bright lights with a loud fan whirring in the background. Nine people are playing. Everyone has put in $25. The winner will get $160, second place $85 and third place is $45. Some players are giddy and relaxed while others are uptight as they nervously fidget with their chips. A wooden dining room table with a fold-out poker platform that says “Player’s Club” in gold lettering is the playing field. Hands move around the table swiftly scattering and shuffling cards and chips amongst an aroma of cheap beer and stale garage. The close group of friends act as if they were strangers, all in their own separate zone. Some of the unlucky players, who are eliminated early on, leave in sudden bursts of anger, but no one flinches. The winners show a sense of accomplishment; using skill, patience, and experience to overcome the competition.

Zachary Ishikawa, a business major, is a regular player who competes on Sundays and sometimes other days, if he has the time. He usually plays with students from CSUMB, MPC and a couple other locals. “A game can take up to five hours and the longest game I’ve been in has probably been about six to seven hours,” Ishikawa said. “I just like playing games; I was the type of kid that played Monopoly till the end, till there was a winner.”

Besides the local social poker clubs there are also students who go to greater lengths with their poker playing. Wernnie Saechao, a junior TMAC major said, “Overall, you’ll win more playing with skill than luck.”

Saechao recently won the Tournament of Champions at Jackson Rancheria Casino and came home with $16,000. He played with 157 other people and was the first prize winner after a 12 hour game. Poker is no longer a seedy game only played by cigar-breathed men in pinstriped suits. It’s a sanctuary that provides relationships, good times and the possibility of a cash reward for many college students.

Texas Hold ‘Em

Players receive two ‘hole’ cards that only they can see and use. Then, five ‘community’ cards are dealt that everyone can see and use. Players can make their five-card hand from both, one or none of their hole cards in combination with the community cards.

The game is divided into four rounds of betting, and the betting moves clockwise around the table. Betting starts from the position next to the dealer button, which moves one place to the left after each hand played.

The Blinds

Before a game starts, the two players to the left of the dealer post ‘blind’ bets, so-called because they are made before the players have seen any cards. The blinds ensure that there is some money in the pot to play for at the very start of the game. The player to the left of the dealer posts the ‘small blind’, and the player to his left posts the ‘big blind’.

Pre-Flop

Each player receives two cards that only they can see, called ‘hole’ cards. After this, the first player to the left of the big blind starts the first round of betting. This player, who is known as ‘under the gun’, can make any of the following choices:

- Call
  - match the amount bet in the big blind;
- Raise
  - increase the amount bet, or
- Fold
  - surrender his cards and stake in the game.

When the betting returns to the player who made the big blind (the first full bet), that player can ‘check’ or opt to stay in the game without adding anything to the pot. However, if an opponent has raised, the big blind has three options: he must fold, call, or re-raise.

The Flop

Three ‘community’ cards, which all players can use to make their five-card hand, are dealt face up on the table. A second round of betting follows.

The Turn

A fourth community card is dealt face up on the table. The third round of betting follows.

Overall, you’ll win more playing with skill than luck.
Wernnie Saechao, TMAC Junior

partypoker.com's

The River

The fifth and final community card is dealt, followed by the final round of betting.

The Showdown

If there is more than one player left in the game, there is a showdown in which the players reveal their cards and the highest hand wins. If two players share an identical hand, the pot is split.
Bouquets and Floral Interpretations Galore

Kate Lemley, Staff Reporter
KATE_LEMLEY@CUBM.EDU

Some of the most talented florists in Monterey will showcase their themed work at the upcoming, Second Annual Bouquets to History and Art event at the Maritime History Museum.

The art featured will consist of creative floral designs that interpret the history evident in the museum as well as impressionist paintings.

According to Kim Vassallo, one of the museum’s receptionists, “the artists were given the challenge to pick an art piece in the museum and mimic its elements through floral design.”

This year will include Monterey Bay Plein Air Painter’s Association contemporary impressionist paintings from the featured exhibit, “Plein Air Painting Monterey Bay: The Legacy Continues,” which ran through the March 30.

According to Wendy Brickman, owner of a local marketing firm, last year’s exhibits featured “floral interpretations of a ship’s wheel, a canon, vintage sardine cans, a map of California, and a tule fishing boat.”

Programs incorporate discussions including “Continuity: Monterey Bay Painters: Then and Now,” artist paint days, and book signing by Dr. Scott Fields, Chief Curator at the Crocker Art Museum. “Artists will be on site painting on easels during these special days,” said Brickman.

One of the groups speaking include members of the Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters; Christine Crozier, Cyndra Bradford, Jeff Smith, and Ann Ladin. They will be speaking about plein air painting, or “open air” in French. It allows painters to literally paint in an open air environment, where the conditions are not always easy to work in.

Crozier expressed great excitement: “what it means to [the audience] and how it inspires them to learn to be confident, spontaneous, and rapid” with their artwork. She said they are eager to “teach about the history of their work as well as their reasoning for being involved in such an unpredictable, challenging form of art.”

From April 12 thru 15 many events will take place including a pre-opening Gala “Extravaganza” and a silent auction on Thursday, April 12. A $75 fee per person will be applied for this event including art, flowers, museum admission, hors d’oeuvre, beverages, and music.

Preceding this event, Friday thru Sunday, the daily fee for visitors of $10 will include museum admission, special vendors and three daily lectures.

For more information, call: (831) 372-2606 ext. 13 or visit www.montereyhistory.org
**Spring Formal April 7**
A great excuse get dressed up and then messed up. Spring formal is the perfect mix of partying and drinking too much; just don’t get stuck with your head in the toilet. Shuttles are available to pick up students before and after the formal. This year’s theme is a “Masquerade Ball” to be held at the Monterey Hyatt. Tickets are $15 with CSUMB student ID and $30 for everyone else, available for purchase at the World Theater box office.

**First Annual Monterey Rock ’n Rod Festival April 13 - 14**
Break out the poodle skirts and peddle pushers, the First Annual Rock n’ Rod Festival debuts in Monterey. The classic car show will feature pre 1972 American cars and trucks as well as and European classics. Dance the night away to groovin’ oldies in a 50’s and 60’s inspired “Sock Hop.” Come out for hip bands for some good ol’ classic fun at the Monterey County Fairgrounds. Tickets are on sale now at http://www.montereyrockrod.com/.

**Whitewater rafting April 13-14**
This adventure is the perfect weekend getaway from the pressures college life. Raft the rapids on the South Fork of the American River. The package includes a two day, one night trip with guides, camping equipment, three meals, safety equipment, transportation and camp/river fees. Students are $199, staff and faculty $210 and general tickets are $215. For more information about this or other outdoor activities visit the Adventure Connections office in building 93.

**Spring Broke?**

### Sea Otter Classic Cycling Festival
#### April 12 - 15
The Sea Otter Classic is the premiere cycling event ranging from first time riders to Olympic champions. The enormous event features fun rides, road racing, mountain bike racing, BMX racing, kids’ events, and a tradeshow highlighting the latest in cycling hardware, clothing and goods. If bikes aren’t your thing enjoy the plethora of hot bodied guys and gals. For more information visit www.seaottlerace.com or call 831-755-4899.

**Big Sur International Marathon April 29**
Challenge yourself amongst the best. The Big Sur Marathon is named the best marathon in North America by “The Ultimate Guide to Marathons.” Beautiful ocean views mixed with a rough, hilly terrain makes this marathon one of the most breathtaking. Choose from a 21-mile power walk, 5K run, 9-mile walk, 10.6-mile walk, or a marathon relay. For more information visit www.bsim.org or call 831-625-6226.

---

_Art and Photography by_ [www.canadiancyclist.com](http://www.canadiancyclist.com) [TOP], [www.green-trust.org](http://www.green-trust.org) [BOTTOM], [www.bsim.org](http://www.bsim.org) [BOTTOM LEFT]. [www.montereyrockrod.com](http://www.montereyrockrod.com) [TOP LEFT].
Magical Autism

"Being There"

Hal Ashby’s 1979 “Being There,” provides a fresh and honest breath within a world of consumerism, cynicism, and discontent.

Peter Sellers, who was nominated for an Oscar for his leading role, plays the simple and earnest, “Chance the Gardener.” His name is exactly who he is and exactly what he does. Obviously infected with some form of autism, Chance has lived inside an estate caring for Mr. Jennings’ garden and watching television for as long as he can remember. The extent of his daily activities includes “Sesame Street” and rose bushes. His attire consists of a vintage wool suit and tie and his meals are all served to him by the estate maid, Louise.

Upon Mr. Jennings death Chance is banished from the home by estate lawyers and finds himself submerged into a new world, one that’s on the other side of the estate walls which have kept him safe and comfortable for decades.

Chance’s inaugural walk through Washington D.C.’s city streets is accompanied by a rhythmical remix of Strauss’s “Also Sprach Zarathustra.” Like “2001: A Space Odyssey,” Chance is venturing into mysterious and unknown terrain; he has never been in a car or even an elevator.

With only an umbrella, a gray derby hat and a worn leather suitcase, Chance roams the streets with a blank but somewhat astute look on his face and eventually becomes the unlikely houseguest of Eve (Shirley MacLaine) and Ben Rand (Melvin Douglas), a wealthy and politically influential household.

He introduces himself as Chance the Gardner, which is mistaken for Chauncey Gardner, his simplistically honest words are misconstrued as being wise and profound.

Ben, a retired business man on his deathbed, immediately finds solstice in Chance’s peaceful demeanor and invites him to meet his good friend, the President of the United States.

The president asks Chance whether he thinks, “we can stimulate [economic] growth through temporary incentives.” Responding sincerely, as usual with the only knowledge he knows, gardening, he says, “As long as the roots are not severed, all is well.” The president along with everyone else introduced to Chance takes his simple gardening tips and naivety as either the words of an esteemed guru or the wit of a comical genius.

Even Eve is seduced by Chance to the point of sexual arousal. Chance of course, has no comprehension of Eve’s advances however and takes his rejection as being respectful to her dying husband.

Unlike recent takes on this film such as “Forrest Gump,” “Being There” presents the plausible reality of ordinary people growing tired of the hostile world and welcoming a nonjudgmental, autistic voice with a tight embrace.

Incidents & Quinncidents

Punk Fashion 101

The de Young Museum in San Francisco, the fashion extravaganza equivalent to Ringling Bros. Circus, recently opened a new exhibit dedicated to renowned fashion designer, Vivienne Westwood.

Westwood is famous for her wild, eccentric style and sometimes impossible designs. The global fashion icon, known as the “anti-fashion” designer, is inspired by old school fantasy, which is evident in her Portrait collection, which she used 18th century French paintings as her muse. Westwood has said that when designing, she tries to change the standard silhouette and proportion that we are used to seeing in women. She’s done this by adding padding in the rear of her dresses or unforgivable corsets to achieve that exaggerated look.

Some have called her collections unwearable and several pieces appear that way such as her six inch platform, faux- crocodile Ghillie shoe, worn by Naomi Campbell during her infamous fall on the catwalk in 1993.

The exhibit goes through all of Westwood’s collections starting with Westwood’s signature “Punk” collection which came out in the early 1970’s. The punk collection incorporates chains, studs, fur and bones to create a very extreme look. A pair of black pumps with nails coming out the back demonstrates Westwood’s extremity.

The exhibit reveals how Westwood found inspiration and gives everything from dates to fabric to examples of pictures from each collection. There are many pieces on display. Each collection shows at least a dozen pieces including accessories and shoes. Precise details are shown in each part of each piece whether it’s her Statue of Liberty corset covered in Royal Blue Swarovski crystals or the oversized red, purple and green necklaces in knitted mohair.

There are also many videos of interviews and fashion shows of Westwood being played throughout the exhibit to educate the non-fashion enthusiast.

Vivienne Westwood: 36 Years in Fashion, now showing at the de Young Museum in San Francisco through June 2007. Tickets may be purchased online or at the museum. Adults $15, students $11.
In life, people take little things for granted, such as being able to walk into a shoe-store to buy shoes or going to a clothing store to buy their choice of clothes in their size. With my size 18 shoe, I haven’t been able to buy a pair of shoes in a shoe-store since I was in sixth-grade. In addition, I stand 6’8" and have very limited options in clothing attire when I walk into stores such as Wal-Mart or JCPenny.

Perhaps this is why I feel frustrated whenever I enter one of those stores or the campus bookstore and none of those places ever have the clothing styles I like in my size. In my four years here at CSUMB, I have bought one article of clothing from the bookstore and that was a 2x long sleeve shirt made by Jansport. Everything else at the bookstore in a 2x, made by Champion, is cut too tight and do not fit around my shoulders. I have not tried the Under Armour attire yet but

I don’t think I should only be able to choose from one brand of clothing.

With my height and frame, shirts have to be at least a 2x1 or say “tall” on them so I can have length in the shirt. Most of the time, I end up paying more for my clothes as was the case at “Hot Topic“ during Christmas Break where I found a WWE Carlito t-shirt in a 3x1, only to be charged $30 for the shirt as a result of it being a 3x1 (a 2x1 shirt was only $22 but wouldn’t have fit me after being washed).

When I asked the bookstore about the lack of clothing in a 3x1 and 4x1, I was told that the reason I don’t see equal representations of 3x1 and 4x1 is due to the relative size mix of this university, as evidenced through their sell-through and that their sizing “bell curve” points to an apex in the small and medium range.

Another area of the bookstore that frustrates me is the lack of sporting-good wear such as jerseys. Maybe it’s just me but I think it would be cool to have some practice jerseys of basketball, baseball and soccer to workout in and wear to the games to show school spirit, something that is truly lacking at Otter home events.

The bookstore’s response to my idea was that the cost of such clothing would far exceed their typical price points as the prices for such items would be tremendous for customers, upwards of $80.00 and is not feasible for our merchandise department to extend the funds to purchase the minimum order quantities necessary to experiment with such high priced clothing (but the bookstore has no problem ordering and charging customers $65.00 for an UnderArmour sweatshirt).

It seems to me that the bookstore doesn’t want to take a chance to see if bigger sized clothing and sporting jerseys would sell. How will the bookstore ever know if they don’t take a chance? I bet that if the bookstore did open up to ordering more bigger sizes in all the available clothing selections, that small-to-medium range bell curve would drastically change.
The Oath says it all: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

At CSU Monterey Bay, Freeman Field (CSU Monterey Bay Track) is home to a group of 15 Special Olympics athletes who are looking to qualify in the track and field events as representatives of the Silicon Valley.

Sports Manager of Monterey Bay Keith Guertner, who has been involved with Special Olympics for 35 years and been Sports Manager for the last 15, said that the usual training period for these athletes is eight-weeks but depending on the type of event, such as power-lifting, training can last year-round.

Senior SBS major Daniel Wright, who has coached track and field and football for the past five years at different schools, was having a hard time finding a coaching position at CSU Monterey Bay since moving to the area last year for school until he saw an advertisement on first class for coaching Special Olympics and jumped at the chance. Since then, Wright has not regretted his decision in helping coach Special Olympic athletes.

"Special Olympics athletes are the most determined and enthusiastic bunch I have ever worked with," said Wright. "It's like having athletes and fans all in one as everyone cheers for each other. Everyone is excited about coming to practices and nobody wants to leave. I will definitely consider doing it again next year."

Originally formed in 1962 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver as a series of sports camps known as Camp Shriver, these camps evolved into an international sporting competition for intellectually disabled athletes. Today, Special Olympics feature over two-million athletes of all ages, who train year-round, competing in 26 Olympic-type summer and winter sports, in more than 150 countries.

In addition, Special Olympics also have World Summer and Winter Games that are held every four years. The 2005 World Winter Games were held in Nagano, Japan from Feb. 26 through March 5 and the 2007 World Summer Games will be held in Shanghai, China.
GRACE ON FIRE
Goes halfway

Training for a half-marathon has been on my mind for two years. I always say, "This will be the year I will finally run a half marathon," and every year I wimp out. This year I have been training like a dog and plan to run my heart out.

I spend every other day at the track and complete up to four miles on average. I also try to throw in some stairs because I'm convinced this helps build muscle. Occasionally I run from the East Campus apartments to the pool, swim, and run back home.

Professional trainees run about three to four times per week and incorporate cross and strength training.

Normally, serious training involves at least one day per week running 3-10 miles. This is nearly impossible for me due to the fact that I am a student, an employee and a girlfriend. I shuffle running between classes and weekends. Every week I hope to find more time to run but I am always disappointed. I have one month left and in that time something amazing better happen or I fear my training may not be enough.

I bought a running book to read up on the ins and outs of running. It said that an important aspect of competitive running was to trim weight. This is something I am not so good at. I could run all day long but when it comes to dessert, I can never say no. I've decided that I will concentrate on the actual running rather than the losing weight.

I am tired of the stresses of disbelief when I tell people of my marathon dreams. My body is not exactly that of a typical runner, I am quite a bit curvier and a tad bit thicker. I know this and yet it isn't about my body but about ability and heart. I hope this year I will work up enough guts to do something I know is a huge challenge. I hope this year I will actually try something knowing that I may fail.

Cycling the Coast

Evan FitzGerald, Staff Reporter
Evan_fitzgerald@csun.edu

Cyclists constantly whiz by on sunny days in Monterey, usually going faster than the assigned speed limit. In the Monterey Bay area cycling has become one of the most popular sports after golf due to the beautiful terrain and comfortable climate.

Many cycling races take place around Monterey including the Sea Otter Classic, which will be held from April 12 thru 15.

The allure of the area draws both casual and competitive riders including names such as, Floyd Landis, who comes to the Central Coast to train.

"I love to cycle in Monterey. Seriously, it is the main reason why I stay here," said Brian Remas, a Liberal Studies freshman.

For scenic beauty and a taste of salt air, a ride down the Pacific Coast Trail, also known as the "bike path," is a quality ride. Though finding the entrance from CSU Monterey Bay may be tricky, it is well worth it. Several small hills dot the trail which can take a rider into 17 Mile Drive in Pebble Beach. Depending on how far a rider goes, this trek could be up to 40 miles around the golf courses and back to campus or just a quick jaunt down to Sand City.

The back country of Fort Ord is another trail that is a lesser known ride. The entrance to this diverse locale is not hard to find and a day can easily be spent riding by feral ponds and the mythical "Hidden City." However, some of the roads are not in the best condition and it is easy to get lost without a map or an excellent knowledge of the area. Bring a friend, a map and lots of water and beware of ticks.

At the meeting of Imjin and Reservation Road, another route begins. Follow Reservation until it reaches Highway 68 and continue onwards until it becomes River Road. This ride ventures into South County cities such as Chula Vista and even as far as Soledad.

Be cautious traveling in car lanes as automobiles pass by traveling over 50 mph. This ride goes by strawberry fields and is not hilly. The only problem is the return trip. In the afternoon the wind will be against all traffic heading into it, riders included.

All of these routes can be ridden by both road and mountain bikes.

OTTER WAVES

Softball wins Tournament of Champions Bronze Bracket

The CSU Monterey Bay softball team (16-29 overall, 4-20 CCAA) extended their school-record winning streak to six games with three April 1 victories to win the Bronze Bracket at the Mizuno Tournament of Champions in Turlock.

In the 9:00 a.m. quarterfinal, the Otters trailed 5-1 to Central Washington before rallying with three runs in the sixth inning. In the seventh inning, sophomore Ashlee Trotters hit a single that scored two more runs and completed the 6-5 comeback win.

After a 10-2 run-rule victory over Chaminade, the Otters faced San Francisco State in the bracket final. The Gators jumped out to a 2-0 lead after the first inning but the Otters tied the game in the bottom half and added three runs in the second for a 5-2 lead. The Otters would hold off the Gators comeback attempt to win 5-4. Sophomore Jessica Boyle struck out eight for the Otters as they claimed their first victory over the Gators in five tries this year. Trotter was named to the All-Tournament team after hitting .429 with 12 RBI in eight games.

Baseball sweeps "Battle of the Bay" series

The CSU Monterey Bay baseball team swept the "Battle of the Bay" double-header on March 31 against Bethany College in Santa Cruz, avenging an earlier season 10-6 loss at the Otter Ballpark on March 14.

The Otters won the pair of seven-inning games by scores of 10-5 and 5-2 to win the season series, two-to-one. The losses dropped the Bruins to 19-12 overall while the Otters improved to 12-24 overall and 7-17 in CCAA play (the games were non-league CCAA games).

Sailing moves into third place of North Division

At the North 5 Stanford St. Francis Intersectional Regatta on the weekend of March 31, the CSU Monterey Bay sailing team placed 20th out of 24. The finish put the Otters into possession of third place in the North Division of PCCSC, behind Stanford and Cal Maritime. Overall, the Stanford Women won the Regatta with 129 points, 39 ahead of second place Irvine. USC was third with 87 points.

Men's golf place sixth at CSU Bakersfield Invitational

The CSU Monterey Bay men's golf team placed sixth at the two-day Elco Invitational in Bakersfield with a three-day team score of 891 on March 27. The Otters finished 14 shots behind winner CSU Bakersfield (877) who edged out Monterey to take second place UCLA by one shot and third place CS San Bernardino by two.

Senior Brian Thompson was top Otter, placing 13th with a score of 7-over-223. Fellow Otters Grant Haney and Mark Bell placed in the top 25 with scores of 10-over-226 and 11-over-227, finishing tied for 21st and 24th respectively.

Women's golf place eighth at Grand Canyon Invitational

The CSU Monterey Bay women's golf team shot a 327 on the second day on competition, good enough to place eighth at the Grand Canyon Women's Invitational held at the Palm Valley Golf Club in Goodyear, Ariz. on March 27. Competing in a field of over 90 golfers, senior Kierstan Capito placed fifth with a two-round score of 7-over-151, just two shots behind top finisher Denise Canadas of Chico State. Fellow Otters Cecilia Chudivan and Lauren Grounds tied for 17th both shooting 12-over-156. The Otters team score of 633 was 19 strokes behind team champion Tarleton State's 619.

Water polo losing streak reaches five games

The CSU Monterey Bay women's water polo team finished 0-4 at the UC Davis Aggie Shootout on the weekend of March 31. Dropping decisions to Colorado State, 11-8, UC San Diego, 12-10, Cal State Bakersfield, 11-8 and Sonoma State, 10-6, the Otters fell to 14-15 overall and will attempt to snap their five-game losing streak when they host Cal Baptist and Pacific University on April 7 at the Otter Tank in the teams' last two home games of the season.
WHAT WAS THE CRAZIEST THING YOU DID OVER SPRING BREAK?

Justin "Equip" Elliott
Somewhat Senior - ISSM

"I found out I was black, started rappin' and wrote my very first diss track about Chris 'Cupcake' Williams."

Ryan Murray
Senior - HCOM

"I gave birth to a 7lb 6oz little baby Jesus."

Kristen Erbst
Super Senior - HPWE

"I went backpacking for 6 days in Santa Barbara for Greg's radical wilderness experience class! I had to fight off bears and killer mountain cows."

Tracy Thoms
Senior - Global Studies

"I snuck a boy into my parent's house and we did 'adult' things. He was also my friend's brother."

Brian Gorges
Senior - HCOM

"Tried to take a married woman home from the bar."

MC Langford, Staff Reporter
MC.LANGFORD@CSUMB.EDU