Night Life Hazards

Sexual Assault in local bars still prevalent

May 10, 2007

the otter Realm

California State University Monterey Bay's Campus Newspaper otterrealm.net

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Monterey Police records show that reports of sexual assault occur in many of the local nightclubs and sometimes involve CSUMB students, who struggle with slim options when it comes to nightlife.

At the Mucky Duck, top 40 hits blared from the large speakers as bodies moved to the music. The dance floor, thick with a cloud of people, shook under hundreds of moving feet.

The smell of cologne, alcohol and sweat emitted and lingered with racing hormones. Remnants of any personal safety were gulped down with each beer, shot and mixed drink consumed.

Across the bar, ogling eyes zeroed in on their target: an intoxicated college-aged female. A chill ran down her spin as she felt a hard squeeze on her backside. She slapped away the hand of a drunken guy while repeatedly and firmly saying “no.”

He slithered away and hastily disappeared into the crowd as she tried to report the incident to the bar’s bouncer. She couldn’t identify him. No action was taken. Without closure, she helplessly vowed never to step foot in the Mucky Duck ever again.

If she had reported the incident to the police, more could have been done.
The mixing of alcohol can hinder the mind of a victim who has been harassed or assaulted. Monterey Police Lieutenant Leslie Sonne has been employed in the area for almost 20 years and hasn’t seen a big change in the bar scene as far as dangerous activity.

"Things are gonna happen," said Sonne, when there is a "mixing of many different elements. "Alcohol is the original date rape drug," she continued.

Alcohol is a common variable involved in instances of sexual assault in the U.S. One "survey of college women indicated that 15 percent reported having anal or vaginal intercourse when they did not want to because they were unable to consent as a result of incapacitation by drugs or alcohol," according to the CALCASU 2006 Report Research on Rape & Violence. And these are only the cases that are reported.

According to the Monterey Rape Crisis Center (MRCC) "at least one in three women and one in six men have been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in their lifetime". Over thirty percent of women are abused in some way and there are certain behaviors that may increase the risk. Clare Mounteer, the Executive Director of the MRCC concurred: "Yes, alcohol and rape are connected."

The effects of alcohol may lead to blackouts. Mounteer continued to explain that in their reports, alcohol is involved in 90 percent of these types of cases.

Chief Fred Hardee of the University Police Department said of campus incidents, "Drugs and alcohol (are) involved 100 percent of the time."

"Be really mindful and conscious," advised Hardee. He also affirmed that acquaintance rape accounted for all the rapes that have been reported at CSUMB.

Many times inappropriate behavior is not reported but when women and men do speak up, in some cases, local Monterey businesses aren't doing the right thing.

One CSUMB student created a Myspace group titled, "The Duck Boycotters," whose mission is: "to raise public awareness of The Mucky Duck's sexist and abusive environment." The group is speaking up and communicating their experiences with others.

"As a female who was sexually assaulted at their establishment, an employee told me it happens. I am outraged to learn that I am not the only victim who has experienced that this bar accepts and tolerates sexual assault and harassment," wrote one member.

Former bar back Tim Cool worked at The Duck for one year and saw a variety of things during the course of a typically busy weekend night, from scantily dressed women and fights, to oversexed couples.

Some couples would drunkenly stumble to the back booth of the club. "(One time), I saw a girl go down on this guy," said Cool. He remembered that they were drinking heavily prior to the occurrence.

Cool said that while working at The Duck, not all patrons' rights were taken seriously. "They don't do enough as far as customer complaints." He added that there was a constant rotation of bouncers, making the proper enforcement difficult.

Lt. Sonne believes that taking one's business elsewhere will help in social change. "Money talks," said Sonne. She added that when it comes to making changes downtown, students have to look within themselves morally and ethically into where they spend their money.

According to Monterey Police records, on March 10 at Club Octane, a woman reported an altercation with another female. After that altercation was resolved, "the female later reports being battered by a male while at the club," (Case 07-1282). Incidences happen every weekend ranging from alleged batteries to sexual assaults.

Lt. Sonne was familiar with this particular Octane incident and said some situations can get tricky. She does stress that the Monterey Police and the downtown bars "have a good working relationship."

Her colleague Jeff Jackson works closely with the Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) and the Monterey bars to help enforce current ABC standards. They are the governing body that monitors businesses that sell or serve alcohol. Each business has to apply to the ABC for an alcohol license.

According to the Department of Alcohol and Beverage Control's website, "A license is not a right, but is a privilege, which can be suspended or revoked by administrative action because of violation of the Act or departmental rule. (Sections 23300 and 23355)"

Local police assist the ABC and they have a variety of methods. If someone doesn’t report an incident immediately, no action can be taken. People need to "call when you see something occurring," said Sonne.

If a report can’t be made there are other things people can do. CSUMB students Tracy Cox and Kathy Jensen, both HCOM seniors are doing their final capstone project on sexual assault on college campuses. They both are more aware of the signals they give off and how important it is to look after their friends while drinking.

"You can't baby-sit but I always try to keep tabs on the girls," said Cox.

Cox also elaborated on the excuses some men make about why they are overtly forward with women downtown. "Just because a girl is drunk or dressed scanty, doesn’t mean you can assault her."

Another former downtown bar employee William Anderson, disagreed. He thinks men have a bad rap and "social norms" ads to the pressure. "I've been groped more times than I can count," said Anderson. He added that some "girls are going out looking for sex."

Education continues to be the key to prevention. Self defense techniques and information concerning sexual assault are available on the MRCC website. Mounteer concluded that "the only way to stay completely safe is to stay home."

Mounteer encourages people to double date, watch the bartender pour drinks and to never leave a drink unattended. She also stressed to "have a plan before heading downtown. Don't leave it until two or three drinks in."
As the season chapter ends in the great book of Otter athletics, the Otter community can be assured that a solid foundation has been laid down for the future of athletics. Join us as we take a look back at the highlights and outstanding Otter athletes from the 2006-07 season.

**Volleyball (14-15 overall, 8-12 CCAA)**

Despite a shaky start to the season, the Lady Otters pulled together and finished the season strong, winning six of their last nine games to finish with 14 wins, the most in school history since moving up to Division II and one victory shy of tying the school record for most wins in a season (15) since the program’s 1996 inception. The team has high hopes for 2007 and will look to start off as strong as they ended their 2006 campaign.

**Men’s soccer (2-15-1 overall, 1-14-1 CCAA)**

Injuries plagued the men’s soccer team in 2006 as the team lost eight players, including five starters, to injuries that varied from staff infections, pulled hamstrings, quadriceps and a broken leg. In addition, goalie Matt Lege had to have surgery on his face after being nailed with a knee that split his face open three inches. Head coach Artie Cairel said that the team gained experience and developed character despite the losses and looks forward to a less injury plagued 2007 season.

**Women’s soccer (3-15-2 overall, 3-11-2 CCAA)**

Like the men’s team, the women’s soccer team dealt with their share of injuries, most notably to defensemen Elise Reid, who broke her fibula bone. Despite the record, the young team made up of mostly freshmen and sophomores, was not easy to beat and competitive in every game. Head coach Erin Roberts said that they are a great bunch of girls with a whole bunch of energy and looks forward to their improvements in 2007.

**Men’s cross country (0-3-2 overall, 0-2-1 CCAA)**

Even though the team didn’t win any invitational’s overall, the team had three top-two finishes during the season as junior Omar Mendoza was the top Otter in each of the events, finishing third of the invitational’s in the top five. Mendoza also competed in the Big Sur International Marathon for the first time, where he placed eighth.

**Women’s cross country (record N/A)**

Just as the men’s team, the women’s team remained competitive all season, highlighted at the Stanford Invitational in Sept. when junior Leilani Ortiz, despite her teammates being injured and sick, represented the school in proud fashion by running her best 4k of her Otter career in a time of 24:28.

**Sailing (record N/A)**

Just six months ago, the sailing team was finishing regatta’s closer to the back of the pack rather than the front. However, the team’s magical season turned around in Feb. when the Otters placed second at the Cal Maritime 1 & 2 Regatta, their highest finish in school history at the time. On Mach 11, senior skipper Ren Herring and junior crew Chelsea Bell made school history as they guided the Otters to their first ever win at the North 4 regatta.

**Men’s basketball (12-15 overall, 9-13 CCAA)**

The highlight of the season came back in Dec. when the Otters defeated Western Oregon in a thrilling four-overtime game, 126-122, that saw senior Richard Jenkins score a school and conference record 57 points. Even though the team lost seven of their last eight games of the season, the team will return nine players next season, including co-captain Augie Johnston, who was second on the team in scoring (15.0) and first in three-point field goal percentage (.471).
Aguilar and Boogie both felt that their mother had brought them together. Aguilar says that she has felt her mother’s presence throughout her life. “She has always dropped little hints that she’s there,” said Aguilar, “It was such a comfort to know that she wanted us to know each other.” Aguilar sees her mother as a hummingbird. In some Native American cultures a humming bird is known for being able to cross the barrier between life and death, because it is the only creature that can move up, down, forward and backward.

Before leaving the Philippines Aguilar got a tattoo that stretched from under her arm down to her hip. In Philippine it says, “I found my inner strength through the struggles of my loving mother.” The tattoo artist heard her story and gave her the tattoo for free.

When Aguilar got back to school she let the footage sit for a semester. She also had a few beta max tapes that her father had shot when she was a baby in Korea. She held onto the tapes for six years before looking at them two months ago. She made the decision to use the footage of her and her mother.

From the beginning Aguilar knew she wanted to work with TAT sophomore Rodrigo Ojeda-Beck as her editor. The video is edited to the song “Blood on the Motorway” by DJ Shadow. They went through the song and put a mark on every beat of every different instrument. These beats determine which image is on the screen.

Beck said, “Sitting there for the first time and watching it the whole way through; it feels like I’ve fully expressed myself.”

Aguilar, Beck and two assistant editors, TAT junior Travis Prow and senior Daniel Monico, would stand in a tiny North Quad suite and edit for hours. After watching the final edit Beck just sat there and held Aguilar for a while, in awe of what they had created.

Aguilar’s advisor, Enid Blader, has watched the progress made with the project. “Andrea has been completely creative, brilliant and vulnerable at the same time,” said Blader.

The instillation will be in building 27, the TAT studio, and will run in 15 minute intervals. “You will be encompassed by my experience in the Philippines,” said Aguilar. She encourages the audience to dance and move with the music as they take in the experience.

Aguilar's capstone can be experienced on May 17 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. and May 18 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and after the TAT ceremony.
A CULMINATION OF
COMPELLING CAPSTONES

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

HCOM
Yasmine Binghalib, an HCOM major, completed her capstone, “Myspace: Really Isn’t Your Space.” She focused on the legal issues that have been brought up since networking sites like Myspace have been introduced.

She explained that “many students are being punished for the material they post on their sites even if they post it at home.”

She also points out the issue of corporations doing background checks via Myspace before hiring. To support her capstone, she looked at “previous court cases regarding free speech and privacy and applied the results to the current situation with networking sites,” said Binghalib.

After all of her research, she found that “employers have a lot more power than I initially thought, and schools are overstepping bounds in many cases.”

Her interest spurred from being “shamelessly a self-professed Myspace addict.” Binghalib’s capstone will be on display from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 18 in the UC Ballroom.

Matt Davis, an HCOM major with a concentration in Journalism and Media Studies, completed a capstone called “Youth Sports: Taking a Turn for the Worst.”

Davis analyzed the “pros and cons of youth sports, the media’s attention to steroid use among professional athletes and how this affects adolescents.”

His belief that children and families have developed an over-competitiveness and desire to win at-all-costs inspired his research.

“I wanted to see how this affects children, families, and coaches, in determining whether changes need to be made to schools and after school youth programs,” said Davis.

Davis’ capstone will be on display from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 18 in the UC Ballroom as well.

VPA
Lauren Clark and Gay Heller, both VPA majors, are working on “Museum-To-Go Presents: From Inspiration to Interpretation.” The project involves collaboration between CSUMB and the Monterey Museum of Art.

Heller wrote an education program that combines the VPA department’s philosophy with the Monterey Museum of Art’s permanent collection of images.

They believe that “through art, children are able to make diverse connections on a historical and global level.” They implemented the program with fifth grade students at Forest Grove Elementary School.

Clark and Heller now have “From Inspiration to Interpretation” exhibited. Clark curates it, “through careful selection and display, the exhibition celebrates the creativity of the youth of the Central Coast.”

The work is displayed for the public to see. “This allows the community to see the capability of all the children to be artists and how they are able to realize their visual voices,” said Clark.

Clark and Heller’s capstone will be on display on May 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the VPA Building 70.

TAT
Alexander Bonilla and Brandon Mikulka, both TAT majors produced and directed “Chasing Love,” a ten-minute 16mm film.

The film depicts Chase, a recent college graduate, facing the adult world. “Unable to face the realities of his friends maturing around him, he uses his wildly overactive, movie saturated imagination to escape his reality until love intervenes,” said Bonilla.

Bonilla and Mikulka experimented with war, western shoot-out, film noir, and romance genres. The process was “long and sometimes tedious, but the end result is amazing,” said Bonilla.

The team said that shooting in Monterey was a great experience. Their original budget for the film was $12,000 but because of “donated locations, a fantastic crew, and many development and production meetings,” they cut the budget in half.

A lot of the success has to do with “Brandon’s calm demeanor and my need to make things fun and exciting,” said Bonilla.

Bonilla and Mikulka will present their capstone at 6:30 p.m. on May 18 in the World Theater.

Else Teller, a TAT major, wrote, directed and produced a five-minute film, “Unspoken.”

The film is about a teenage boy who has to deal with his family’s loss of his mother and her battle with cancer. Bryan, his sister and his father must come together and learn to be a family and move past their grief together.

Teller said that going into this project, she “wanted to use it as a platform to start reaching out to my audience to make a difference.”

“My main message,” she said, “is that we all go through tragedy in our lives at some point, but if we stick together and hold on, we can change anything.”

Teller will present “Unspoken” at 6:30 p.m. on May 18 in the World Theater.

Sarah Chasko, an ESSP major with an emphasis in Marine and Coastal Ecology partnered with Return of the Natives (RON) and the Coastal Commission on a project funded by the Whole Tail Grant from RON.

RON is dedicated to service learning projects with schools to protect waterways that flow into the Monterey Bay through clean up events.

Chasko worked with six elementary school classes in Salinas ranging from kindergarten to fifth grade, teaching them a “Waves, Wetlands, and Watershed” curriculum. She wanted to “help the students make the connection, through teaching, between natural systems and the coast.”

She wants to inform students about the negative impacts of littering and get them involved in clean up and restoration efforts.

Chasko will present her capstone on May 18 at 9:45 in the University Center.
Shabazi Not Hiding in his Shell

Mehdi Shabazi has been in the oil business for 37 years, 38 if you count the past year. The only problem is: his Shell station on Del Monte Boulevard in Marina has not pumped one drop of gas in the past 18 months.

Shabazi fenced its pumps last November claiming, “Environmental upgrades,” and haven’t taken the fences down since.

The station is still open for business and has its fair share of patrons. On two separate occasions customers offered credit cards as payment, but since the battle began the shop converted to cash only.

Shabazi happily offered the items to both customers, insisting they stop by with the money when they can, exemplifying his selflessness and trust for the community.

Despite receiving news coverage from CNN, the San Jose Mercury, and other news outlets, Shabazi is still in court fighting with Shell Oil Company over what he believes is a revolutionary fight.

“This is not about my life, this is about the American consumer and what collectively everyone can do,” he said, noting that reporters have only wanted to focus on his own sacrifices, rather than the bigger picture. “This is not a local thing. This is a nationwide issue, and every community can help.”

Shabazi says he first chose to stand against the price gouging by big oil companies in 1993 and in May of 1995 he banded together with two other local station owners to offer gas for

Fill Up or Step Up

Quinn To, Staff Reporter

Gas prices are steadily on the rise and some students are finding it difficult to get around. Gas prices are projected to be at a record high as summer approaches. There are a few alternatives to paying an arm and a leg to fill up the tank.

Alternatives such as Amtrak, Greyhound and the local MST public transportation system offer somewhat affordable transportation within the Bay Area.

If traveling via Greyhound Bus, prices vary depending on destination. A one way trip from Salinas to Oakland costs around $20 but may take anywhere from four to five hours, which is about twice as long than traveling by car.

Traveling by Amtrak train is about the same price. Taking a train from Salinas to the Oakland Airport costs $21 each way. Travel time is more in sync with car time, however Amtrak has been known to possess problems with the reliability of their service. There have also been problems with trains not going to the exact destination desired.

The MST bus line serves the Monterey Peninsula and the city of Salinas as well as other parts of Northern Monterey County. Regular fare is $2 but monthly passes are available for $62.

Switching from regular gasoline to bio diesel fuel is another way to benefit economically and environmentally. Bio diesel can be used in any diesel vehicle with minor modifications. If the vehicle is more then ten years old, the rubber fuel line must be replaced with a synthetic one.

TAT senior Joseph Bonanno is doing his capstone on the benefits of using bio diesel gasoline instead of petroleum. He said, “diesel engines are about 20-30 percent more efficient than gasoline. Older diesels will get 30-40 mpg while newer [engines] can get as much as 50 mpg. Diesel engines last forever; 400,000 miles and more is not uncommon.”

Common diesel vehicles include, Mercedes, Volkswagen, Ford and Dodge. The average price of diesel gas per gallon right now is $3.09 as opposed to $3.49 for regular 87 gasoline at Chevron.

Diesel gas is also environmentally friendly, Bonanno said, “70 percent fewer harmful emissions with no sulfur, and no net carbon dioxide. Bio diesel is less toxic than table salt and more biodegradable than sugar.”

For more information on diesel gas, visit Joseph Bonanno’s Website. www.projectbiodiesel.org.

Dishes

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Penelope LaFontaine

Monterey County Weekly

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The tenth annual Leon Panetta Lecture Series was held on May 4 and featured two of the most well known names in the history of American journalism: Bob Woodward and Dan Rather.

Woodward, a “Washington Post” news correspondent, teamed up with reporter Carl Bernstein and exposed the Watergate scandal to the world. It was Woodward and Bernstein’s series of articles that lead to the demise of the Nixon administration. As a result, the “Post” won a Pulitzer Prize.

Rather has interviewed every president since Dwight D. Eisenhower and worked for CBS for over 30 years, the longest occupancy in broadcast journalism history.

The topic of discussion was, “The Role of the Press in Choosing a Candidate.” Panetta, a well respected figure throughout the political left and right stated, “Quality reporting is essential to our democracy.”

As media continues to circulate quicker worldwide, quality journalism struggles to stay consistently reliable. Both longtime journalists responded to questions on this subject at a press conference before the Speaker Series event.

“Speed and impatience dominate the news today,” Woodward said.

Woodward, a believer in “bringing transparency to the government,” said a “patriotic journalist has the guts to stand up and demand answers; a secret government is the enemy.”

Both Woodward and Rather stated that the media has not been “aggressive” in their reporting lately. In February 2003, Woodward reported on the War in Iraq. He felt he “wasn’t aggressive enough” in his reporting and there was a lot that fell through the cracks regarding the weapons of mass destruction claim and the Scooter Libby controversy.

“Journalists should give [the public] what they need to make an intelligent decision,” Rather said of the upcoming presidential election.

Rather feels that the media needs to inform the public with facts as well as information about how the government works.

With the invention of the Internet and easier access to information the news cycle is only seconds if not non-existent. The demand for information the moment something happens has affected the way the press and the government infiltrate information to the public.

Rather pointed out that in the past, presidents had a few days to gather information and come up with a response for the public after an important event, these days the president is expected to respond after only a few seconds in some cases. The same pressure applies to journalists who are expected to have stories ready to upload to the Internet.

Despite the pressure of nanosecond reporting, Rather stressed the importance of digging deep for information before presenting anything to the public.

To keep digging after sources have shut a reporter down, “It takes guts, it takes courage,” said Rather.

In order for reporters to be able to ask hard questions and pursue information as far as possible, the press, “Needs public support to survive,” Rather added.

According to Rather, coverage of presidential races needs to have less poll results and more biographical information on candidates and information about where candidates stand on important issues.

Rather and Woodward agreed that the war in Iraq is going to be the most important issue in the 2008 presidential race. “The war is the story right now, how could it be otherwise?” said Rather.

He believes that the future of America’s economic health depends on what happens on the battlefield.

Panetta said that currently no party, republican or democratic, are giving honest answers when asked how much more time the U.S. will spend in Iraq.

“We’ll be [in Iraq] for at least five to ten years more in a combat role and in a support role,” Panetta said.
WEEKLY GOES SOLAR

Laura Newell, Staff Reporter
LAURA.NEWELL@CSUMB.EDU

On April 23, a $178,000 33-kilowatt, zero-emission system was installed in the Monterey County Weekly’s office. The system will keep the atmosphere clean of about 14 tons of globe-warming carbon dioxide each year.

Bradley Zeve, the Weekly’s owner and CEO, has always been environmentally conscious and wanted to provide his business with a more environmentally energy efficient plant by installing the self-sufficient solar panels.

“The vision of being energy self-sufficient was a fantastic mission for the Weekly,” said Zeve. “By going to solar we are using an efficient energy source [which will help] decrease the carbon footprint.”

After deciding to invest in the solar panels, Zeve explained the total cost was $256,054. However, after applying for the California Energy Commission (CEC) rebate, the total cost was reduced.

Zeve applied for the rebate at the end of June 2006 and made the deadline just before the rebate decreased in 2007. This rebate dropped the total cost of the 33-kilowatt system purchase to about $178,000.

The large investment will take about 12 to 15 years to payoff, and depending on PG&E rates, the payoff time may alter, Zeve explained.

According to the Weekly’s Power Shift article, on average PG&E rates increase each year about 5 percent. Zeve realized that he would save more on electricity bills as the rates increased, about $55,000. This reduction would then lower the cost again to about $120,000 for the system in the long run.

The 33-kilowatt system will last up to 25 years. After finishing the 12 to 15 year payoff, the Weekly will have free electricity for the remaining 15 (or so) years.

However, if PG&E rates decrease, it will take longer to payoff. Zeve decided that this was a good enough gamble, and purchased the system.

“Now we have our own solar energy and are providing power to PG&E, so if rates will go up, we will have free electricity and all clean energy,” said Zeve.

After growing up in the smoggy town of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the 1970’s, Zeve wanted to make a difference in the environment and help against the problem of global warming. At the age of 11, he was involved in the first Earth Day in 1970 and from there decided to “go green.”

“The icing on the cake was Al Gore’s ‘An Inconvenient Truth,’ which showed me that we need to make institutional changes,” said Zeve. “Being CEO of the Weekly allows me to make a change for my business, and also make a change for the environment.”

Dear Otter Nation,

Finals are here and summer is on the horizon. As we finish up yet another semester, it’s time to plan ahead for fall. Many Otters are graduating this spring and we would like to encourage students to get involved on campus. Students can write for The Otter Realm by taking Human Communication 389 for two or four units.

The class introduces students to the fundamentals of journalism. It gives students the ability to showcase their work in CSUMB’s campus newspaper. Students can learn how to serve their community in a journalistic manner and create a professional portfolio.

There are multiple areas of the newspaper that students may participate which include writing, layout, web-design, photography and advertising. No experience is necessary and the class’ environment allows for a fun and productive work environment.

This semester has had its challenging experiences; the loss of students in both Virginia and here at CSUMB have unified both our student bodies and given us a moment for reflection.

For those entering the work world, good luck! Graduation is a beacon of hope for us all.

Sincerely,
Kristina Kendrick
Elliott Singer

On page 9, the name of the author for the opinion piece “Student response to VT Massacre” is Anthony Stack

On page 12, the photographer for “Tattoos, Taxis and Talk’n Politics” is Sean Tibbitts
The 2007 Student Digital Arts and Design Contest was held on April 25, and for the two students who organized the contest, Roxana Diaz and Sara Dove, the event marks an end to countless hours of work and coordination.

"I never realized just how much planning goes on for an event like this," said Dove, a double major TMAC/HCOM senior.

Pat Watson, TMAC advisor and instructor, worked closely with Diaz and Dove in producing the event.

"It's a great opportunity, as it gives them a chance to work with an actual event for their capstone and deal with the legitimate headaches, heartaches and rewards associated with community contacts," Watson said.

In the University Ballroom, submitted artwork lined the walls, while people perused the contestant work. The contest was divided into three categories, digital art, digital photo, and digital animation, each subdivided between high school and college entries.

Autumn Manka, HCOM senior, was the winner of the college digital photography category with her piece titled "Mossy Cypress," a picture of a California cypress tree with the sun piercing the branches covered with natural bright red moss dominating the limbs of the tree.

"When I was walking around Whaler's Cove at Point Lobos, I saw this amazing, bright red moss. I had never seen anything like it and took several strategic photos," said Manka, who has ventured back since only to find the moss has faded to a dull brown color.

The first place college digital art...
award went to Laura Veith, HCOM junior. Her entry, titled "Big Bad Wolf," at first seems simple, but a closer look reveals an intriguingly complex piece.

The winner of the college digital animation category was an incredibly intricate film by TAT senior Brice Schultz and iTCD senior Nathan Josway. The film, entitled "It's Only a Matter of Time," includes a daydreaming cowboy with a wandering mind that creates multiple twelve o'clock noon showdowns, each with its own unique and interesting villain.

For their winning entries, Manka and Veith were awarded copies of Adobe Creative Suite 2, while Schultz and Josway received a copy of Final Cut Pro by Apple for their animation.

One of the foremost goals of the contest is to involve the local community and raise the visibility of digital arts. Roxana Diaz, TMAC/HCOM senior is content with the outcome of the show. "I got everything accomplished that I wanted to," said Diaz.

Watson, who has been involved with the contest since its beginning, was also very pleased with the turnout and outcome of the contest.

"I'm convinced that its influence is revolutionizing the world of creative arts," Watson said. "People don't realize the tremendous impact it's already had on the world of gallery exhibition and museum level work."

This year's entries can be viewed online at http://itcd2.csumb.edu/sdad07.

A DAYDREAMING COWBOY WITH A WANDERING MIND THAT CREATES MULTIPLE TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON SHOWDOWNS, EACH WITH ITS OWN UNIQUE AND INTERESTING VILLAIN.
Have you thought about your panza today? The bright colors of red, yellow, green and blue hanged from the ceiling. Belts covered the chairs representing the panza.

“The Panza Monologues” opened on April 27 to students, faculty and community members at the Black Box Cabaret.

“The Panza Monologues” are the first Chicana student and community production that have been produced and performed at CSUMB. The actresses and staff rehearsed for only two months prior to the opening.

The panza or belly is the star of the production, and expresses the importance of female self awareness and self pride.

“‘The Panza Monologues’ are vignettes about women of color telling their stories about life, hardship, love, food, women, body image,” said Marisol Duarte, producer, actress and dancer in the monologues.

“This play empowers women to accept and love their divine bodies as well as their true selves regardless of societal portrayals of what constitutes a beautiful woman,” said Duarte.

Though Virginia Grise and Irma Mayorga were Latin playwrights, women of all cultures can relate to the production’s message.

“Panza is life; it’s your mom’s life, it is struggles, happiness, it’s entitled into you...it’s yours and you own it...the stomach represents you and your well being,” said Tatiana Williams, actress and MPA sophomore.

In response to the meaningful messages portrayed through dance and acting, audience members experienced both laughter and tears.

Dolores Rosales a monologue actress and HWE third year student portrayed a woman struggling with weight, self-esteem and trying to fit into her favorite pair of tight jeans in the crowd pleasing monologue, “Sucking It In.”

“For chunky women I would say hang in there, we beat ourselves up...but other women go through this too, if I can do this you can do it too,” said Rosales.

Duarte hopes the monologues bring more attention to theater at CSUMB.

“We need to support students doing interdisciplinary work on our campus...Let students encompass academia alongside...their passions,” said Duarte.

“This play empowers women to accept and love their divine bodies as well as their true selves regardless of societal portrayals of what constitutes a beautiful woman.”

Marisol Duarte, Multiple Subject Teaching Credential Student

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California State University Monterey Bay congratulates the recipients of the first annual Service Learning Capstone Grant

Jennifer Thomas (CHHS) “Empowering & Educating Youth” with John XXIII AIDS Ministry Education & Prevention Office

Marissa Serna (VPA) “Dancing on the Brink of the World” with Boys & Girls Club of Monterey County

Heather Tester (SBS) “Using Geographic Information System for Sustainable Development: A Case Study of Brazil Ranch” with Big Sur Environmental Institute

Olivia Weatherbee (SBS) “Perspectives of Foster Care Providers on Recruiting Home Placements for Foster Youth in Monterey County” with Monterey County Department of Social Services

The Service Learning Capstone Grant supports students whose capstone projects address and respond to needs in the community. The capstone are awarded through this grant support the student in the completion of her capstone and the community agency served through her work.
Farewell Otter Realm
Sequels a Go-Go

Not all sequels are filmmaking tragedies. In fact, there is even a small percentage that surpasses the quality of the original.

Any fan of the Spiderman films should check out the early work of the film’s director, Sam Raimi. His goremedy trilogy, “Evil Dead,” have been considered cult classics for well over a decade. Raimi really made his mark as a director of actors and action with “Evil Dead II” and “Evil Dead III,” commonly known as “Army of Darkness.” “Evil Dead II,” for the most part, is a one man play that takes place on one set. Though actor Bruce Campbell’s tremendous physical acting is to be recognized, Raimi’s ability to put it all together with such a small budget is creativity at its most genius. With “Army of Darkness,” Raimi’s budget grew and with the extra money he created a medieval fantasy, goremedy mix.

George Romero’s sequel to the groundbreaking, “Night of the Living Dead,” “Dawn of the Dead,” created an entirely new concept in horror movies: smart social commentary. After much of the world is zombified, the few untainted people take refuge in a shopping mall.

But, the zombies keep coming by the thousands, trying to get into the mall. One of the characters in the film explains the phenomenon as, “Some kind of instinct. Memory, of what they used to do. This [the mall] was an important place in their lives.”

Jamie Lee Curtis’ reprises the role of the teenaged straight-lace, Laurie Strode, the apple of Michael Myers’ eye in “Halloween II.” It’s a fun ride that doesn’t compare to the first but is worth seeing. The entire film is set in a hospital, where Strde is sent to recover from the injuries she sustained in the first Halloween. Myers finds her and the two play an intense game of cat and mouse. All the other “Halloween” films that follow are complete throwaways.

It is not intentional that some of the best sequels mentioned are horror films, but to this day, the mother of all sequels is not a horror film and remains unmatched and sublime in the annals of film history: “Godfather II.” Make it the first on your list if you have not seen it.

Incidents
Quinnincidents

Summer is fast approaching and whether you plan on going home or taking a road trip with your friends, here are a few essential items to perk up any summer festivities:

Beach tote:
you have to have something to put all this stuff in right? When choosing a beach tote, bigger is usually better. Materials like straw, terry cloth and canvas make for practical and pretty totes.

Sunscreen:
this goes for skin and lips. Always apply at least an SPF 15 and reaply every 46 minutes to an hour if you’re swimming. I like Neutrogena Summer Daily Glow, it’s an SPF 20 lotion that adds a bit color to your skin every time you apply. I also like their tinted lip balm; it’s also an SPF 20 that adds a hint of color.

Water proof mascara:
if you want to avoid looking like a raccoon after getting out of the pool, opt for water resistant mascara. Tip: When applied lightly, it also doubles as an eyebrow tamper.

Swimsuit:
if you can only choose one, make sure it fits great and looks great.

Cover up:
looking for something to throw over your suit? Tunics are great and come in tons of different styles and colors. They can also double as a dress if you’re planning to go out after a day at the beach.

Sandals or flip flops:
are always a staple for summer, but if you’re looking for something different, Gladiator sandals in metallics will be everywhere this summer. I like silver because it looks great on tan skin.

Beach towel for two:
having a large beach towel is beneficial if you want to keep sand off your beach gear or if you happen to meet someone new to share it with.

Books:
summer is a good time to catch up on your reading. The seventh Harry Potter book, “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows” will be released July 21. It may be for a younger crowd but it’s entertaining and fun at any age.

Music:
no summer vacation is complete without great summer anthems to sing or dance along to. I’m looking forward to Maroon 5’s new album, “It Won’t Be Soon Before Long” which comes out May 22. Their second album is supposed to be a little more upbeat.
On Saturday, April 28 CSU Monterey Bay paid homage to New Orleans’ musical legacy. The Mo’ Rockin Project, CSUMB Jazz Ensemble, and New Orleans’ own Jazzstronauts played at the World Theater.

First on stage was the Mo’ Rockin Project, a jazz fusion band combining western style with a Moroccan flair.

“We are trying to show opposite poles and we have a universal message: to bring peace to the world,” explained trumpeter Khalil Shaheed, who has recorded with people like Jimi Hendrix and Buddy Guy.

New Orleans and Morocco have both been under French rule at one point in their histories. According to Shaheed, there are “similarities in culture, food, and music totally cross pollinated.” A song called “Mambo Sudani” is a popular song in Morocco, and Shaheed says that it can easily be translated into a New Orleans’ march.

Once the twangy sound faded, the CSUMB Jazz Ensemble drenched the audience with traditional songs from and about New Orleans. The 17 person band is led by part time faculty member Paul Cantos and is a must see for any Otter before they graduate.

The third band consisted of three New Orleans high school students along with Alvin Batiste going by the name of The Jazzstronauts.

Batiste is an acclaimed clarinetist who is also indoctrinating the young musicians into the jazz community. Batiste’s wife, Edith also was on stage for most of their songs and did a spoken word performance.

The students are graduating seniors at Saint Augustine and Benjamin Franklin High Schools and are being sponsored by the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts.

All five members of the group were living in New Orleans when Katrina hit and were displaced by the hurricane. With temporary homes coming from humanitarians in New Hampshire, Houston, Baton Rouge and other American landscapes, the band was able to make it through the Diaspora.

“My house was 15 feet underwater when we went to Baton Rouge,” said Batiste. “We stayed with 16 others from New Orleans.”

The students all have stories similar, and that is part of what drives them, the desire to keep their culture alive.

The Bridge, as the three students call themselves when only they are playing, identifies a large part of their culture with music. “The way they [New Orleans residents] dance is very unique to New Orleans” explained bass player Max Moran, “When you play a song [at a party] people come alive.”

Coman Pappas Jr., the pianist, said that if CSUMB students were to take away anything from New Orleans, he would hope that they “take away the spirit and soul [of the city], the food we eat and way our culture is. To soak up the experience because it is unlike any other culture in the world.”

“Black folks and white folks all talk the same” said Batiste while describing New Orleans residents. “Except now you got to include the Spanish speaking and the Vietnamese.”

The nearly four hour show ended with a set featuring both the Jazz Ensemble and Jazzstronauts.

After the show, TAT senior Estée Blancher was able to meet the Jazzstronauts and give them a 15 minute preview of her up coming documentary “Heaven Come Down.”

Blancher went to the Lower 9th Ward, one of New Orleans’ most afflicted Parishes. “New Orleans is a resilient city” she said. “New Orleans has so much culture; it would be a tragedy to lose.”
Mo' Talent  Mo' Money

Folding under stage fright was the last thing on any of the performers' minds. "Nahh, I'm not nervous because we rock so hard, but I am scared for the crowd because we are going to rock so hard," said Scrotempole drummer, Bill "scorpion" Workman.

With up to $600 in cash prizes the first BSU talent show was a hit.

"This school needs this event, there is so much hidden talent and it brings everyone together," said BSU announcer Tatiana Williams.

Judging took place in two rounds with five different groups. One performer would advance to the second round depending on how enthusiastic the audience was about their performance.

The University Center Ballroom was completely jam-packed. The sexy appeal of dancing in a coconut bra took the $300 first place cash prize. Fans screaming in the audience became the critics who judged the talent.

Taking second place was the unique band, Scrotempole. Many students came to support their friends and community.

"I came to see the band Scrotempole, I have been a fan for years, also I wanted to check out the new CSUMB talent," said Global Studies senior, Sylvana Gleeson.

As Scrotempole played, there was a mosh pit of friends and fans beneath the stage. The only other place they had performed prior to the talent show was on the roof of their house.

With lyrics rapped by the trio Doba Doza towards the end of the show, the talent show also incorporated a meaningful learning experience.

"Mass media overdose on speed and ya' working on your mind in ways that make you blind, seepin' in ya' skin while you sit and take it in, there's got to be a better way to get away."
Campus Unjaded by Virginia Tech Massacre

Kate Kiechle, Staff Reporter

A candle light vigil memorializing the April 25 massacre at Virginia Tech began with a miniscule crowd of 13 people. The vigil, which was not thoroughly planned and communicated to the campus, greatly contrasts in comparison to the planning that went into the recent May 1 political rally on campus.

Associated Students President Zachary Kasow, began the vigil by thanking those who were present and explained that the students requested the event. He then invited anyone who wished, to share their experiences and feelings about the Virginia Tech (VT) massacre.

Students and staff shared stories of where they were when they first heard the news and whether they knew anyone in the area.

Future AS President Robert Graham, said that he was sitting down for lunch and saw the news on the nearest TV. He asked a woman nearby what had happened and was shocked by her answer. He then looked over his shoulder to the exit sign and thought about how the shooter just came through a door. Graham said he felt thankful for his life.

Second year ISSM major Zoë Carter, explained that she had friends that attend VT, which really brought it close to home for her. She admitted that she had cried more than once, and when she thinks of all those affected, is heartbroken. When she first heard the news she text messaged all her VT friends a message saying, “This is your Cali girl checking on you, let me know you are ok.” All her friends responded saying they were safe.

Resident Advisor Stephanie Drago said that when she heard what happened she was working at the RA desk in North Quad building 302. She watched as students walked in and out safely and felt pain for the students at VT who did not walk in safety that day. Drago explained that she makes sure to go into work with positive feelings no matter what her day has been like in order to show compassion for the students who she watches over.

Though there has been some student response regarding the VT shooting, many students were still unaware of what had happened; after hearing the news many continued their lives concerned with other world events.

In the recent student walkout on May 1, students came to protest issues like student fee increases, global warming, and the war in Iraq.

Issues that are far removed from students continue to be held as high priority overshadowing tragedies like the VT massacre, which hit closer to home.

In response to recently planned political events, second year ISSM major, Loren Romulo said, “VT students are still going to class, why are we not?”

Moving Forward in Immigration Reform

Miriam Olivares, Staff Reporter

Tuesday May 1 marked the one year anniversary of the widespread immigration marches against Proposition HR 4437.

This year, immigration supporters around the country marched for fair immigration reform. Some of the cities that participated in large scale marches included: Denver, Chicago, Los Angeles, Watsonville, and Salinas.

Alianza Primero de Mayo (First of May Alliance), a labor organizing organization under the supervision and leadership of Jose Ibarra, were in charge of the march this year in Salinas.

Ibarra helped organize the march, “The first step in organizing this march was organizing the people”. He also shared that local communities who helped in last years march were unwilling to aid Alianza Primero de Mayo in facilities such as restrooms for marchers as well as money to receive permission from the city for this year’s march.

This resulted in “marching without permission” and an overwhelming police involvement.

The march began with only three supporters according to Ibarra, who gathered in front of St. Mary of the Nativity Catholic Church in east Salinas.

The march headed east on Tott St. toward Del Monte, then merged onto Main St. and North Sanborn Rd.

More supporters gathered for the immigration reform cause. Over 2,000 supporters joined the march. A sea of red United Farm Worker flags filled the streets of Salinas.

"El pueblo unido jamas sera vencido" (the community that is united will never be divided) was chanted in harmony.

The marching continued on North Sanborn Rd. towards East Alisal St. then back onto Tott and reconvened at St. Mary’s Church. The supporters included people from all walks of life.

After the march, a rally was formed to let the group know the actions that lead to the march.

Copies of formal petitions addressing immigration concerns were passed out to all the supporters in an effort to gain signatures to show recipients of the letters, U.S Congress that the City of Salinas is fighting for fair immigration reform.

Advocates for just immigration reform were invited to the stage to share their experiences and ideas on the topic. Among the immigration advocates was Council Woman Gloria La Rosa who shared with the crowd that she refused to attend work out of support for her community. United Farm Workers member Olga Reyna spoke about the importance of unity and how the government cannot keep fair immigration reform from immigrants.

“Marching for justice is in our blood. Blood calls blood that’s why we are here.”
Women's basketball (7-20 overall, 6-16 CCAA)
Winning more games this past season, seven, than in the previous two seasons combined, four, the Lady Otters swept their first ever season series by taking both games from Cal State Los Angeles and finished tied for ninth in the standings. The team will have nine returners next season, including Britnea Moore, who became the school's all-time leading scorer with 675 points.

Roller hockey (3-16-1 overall)
Even though the team didn’t win many games, they came within an eyelash of upsetting USC on Jan. 20 before USC scored the game tying goal with less than one second to play, resulting in the Otters only tie of the season. For next season, the main goal of the team will be to improve upon their skills during practice and remaining positive when the puck doesn’t roll their way.

Softball (23-40 overall, 8-28 CCAA)
Improving upon their win total from their inaugural season by three games, the Lady Otters achieved the program’s first ever seven-game winning streak, started as a result of winning the Bronze Bracket of the Mizuno Tournament of Champions in Turlock back in April. In addition, the team will finally have a home field on campus to play on next season when the new softball/baseball complex is opened.

Baseball (19-33 overall, 11-25 CCAA)
The Otters ended the season strongly by winning seven of their last eight games and improved on their win total from their inaugural season by four games. In addition, the team upsetted number one ranked Cal State Los Angeles on March 23, handing the Golden Eagles their first conference loss of the season and swept their first ever CCAA series from Cal Poly Pomona.

Water polo (18-18 overall)
Head coach Gary Figueroa couldn’t have asked for a better season. Winning only 15 games the past two seasons combined, the Lady Otters ended with a .500 record for the first in the program’s three-year history and set a school record for most wins in a season, highlighted by the team’s first ever six-game winning streak.

Men's golf (record N/A)
Even though the team may not have won an invitational this year, the men’s golf team showed excellent consistency, placing in the top-10 in a majority of their events. Head coach Bill Paulson will look to build on the team’s consistency next season, looking to add wins.

Women’s golf (3-3-5)
Consistently finishing in the top-10 in a majority of their events and winning two of their last three invitational, the women’s golf team can lay claim to something no team at the school has: a conference title. The team won the RMAC Invitational in Colo. to close out the season and even though they finished with three titles this year, this was the team’s first against an all-NCAA field.
Outstanding Otter Athletes—Richard Jenkins (Men’s Basketball)
The 2007 Male Athlete of the Year, Jenkins’ senior year at CSU Monterey Bay was a memorable one in which he became the first male otter to be voted to the All-CCAA first team. Jenkins led the Otters in points (18.2) and rebounds (6.6) this past season, in addition to setting a conference and school record by scoring 57 points in a four-overtime win against Western Oregon on Dec. 1. Jenkins finished his two-year career as the school’s sixth all-time leading scorer (740 points), rebounder (350) and block (26). Jenkins is also third all-time in assists (156) and the only Otter in the top ten of all four categories.

Chelsea Laning (Water Polo)
The 2007 Female Athlete of the Year, Laning, who earned All-American honors her sophomore year, led the country in scoring this season with 144 goals and led the Lady Otters to their best season ever, finishing 18-18 overall and finishing ninth in the Western Waterpolo Association (WWPA). Laning, the school’s all-time leader in goals and points, will enter her senior year with a career total of 382 goals and 453 points.

Ren Herring (Sailing)
The 2007 Outstanding Senior Athlete of the year, Herring, is the first ever eight-semiter sailor at CSU Monterey Bay. The “A” fleet skipper, Herring, along with crew Chelsea Bell, were instrumental in capturing the Otters first division win and led the team to its first ever regatta win this past March in the friendly waters of Monterey Harbor. Herring has skippered the “A” fleet division over the past four years, where he and his team have qualified for the Pacific Coast Championship every year.

Dana Andrews (Women’s Basketball)
A CCAA second team all selection this past season, Andrews led the Lady Otters in scoring (11.8), the highest scoring average for a CSU Monterey Bay women’s basketball player in five years. Andrews shot just under 30 percent from three-point range (37-for-125) and was second in steals with 36 in 25 games. Andrews will enter her junior season as the number seven all-time scorer in school history with 494 points and second all-time in made three-pointers with 57.

Brittany Etchings (Volleyball)
Becoming the first CSU Monterey Bay athlete in any sport to be named first-team all conference since the school joined the CCAA in 2004, Etchings hit .200 this past season with a team-high 337 kills to go along with 32 aces, 46 total blocks and 409 digs to help the Lady Otters finish in a tie for fifth-place after being picked ninth in the preseason polls. Honored as Conference Player of the Week for the second time in her career, Etchings also set the school career kill record and will enter her senior year with 1,058.

Kyle Satow (Men’s Soccer)
Named to the second team all-CCAA by a vote of coaches, Satow was third in the conference with 2.84 shots per game and led the injury-plagued Otters in scoring with five goals on the year, giving him 24 for his career. Satow will enter his senior year tied with Nate Northup for the school’s career goal record and will look to lead the Otters to a playoff berth in their first year of eligibility.

Jessica Wardle and Ashley Trotter (Softball)
Both members of the school’s 100-hit club, Wardle and Trotter became the first CSU Monterey Bay softball players to be honored with all-conference selections as Wardle was named to the first team as an alternate and Trotter received honorable mention. Wardle led the team in batting (.371) and stolen bases (30) this past season while Trotter, who has started all 116 games in school history, led the team in home runs (7) and RBI’s (43).

Giddy up! For my last column I went horseback riding and it was by far the closest I have ever come to a real “Goonies” adventure. Andrew Molerá State Park offers horseback tours ranging anywhere from $25 to $59. I opted for the “Afternoon Delight,” a two-hour excursion through the beautiful redwoods for $48.

I was so excited waiting for our group to leave the corral. I spotted the horse I wanted and imagined myself being Butch Cassidy. Instead, the staff picked the horses for us; I think based upon our height and look. I apparently looked pretty lame because I got “Rocky,” a small, old, pony.

Still, I was jazzed about the ride and after a short lesson we were off. We began by crossing the Big Sur River. My horse slowly strolled across and I could tell he was seasoned in knowing exactly what to do. He also knew that I couldn’t control him because he pretty much stopped whenever he wanted.

No matter how much I tried to coax him, he wouldn’t budge. I sat there and pretended to know what I was doing as the guides called his name and whistled him to “come.”

No one else seemed to have that problem and of course this is just my luck.

Our tour guide had a country accent and I wondered if it was part of the show. He explained to us that this is his dating pool. It became awkward, especially with my inner thighs spread wide open straddling the pony, as he chatted about how he had not been with any women in a while.

We passed the redwoods and came to the ocean. The coastline was gorgeous and on this warm day it was especially nice. Overall horseback riding was extremely relaxing and well worth the cost. For more information visit www.molerahorsebacktours.com
What is the hottest summer you've ever had?

Andrew K. Osland
Freshman, Business

"Getting 'lost' on the beach in Mexico"

Grant Haney
Senior, HCOM

"Probably the one when I got sunburned."

Stephanie Golliher
Senior, Liberal Arts

"Hottest summer involved lots of tequila, a cool pool, and some good company....love the hot weather."

Elise Franco
Sophomore, Liberal Arts

"One summer it was so hot, and my dad took me to Magic Mountain, we had to wait in line for the Goliath for 4 hours, I fainted and my dad still made me get on the ride."

Stephanie Riley
Senior, ISSM

"This summer my boyfriend and I have plans to ride our bikes SO HARD in the sticky southern heat."

MC Langford, Staff Reporter
Mary.Langford@csumb.edu