WHAT YOU OTTER DO!

FRI 4/10
WINE, ART & MUSIC WALK
6PM - 9PM
Join us for a high-energy evening of music, art, and wine tasting at the Monterey County Fairgrounds. Enjoy live music, local wines, and delicious food. This event is open to the public and admission is free.

SAT 4/11
EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA
10AM
NATIVIDAD CREEK PARK IN SALINAS
Celebrate the joy of Easter with a fun-filled day of egg hunts, games, and activities for the whole family. The event is free and open to the public.

THURS - SUN 4/16-19
SEA OTTER CLASSIC CYCLING FESTIVAL
AT LAGUNA SECA RECREATION AREA IN MONTEREY
Celebrate the natural beauty of the sea otter with a classic cycling festival. Enjoy a variety of races and activities for all skill levels. The event is free and open to the public.

FRI 4/17
PINK FLOYD LASER SPECTACULAR
AT SUNSET CENTER IN CARMEL
8PM
Experience the iconic music of Pink Floyd in a brand new way with a live laser show. This event is a must-see for fans of Pink Floyd and classic rock.

SAT 4/18
CAMPUS CLEAN UP DAY
9:30 AM - 1PM
Help us keep our campus clean and beautiful by volunteering for our annual campus clean-up day. This event is open to the public and is a great way to give back to your community.

SUN 4/19
WHEN GOD GIVES YOU UGLY TOUR:
ATMOSPHERE WITH P.O.S AND ATTRACTED TO GODS
DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM, SHOW STARTS AT 8 PM
Top Comedians and musical acts come together for an unforgettable evening of laughs and music. This event is open to the public and is a must-see for comedy and music lovers.

College Student 101:
Group Work

Here at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB), professors strive for students to build relationships while learning how to work together. Anybody who has spent a semester at CSUMB knows this campus revolves around collaborative, cooperative, consensus-building group work. I honestly can't think of a class where I didn't do group work.

Professors tell us that group work is the future, that we need to be able to work with one another if we want to succeed in the "real world." According to the Center for Teaching Effectiveness, "Educators agree that when students work in small groups, they tend to understand the subject matter more thoroughly." However, even after four years of working in groups, I'm not sure how I feel about the whole "group work" mentality.

I do agree that we all need to know how to work with one another, but aren't we taught that at a young age when they tell us to "play nicely together"? Let's face it; most of the time, doing group work sucks.

We get placed into small groups with other students who live equally crazy lives, whose schedules are as jam-packed as ours, so we can never find a decent time to meet outside of class. Or we get put in a group with students known for doing nothing, leaving that one person to carry the weight and do the whole paper themselves. There we are, racing to the finish, pedaling as fast as we can, when we suddenly realize the rest of the team is coasting in our draft. Where is the group in that? We've all been there. I'm sure this brings up more than one example for you.

And what about the group grade? You put in countless hours to learn and prepare a quality project, knowing that if that one slacker doesn't show up for the presentation, your own grade will suffer. Group work is great for the guy or gal who doesn't plan to contribute.

The idea of working together may have merit, and I do admit to a couple of good experiences. But overall, group work rarely balances out. Even though the eighties are behind us, we still live in an individual, me-first world, where we are all trying to make it to the top, and stay there. Which could be a good thing or a bad thing. Think about it. When you try to do everything by yourself, you either end up overwhelmed and angry or proud of the piece you did your way. Group work is meant to incorporate different people and their different perspectives, which should lead to some sort of collaboration or compromise or conclusion.

If the President of the United States did everything by himself, he would probably go crazy. Or we would. Instead, groups of people surround him, endeavoring to work together with him to come up with ways to solve our greatest issues.

Even though I have been put in groups where it didn't go as planned, leaving me bitter, I still can see the positive side of group work. I still believe several different opinions coming together is the best way to get things done; to be more creative and yield the most diverse decisions.

I guess it all depends on the flip of the coin; you have either a great experience with group work or a bad one. But without group input, our decisions would be decidedly one sided. The more diverse the mentality and process are, the better the end product will be. If only we could get everyone to participate.

WHAT YOU'LL FIND IN THIS ISSUE:
NEWS P. 5 | FINDING GOOD EGGS
ARTS P. 11 | ARTSONG FESTIVAL
SPORTS P. 17 | PATTLEBOARDING
OPINION P. 18 | ENJOY THE MOVIES
An Unequal Challenge For An Equal Tomorrow

Kristin Leal, Staff Reporter
KRISTIN_LEAL@CSUMB.EDU

The fight for equality is on the forefront of the agenda for civil rights activists concerned with the legal definition of marriage in California. Here in Monterey County people have assembled to speak out on Prop. 8. Now that the issue of marriage has reached the California Supreme Court once again, communities wait to hear the Courts latest view of marriage within the California Constitution.

In late 2008 picket signs fanned the air as shouts from the crowd demanded equality. “Passion, anger and frustration filled the air of State St. in Santa Barbara,” said Torin Coffino, a CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Human Communication major, who has interest in Civil Rights. “The focus was on equality, marriage is a civil right.” This gathering of individuals was prompted by Prop. 8 which was on the Nov. ballot in California. This proposition was written to challenge the Supreme Court’s decision in the summer of 2008 to legalize gay marriage.

After the approval of Prop. 8 in Nov., there were three cases filed in the courts. The cases argue that the proposition is invalid and unconstitutional since it constitutes as a revision of the California Constitution and the Separation of Powers doctrine. The Court agreed to hear the cases on March 5th. According to the California Supreme Court, they will issue a written response within 90 days. In recent news, on April 6th, according to advocate.com, the Iowa Supreme Court has ruled unanimously, that gays and lesbians in the State have the right to marry.

Christina Molthen, president of Out & About club at CSUMB, found herself in the middle of a Traditional Values Parade. Supporters of Prop. 8 stood behind slogans that read, “In the beginning he made them male and female. Jesus Christ Templo Filade! One Man and One Woman.” “Standing there as a minority taught me to keep fighting even when people try to push me down, said Molthen. Each person’s endurance spreads from the roots of my own heart as I see these people stand with all they have today.” The battle for equality is an ongoing process.

Among the voices arose a cry for acknowledgement. Salinas native, Krystal Crouse said, “It is not fair that everyone else can live out their reality of marriage, and the gay community is not recognized.” As the gay community continues to make strides in the journey toward equal rights, marriage is still on the horizon. The fight for equality is not over.

Celebrate, Remember, and Fight Back

Caitlyn Johnson, Managing Editor
CAITLYN_JOHNSON@CSUMB.EDU

Every year in this country one quarter of deaths are caused by cancer. According to the American Cancer Society, 25 percent of men with cancer were diagnosed with prostate cancer, and 26 percent of women diagnosed had breast cancer. Men have one in two chances of getting cancer in their lifetime, and one in three women will have cancer. The goal of the American Cancer Society is to save lives and to research, provide treatment and provide education. Relay for Life is a non-profit event whose proceeds support the American Cancer Society.

Relay for Life is the largest fundraising event for the American Cancer Society. It is held at a local track, where teams of people gather for the 24-hour walkathon. Each team is asked to have at least one member on the track at all times during the event. Prior to the relay, participants set out to raise their goal amount of money for the American Cancer Society. The recommended minimum per person is $100. The event is designed to bring the community together to have fun while supporting the fight against cancer.

CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) and Monterey Peninsula residents are working to make an impact on cancer. CSUMB does not have its own relay team yet, but individuals are getting involved. Relay For Life Club President, Emily Stockman said, “The American Cancer Society said we need at least 25 teams to participate in surrounding relays to show we have enough will power and support.” The Club will host a Relay rally April 14 through 16 on the main quad at CSUMB from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. The rally is intended to raise enthusiasm, gain support, and educate the campus community. Each relay team will staff a table with information about a specific type of cancer. Also, registration for new relay teams will be available. Individuals also may register on site.

On April 23, the Relay Club will present an inspirational speaker in the UC Ballroom at 7:30 p.m. The Relay for Life Club meets on Wednesdays in Building 18, Room 118 at 8 p.m. “The club’s ultimate goal,” said Stockman “is to have our own relay on campus.”

On May 2, Monterey Peninsula College (MPC) will have its own Relay For Life, for which six to seven teams currently are from CSUMB. Last year, the event had approximately 370 people register in advance and more join on relay day. The event raised $70,000 for the American Cancer Society. Registration is still available for this year’s relay at www.relayforlife.org/montereypeninsula.ca. The public is still welcome to sign up and join in on the action on race day.
Budget Cuts Continue to Affect CSUs

With more than 450,000 students on 23 campuses, California State University (CSU) is the largest university system in the United States. As such, it has an extremely significant impact on the economy of the State and individual regions where its campuses are located.

Surely this is why California state’s legislature seems so adamant about taking advantage of a resource as vast as the CSU system to help with their budget crisis. In his cover letter about the 2009/2010 season’s budget strategies, Gov. Schwarzenegger expressed his hopes and plans to overcome the growing budget situation in California.

“I am presenting you with my Budget for 2009-2010,” said Schwarzenegger, “which not only addresses this year’s shortfall, but provides a comprehensive and balanced set of solutions for next year as well. The shortfall is too large to be addressed only with spending cuts, or only with tax increases. We have to use every tool at our disposal.” This includes the CSU system.

The Governor plans to cut costs again this year across the state budget. What this means for the CSU system is an increase in student tuition, along with an admissions cap. The goal is creating more revenue and less expenditure. By increasing the cost of schooling while putting a limit on the number of students and student services, administrators intend to generate enough revenue from each of the campuses to offset any deficits from challenges such as energy price increases. They also want to increase the ratio of tenure-track faculty to students, in hopes of cutting losses due to a continuous fired–hired cycle.

Certainly the CSU system faces challenges, and each school will be held individually accountable for cutting their own deficits, with help from guidelines given by the State’s budget plans.

CSU budget director Rodney Rideau provides his insight on the matter. “Absent a state budget until February of this year,” he said, “state bond sales could not proceed as planned. The combination of the state running short on cash and the delayed budget resulted in the construction shutdowns.” What this means for the Otters is that the School of Business and School of Information Technology department’s building scheduled to be funded last summer has been put on hold until the final sign off. The date has not yet been announced.

Suspected Pipe Bomb Explodes in East Campus

On Tuesday, March 10, after 11:00 p.m., an explosion ripped through the air at CSU Monterey Bay. The sound bounced off of apartments near the blast, waking residents of East Campus, and causing a barrage of phone calls to the University Police Department (UPD).

The UPD was unable to find the source of the explosion during the night. However, the next morning the investigation revealed a two-foot-wide disturbance about five yards from the road down an embankment on the north side of Schoonoever Drive, between Ede and Barbee courts. Scattered in a wide radius around the disturbed dirt were bits of PVC pipe, a common building material available at any hardware store.

“It was clearly homemade,” said Lt. Earl Lawson of the UPD, who also called the contraption “unsophisticated.” The device seemed “as if it had been tossed from a vehicle on the road.” All of the chemicals that were found burned into the pieces of pipe are readily available over the counter, Lawson said. The Presidio of Monterey and the Seaside Fire Department aided in the investigation, with the Presidio lending a Hazmat truck to the UPD. The bits of PVC were sent to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, where it was determined to be a “homemade explosive device” or, in layman’s terms, a pipe bomb.

UPD is “always concerned” about this sort of event and would like to remind the community that anyone with any information should come forward, no matter how insignificant they believe the information to be. “Someone knows about this, presumably,” Lawson said. “Safety is everyone’s responsibility; we are just agents of that. It could be anything from some kids screwing around to someone testing a device, or anything in between.”

While UPD is “taking the investigation seriously” and, to that end, went door-to-door with information about the blast, no leads have turned up. A $250 reward is being offered to anyone with information leading to the arrest and prosecution of the perpetrator. Lawson urges anyone with any information to submit it.

TO SUBMIT ANONYMOUS INFORMATION:
(831) 582-4747
ONLINE FORM:
POLICE-CSUMB.EDU/SITE/X23639.XML
Eggs Cause a Scramble at CSUMB

Megan Luna, Staff Reporter
MEGAN_LUNA@CSUMB.EDU

Imagine life in a cage where there was room for little more than a limp body. Battery-cage eggs are produced by hens living in a wire cage with just enough room to slip in a single sheet of paper on each side. These chickens will never spread their wings, will never walk. CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) currently uses Battery-cage eggs in their dining services.

“It's important to raise public awareness about this sustainability issue. It's the issue of the day,” said senior Shannon Dinsmore an Animal and Behavior, Health and Wellness major who dedicated her entire Capstone to this issue, and efforts to effect change.

“Considered the most abused animals in all agribusiness,” said Dinsmore, nearly 280 million laying hens in the United States are, reportedly, suffering. The Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act, Proposition 2, which banned the practice of keeping hens in cages passed by a landslide on Election Day 2008.

As soon as Dinsmore found out that CSUMB was using caged eggs through the Humane Society, she took matters into her own hands. After getting in contact with the CSUMB’s dining director and Sodexo representative, who chose to remain anonymous, she raised the issue and asked for change.

Now CSUMB will slowly make the changes to support Proposition 2. According to the Sodexo representative, CSUMB should be completely cage-free by Fall 2009.

“Food that is responsibly sourced is better for our health, our communities and the world in which we live,” said Dinsmore. If consumers were to witness the abuse of these animals they might have a hard time digesting the practice, and the eggs.”

Dinsmore’s Capstone become more than just a long written project, it was a personal issue. “I grew up on a chicken farm where all of my animals were considered pets,” she said. “They were never treated as factory workers like the battery-caged chickens. They are able to roam doing everything they usually do in their natural habitat. Those are the types of eggs people should be eating if they are looking for a good egg.”

As the great political leader Gandhi said, “The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.” Dinsmore has made that progress through her efforts in capstone.

Light a Flame in the Name of Violence

Kelly McDermott, Staff Reporter
KELLY_MCDERMOTT@CSUMB.EDU

According to the FBI, 1.4 million violent crimes were committed in the United States last year. These crimes included gang aggression, homicide and gun violence. Violent crimes have been on the rise since 2005, and people are starting to take notice. Among them are CSU Monterey Bay’s (CSUMB) Service Learning Student Leaders.

The Student Leaders are responsible for action projects in the community. This semester, they are planning a candlelight vigil called “Naming the Violence,” on Friday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Quad.

The idea for the candlelight vigil came about after the Student Leaders watched a documentary called “The Life and Times of Harvey Milk,” the politician who fought a strong, but relatively short battle for gay rights in San Francisco during the seventies, was shot to death in November 1978. Student Leader Andrea Blunt, a senior and Music and Performing Arts major said, “We wanted to do something for our community that would create solidarity for those who have been affected by violence and serve as a memorial to those killed in violent crimes, whether it be through gang violence, violence against women, hate crimes, or violence toward the environment.”

As America becomes more and more diverse, more people seem to stand up for what they believe in. Increasingly, it seems, those opposed who may act out violently, much like the late Dan White, a San Francisco Supervisor who assassinated Harvey Milk and San Francisco Mayor George Moscone.

While planning the vigil, the Student Leaders looked at how violence plays a role in their lives. Paige Vega, a senior and Human Communication major said, “This issue is so important to me because as we were thinking to put on this event we looked at where violence has taken place in our own lives. It surprised me to realize that I can remember instances since I was young and have just seen it grow even more now that I am older.”

The week preceding the candlelight vigil, the Student Leaders will set up boards in the Main Quad, presenting different facts and figures about violent crimes in the United States. The vigil walk will be held at 6:30 p.m. It will begin in the Main Quad and end at the University Center.

“To lose someone in a violent crime is one of the most foundation-shaking events that can happen in this world,” said Blunt, “The Candlelight Vigil should be a cathartic experience— a safe place for people affected by violence to come and share in a reflection.”

PHOTO BY KELLY MCDERMOTT
A revolving door can be a good thing. For all CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) academic majors, the director position for the department does not end by resignation but by contract.

Every three years, the director role is usually refreshed with an elected professor, as required by the CSUMB Policies on Selection and Evaluation of Department Chairs. In the Humanities and Communication (HCOM) department, Dr. Ileen Feinman, the director for the past five years, will step down and return to her position as faculty professor.

HCOM faculty elects a peer professor to become the next director. The position is usually given a time limit to keep the relationship relevant between the faculty and director.

“As a director is elected, it’s a way for the faculty and staff to show and support the elected director,” said Dean Renee Curry of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Dr. Feinman joined the University in 1996. “The Vision Statement was an absolute draw for me at CSUMB,” she said. “It was incredible and seemed too good to be true.” In addition to her directorial duties, Feinman currently teaches three courses, one of which she created; HCOM 260 Politics and Participation.

“To create a course an amount of thinking and connection with the university and the content has to help with bringing outcomes essential for a student,” said Feinman.

Before Feinman, the HCOM director was Dean Curry, who was promoted to Dean of the College of the Arts, Humanities, and Social Science. “I was honored to be elected and nominated by my peers,” said Feinman, “I have now learned much about the interworkings of the department. I am now ready to go back to being a professor and teaching. I miss it.”

With the end of the 2008-2009 academic year approaching in May, the next school year will begin in August with elected director Dr. Ernest Stromberg, who has a Ph.D in English and strong teaching experience in Rhetoric and Communication, Literary Studies, and American Indian Studies.

Dean Curry advised Professor Stromberg to trust his abilities to learn the job. “It will take a year just to get the rhythm,” said Curry. Stromberg too was nominated by his peers. “I believe my colleagues trust me to sustain and work effectively within these processes,” said Stromberg. Stromberg commented on his opportunity of becoming the next director as “enthusiastic, grateful, and lively.”

Have You Been Screened?

Joyna Patel, Staff Reporter
JAYNA_PATEL@CSUMB.EDU

According to Alcohol Health and Research World, 14 million Americans meet the criteria for alcohol use disorders. On April 9, CSUMB students, staff and faculty will observe National Alcohol Screening Day. This annual event will provide information about alcohol and health, as well as free, anonymous screenings for alcohol-use disorders.

The screening will consist of a one-page, anonymous questionnaire about drinking habits and use. Once the questionnaire is filled out, students will be given a score, which will be reviewed by an on-site counselor.

Everyone who participates in the screening will have an opportunity to meet with a counselor, regardless of their score. These screenings are designed to help individuals take a look at their own alcohol use, and by participating in the brief alcohol-screening test, they can determine the level and seriousness of their alcohol consumption.

“These screenings are not only for individuals with problems, but also for someone who may have a friend with problems.”

Gary Rodriguez, Prevention Specialist at the Personal Growth and Counseling Center, said, “We want people to continue healthy choices. However, there are people on the high end of alcohol use who need to adapt positive behavior or stop drinking completely if there is alcohol dependency.”

Plenty of people picture alcohol abusers as binge drinking teenagers. However alcohol abuse is common among demographic groups. People who abuse alcohol range from college students who drink at bars to professionals who drink after work or people who suffer from depression. According to mentalhealthscreening.org, alcohol abuse is characterized as impairment or distress while under the influence but does not entail physical dependence. Even low levels of alcohol consumption may increase risk for motor vehicle crashes, medication interactions, fetal effects, strokes caused by bleeding, and certain cancers.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving estimates 1,400 college students die each year from alcohol-related incidents. Alcohol-related crashes (i.e., those in which a driver had a blood alcohol concentration greater than zero) account for 41 percent of all fatal car accidents. With the number of alcohol-related incidents at CSUMB this past year, some ending in tragedy, alcohol-use awareness is a very important issue of the campus community.

To recognize this problem of alcohol abuse, April is the designated “Alcohol Awareness Month.” National Alcohol Screening Day will take place Thursday April 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Main Quad. All participants will have the chance to enter prize drawings to be held throughout the afternoon.
The Transitioning Dining Commons

Randall Rigali, Staff Reporter
Randall_Rigali@csumb.edu

Photos by Randall Rigali

Just as students had gotten through the chaos of construction to enjoy the hush of their new library, just when they thought the days of waking up to hammers, drills and saws were done, another construction project has begun. The Dining Commons (DC) is in a transitional phase of construction and remodeling. Originally structured in the shape of a "U," with dining options at two different ends of the cafeteria the building will be brought together through remodeling and an addition to the midsection. Students can expect a feeling of more "community togetherness".

Meanwhile, for the remainder of the semester, the DC has been moved to the new Student Center, building 12, where the old library used to be. This is just a temporary location until the DC reopens in fall 2009. Sodexo still offers all the same commodities available in the DC, except for the taqueria and a salad bar.

The temporary DC may take some time getting used to for everyone. "The switch of cafeterias is tough because the dining cafeteria is two times bigger than the new place in the Student Center," said Lydia, a Sodexo employee. "Fewer students are coming in the Student Center because they are not informed and don't know about the change."

Isabel Fuerte, a sophomore majoring in Collaborative Human Health Services, understands it is a temporary situation but said she does not like the change of the Dining Commons to the Student Center. "There are really long lines, and it gets to crowded which interferes with the information desk." Fuerte also pointed out she is "looking forward to the transformation of having club space and meetings located in the new Student Center."

The new Student Center had a grand opening March 26 with a speech from President Dianne Harrison and the student activities department, welcoming students to take tours of the Center and enjoy free food. The Center has received quite a few upgrades, including brand new furniture whose design matches the furnishings in the new library, plus plasma screen televisions, ping pong tables and pool tables. Associated Student offices and conference rooms now reside in the Student Center, and Adventure Connections is in the process of opening its new office in the Student Center.

The remodeling of the Dining Commons should create a more community based atmosphere. The Student Center will transform and uninspired setting into a sacred hangout spot where worries about homework and the stresses of school can be set aside.

THE SWITCH OF CAFETERIAS IS TOUGH BECAUSE THE DINING CAFETERIA IS TWO TIMES BIGGER THAN THE NEW PLACE IN THE STUDENT CENTER.

Lydia, Sodexo Employee

CSUMB Now Appearing at Wal-Mart

Karen S. Eggemann, Staff Reporter
Karen_Eggemann@csumb.edu

He can not say how long the clothing will be selling there, but University Executive Director of Strategic Communication Scott Faust hopes CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) licensed apparel will become a permanent fixture at Wal-mart. Perhaps even with seasonal items introduced at the neighborhood store in Marina.

"We have established a complete logo set for Athletics," said Faust, "and are also assembling a set of institutional brands that represent the university as a whole."

According to staff at the local retail giant, where the Otter gear went on sale in March, consumer response to the introduction of CSUMB's athletic logo on T-shirts and sweatshirts has been positive. And customers have been voting with dollars.

"We sold out of everything except for the short-sleeves [T-shirts]," said Assistant Manager Pat Gisler. "The response has been very favorable, and we are trying to order more [apparel]."

According to Faust, Wal-mart is the first retailer to market CSUMB-branded merchandise under the University's new trademark-licensing agreement with Strategic Marketing Affiliates out of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Holly White, university services representative for CSUMB, said, "Retailers were identified by looking at stores who have a history of carrying collegiate licensed merchandise, and who previously expressed interest in carrying Otter gear."

Although Faust reports receiving little feedback about the debut of CSUMB's logged apparel in an off-campus store, he hopes other local retailers such as Kohl's and Target will soon sell CSUMB-branded clothing, as well.

I would also like to see our logo on items for sale to tourists on the Monterey Peninsula," said Faust. "Wal-Mart is just the beginning."

Last fall, Charles Fishman, author of "The Wal-Mart Effect," visited CSUMB to explain how "low prices routinely reset our expectations about what all kinds of things should cost—from clothing to furniture to fresh fish."

Now Fishman can add CSUMB-licensed apparel to the long list of items he believes help to change the way Americans spend their money.

"I did get an email from a faculty member," said Faust, "who viewed the items being sold at Wal-mart as an endorsement of business practices she opposes," said Faust. "But I explained in response that it was not the University's decision for the products to be sold there. In fact it was out of our control."

In all, there are five Wal-mart stores within an approximate 60-mile radius from the CSUMB campus, where "low prices" are likely an important incentive to students with little money to spend.

"Wal-marts around the country sell affordably priced collegiate-brand clothing tied to their local area," said Faust. "Yet I have seen the same T-shirts with Gonzaga University on them sold at the Wal-Mart in Marina and in Spokane, WA." Perhaps the CSUMB spirit will soon extend beyond the Peninsula.

CSUMB's online bookstore, at www.csuemonterey.bncollege.com, also features Otter gear for sale.
Out And About: Marriage Equality Benefit Concert

Karen S. Eggemann, Staff Reporter

Employing the vision of CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB), "where all learn and teach one another in an atmosphere of mutual respect and pursuit of excellence," Out & About, a club designed to help students feel safe and able to openly express themselves on campus, will meet at the Black Box Cabaret on April 17 from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. There, they will host a Marriage Equality Benefit Concert (MEBC)—bringing attention to Proposition 8, which eliminates rights of same-sex couples to marry.

Proposition 8 is just one of many social issues Out & About has been involved with this semester. "Within the last year," said Club President Christina Molthen, "[We held] a candlelight vigil honoring Matthew Sheppard's life... and a rally against Prop. 8. We will have speakers talking about their experiences in fighting against Prop 8, and how their lives were affected after the election."

Guest speakers scheduled to appear at the Marriage Equality Benefit Concert include CSUMB professors Dr. David Reichard and Axil Cricchio, and Father John Perez. Performances by Shaylla & Simone & Shelly, and The Trees and Justin Stie are also scheduled.

"We hope to initiate the steps for marriage equality to become [possible] in California," said Molthen, "and for CSUMB students to know and understand why people are fighting for same-sex marriages [with this gathering]."

The event is free; however, donations will be accepted at the door.

Dr. Reichard, a key speaker at the event said, "The law should be applied equally to all regardless of sexual orientation. While some may complain that the courts are stepping over the will of the voters if they decide to overturn Prop 8, an appellate court is designed to make sure that the Constitution protects fundamental rights—even if it is unpopular to do."

Participants will have an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for the chance to win a 36" flat-screen TV donated by the Monterey County Aids Project. The event also will feature face painting to help raise money. Signature rainbow hats with the six colors of the rainbow, a symbol of gay and lesbian pride, will be sold as well. Grateful for the sense of community he finds there, openly gay student, Joseph Belmont said, "As a person who feels there is always room for social change and growth, I am grateful to be part of an organization [like Out & About] which strives to positively affect the community here at CSUMB, as well as Monterey County in general."

Supporters of the club, such as De'Lante Johnson said, "Your voice matters, and [the club] shows that diversity is a part of life. It is good to be a part of something that is not hypocritical when it comes to appreciating diversity and encouraging students to be proud [of who they are]."

To learn more about equal marriage rights, visit Vote No on Prop 8 at www.noonprop8.com/. For those in opposition, visit www.protectmarriage.com/.

Be Aware, Be Smart: Sexual Assault and Awareness

Nicole Jones, Staff Reporter

In the United States, an average of 1.3 women are raped every 5.7 minutes, resulting in 78 rapes each hour, 1,872 rapes each day, 56,160 rapes each month, and 683,280 rapes a year. This comes down to the sobering fact that one out of every three women will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime.

The month of April has been designated as Sexual Assault Awareness month (SAAM). The goal of SAAM is to raise awareness about sexual assault and rape, and educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence.

On April 1, the CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Personal Growth and Counseling Center (PGCC) and the Monterey County Rape Crisis Center co-hosted a "Stop the Rape" event on the Main Quad. To help represent the individuals who reported rapes in the last year, every 5.7 minutes a white flag was posted in the ground. The California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CAL CASA), a statewide coalition of rape in the mid-coast area, had representation all over the region, including agencies De Mujeres from Santa Cruz, Community Solutions from Gilroy, and the YWCA of Silicon Valley. All participated in the vigil on different campuses from 7am to 7pm.

"By raising awareness on college campuses in the midcost region, our goal is to stop these numbers from growing. It's time to stand up against rape and its culture," said Tarah Fischer event planner of the Stop the Rape event. The Department of Justice states that one in five women will be the victim of attempted or actual sexual assault during their time spent in college. And 75 percent of the female students raped while in college suffer assault by someone they know, who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

"This is a problem [rape, date rape, sexual assault] that we are not immune to here at the University," said Gary Rodriguez of the Personal Growth and Counseling Center at CSUMB. "Inviting the Rape Crisis Center here brought the students and faculty more awareness of the importance of the issue. It's unfortunate that it takes bad things to happen for people to really understand."

There are many ways to become informed about sexual assault and many ways to prevent it. On campus, students can seek out the PGCC, where they have access to brochures and pamphlets to study the issue in detail. "We are here and available," Rodriguez said, "to provide individual and group counseling services free to students."

By working together and becoming informed by the various resources available during the month of April, communities can help and highlight the fact that sexual violence is a major issue while reinforcing the need for prevention.
Date: May 2nd, 2009
Location: University Ballroom (Building 29)
Time: 9pm–1am

Tickets sold at student center (Building 12)

Students- $10
Alumni- $15
Guests- $20

Live performance by the Heartbreak Kidz.

DJ Sy-ence spinning the hottest tracks all night long.

Ticket price includes Admission, Food, non alcoholic beverages, and a night of fun!!

Transportation provided for East Campus residents, continuous shuttle (antietam/ saratoga ct.)
Eyes Wide Open:
A New Form of Communication

Alexandra Poggiione, A&E Editor
ALEXANDRA_POGGIIONE@CSUMB.EDU

More than 450 pairs of orphaned shoes stood for their owners who could not stand for themselves. Although the majority of them were scuffed, black, military-issue boots, others belonged to much smaller feet, the unintended casualties of war. Row upon row and name after name, visitors walked through the exhibit, feeling the impact of each unique loss in their own way. The exhibition, brought to CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), is designed to show the public the human cost of war in graphic, tangible terms.

Titled “Eyes Wide Open: The Human Cost of War," this exhibition has traveled from state to state, collecting boots and other personal items from family and friends of those who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. “We used to travel with all the boots,” said Sandra Schwartz, Peace Education Coordinator for the AFSC. "When there got to be more than 4,000 casualties, it got too big, and we had to break it into states.”

Most of the boots on display at the exhibit were either donated or purchased from Army surplus stores. The originals lent by family have been returned, along with uniforms, dog tags and medals because they required too much care to preserve and maintain while on the road. Since 2004, the boots have traveled to more than 70 cities across the nation, with each destination contributing to the histories and tragedies accumulated throughout the past five years.

Founded in 1917 by Quakers, the AFSC actively promotes national peace. Together with Service Learning students from CSUMB and Youth Rights: Alternatives to Military Service, they hope to educate students and the public on what military service really means. Sophomore Brizely Orjuela, a Psychology major and Service Learning student said, “We just want to make sure [students] know the facts and aren’t going into a lie [through military service].”

Although the shoes serve as a constant reminder of the sacrifices made for the United States, information on countering military recruiters and anti-recruiting literature was available at a table behind the exhibit, a subtle plea for peace. Every pair of shoes, carefully placed and lovingly handled, has its own history waiting to be told. While walking a mile in these soldier’s shoes and experiencing their lives might not be possible, imagining their stories and seeing their absence could just make up for it.
Cochella:
The Desert’s Biggest Party

Bre’Aja Bruce, Staff Reporter
BreAja_Bruce@csUMB.edu

Once a year, great musicians from around the world meet in Southern California for a weekend music event like no other. Legends Paul McCartney, Morrissey and The Cure play alongside new phenomenons such as Atmosphere, Yeah Yeah Yeahs, and The Killers.

The Coachella Valley Music Festival is a music and arts event held annually in Indio, California on April 17-19. Music from all genres plays throughout the weekend from six different stages, and at night, the venue closes, and a campground located adjacent to the event is available for sleeping, making friends, and partying.

“I go every year. It’s amazing,” said junior Human Communications Major Andrew McHargue “You get to see all these bands, and just have an amazing weekend with thousands of people from all over. Everyone’s happy to be there, just like you; it’s all good vibes.”

Located in the desert, a little more than seven hours away from Monterey, Coachella serves as an oasis of music for those seeking sanctuary. Large art sculptures adorn the music lawns, and a DJ spins tunes on a huge dance floor under a sprinkler system that soaks the dancers in the often over-90 degree heat. All along the perimeter, large stages hold some of the day’s greatest performers, like M.I.A, Girl Talk, Lupe Fiasco, Public Enemy, Beirut and The Ting Tings.

This modern-day Woodstock presents more than 120 bands during the course of three days. Tickets are $269, plus an extra $55 for a weekend camping spot.

However, there are ways to help cut costs and have a great weekend. Carpooling is a good way to save money, along with bringing food and drinks. Coachella also has established a new recycling plan for campers. Anyone who brings 10 water bottles to recycle will receive a full bottle of water in return.

Coachella is constantly thinking of new ways to improve the Festival, by bringing in a wide variety of artists, both new and old, and allowing a laid-back atmosphere for more than 30,000 attendees. Tickets are still on sale for this year’s festival.

For more information, visit www.coachella.com for a full list of performers, pictures and event info.
Teens Find 5-Minutes of Spotlight

Lucas Anthony, Staff Reporter
LUCAS_ANTHONY@CSUMB.EDU

Most people are eager for their 15 minutes of fame. Whether it is a clip on the news or a picture in the newspaper, teenagers relish the idea of others recognizing their excellence.

Although many people never receive such an opportunity, teens will be given this chance for recognition on April 19 at the CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Teledramatic Arts and Technology’s (TAT) first-ever Monterey Bay Teen Film Festival, held on campus at the World Theater.

With more than 150 entries from as far north as Marin County and as far south as San Diego, the Festival’s original March 15 deadline was extended to March 31 to accommodate films still pouring in.

“Initially, we wanted to start workshops with local teens and TAT students, to have a larger impact on community with service learning and film,” said Assistant TAT Professor Enid Blader. “We decided to create a festival so teen students could produce work and have it shown on campus in a professional environment with the opportunity to publically screen what they made.”

As part of Blader’s fall ’08 Service Learning class, students formed groups to venture into the community and teach filmmaking to students at Salinas Community School, Boronda School, Wellington Smith Jr. School at Juvenile Hall and the Seaside Boys and Girls Club. As a result of each a film, Blader’s class had a public screening in the TAT studio and invited people from campus and the wider community to attend.

“The goal was to build community, both of CSUMB and the larger community and also to provide a learning experience for my students,” said Blader. “It’s exciting because it is this idea that has taken on its own life and grown into a much larger event.”

At 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 19, five-minute films, ranging in categories from music video to animation, experimental, narrative and documentary, will fill the screen inside CSUMB’s World Theater.

According to Blader, there will be approximately 20 films, totaling 90 minutes. An online festival, depicting films which did not fit into the flow of the World Theater presentation, also will be presented at a subsequent reception in building 27.

On April 3, students curated the final programs, deciding which films will appear in the World Theater and online showcases.

Once notifications are sent to entrants, surprise judges, well known in the film community, will decide who takes first place in each of the five categories. A door prize also will be awarded to the first 100 teens to enter the festival screening.

If all goes as planned, Blader said she hopes to make the Monterey Bay Teen Film Festival an annual event.

The coveted 15-minutes of fame might be out of reach for most, but for teenagers, the Monterey Bay Teen Film Festival is making at least five-minutes in the spotlight a reality.

Celebrating Youth, Celebrating Art

Berenice Rosillo, Staff Reporter
BERENICE_ROSILLO@CSUMB.EDU

The historical buildings and stories of Old Town Salinas were not the only cause for spectacle and celebration on March 28. The crowd that formed downtown on a windy Saturday was there to witness ArtSong, the annual festival showcasing local teen artists of the community.

ArtSong Director Trish Triumpho Sullivan, CSU Monterey Bay alum 02’, helped local teen volunteers put on the annual art festival of the youth, for the youth and by the youth in Old town Salinas. Due to Sullivan extensive background, experience and education in art, she was inspired to create an environment for artists of various backgrounds to gather on a year round basis. She organized Artistas Unidos – Artists United (AUAU), in 2001, a multicultural community arts organization in Salinas that fulfills the desire of local artists, educators, students and community members to have an inclusive venue for all artists to create, display, and perform their work.

With AUAU, Sullivan has been able to encourage community participation and teen involvement with programs such as ArtSong, ArtSong Youth Arts Festival, and First Fridays. Sullivan said, “We want to show acknowledgment to the teens for the positive things they do, not only for the negative and bad things that are heard in Salinas. We want to show them that there are people who support and care for them.”

This year, the Festival presented more than 2,500 students and visual and performing artists from the Monterey Bay area. More than a dozen performances filled the streets, including rock bands and Aztec, belly, and interpretive dancers. Six creation stations were staged in various spots of the 100 block area of Main Street in Salinas. Attendees were able to make hats and bracelets, have their faces painted, draw on sidewalks, and create spray-paint murals. The spray-paint station seemed the most popular; participants were able to “graffiti” 5 by 10-foot tarps with their own creations.

Throughout the day-long festival, theater and spoken word could be heard and art display seen in the Cherry Bean Coffeehouse. Other displays were held at, Rolick’s Coffeehouse, Gregory Arts, The National Steinbeck Center, and the Hartnell College Gallery. Art at the Hartnell College Gallery will continue to be on display until April 15 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

First time high school volunteer Sarah Carlisle said, “The day was slow, but it was definitely worth it. Everyone seemed to have a good time.”
Lula Washington Dance Company

Lauren Scholz, Staff Reporter

She tells the story in her gesture, its emotions in her expression. She gives it significance through the power of her body, gives it context through her gender, her race, her music. She is Lula Washington, reportedly one of the most dynamic choreographers of African American dance.

On April 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) World Theater the Lula Washington Dance Theatre (LWDT), from Los Angeles, will be providing the community with high-energy dancing, entertaining choreography, and a taste of the African-American contemporary dance for which the company is renowned.

Considered the soul of LWDT, Lula Washington intertwines social action awareness within her dances, creating compositions about homelessness, the 9/11 tragedy, police brutality, the civil rights movement and the Underground Railroad. Washington's versatility extends beyond her dance company, as evidenced by her choreography for the fish in Disney's "The Little Mermaid" and the alien creatures in the James Cameron film, "Avatar."

After graduating from the UCLA Dance School, Washington went on to create her own dance school. She provided low-cost and free dance classes to local children through an after school program called, "I Do Dance, Not Drugs!" In creating LWDT, Washington designed the non-profit organization as an artistic outlet for young dancers. Included in the LWDT mission statement, they strive to build a world-class, professional, contemporary modern dance company in South Los Angeles that reflects the many aspects of African-American culture and history.

Recently, in 2007, Washington was awarded the Lula National Education Association Carter G. Woodson award for her work in dance. Also, Washington is the winner of the 2004 Minerva Award, presented by California's First Lady Maria Shriver, and the Educator of the Year Award from the Music Center's Professional Artists in Schools Association.

Recently she was featured on the season finale of the hit MTV show America’s Best Dance Crew. The LWDT has performed nationwide, earning high honors from The New York Times, The Washington Post, and The Los Angeles Times.

This show will provide the CSUMB World Theater advocates a new and exciting culture filled show about African American dance.

"The company is unique -- an original. It is a mainly African-American company, but, its appeal is universal. Audiences like the magnificent dancing, the physicality of the work, and the subjects that we explore," said Co-Founder/Executive Director Erwin Washington. Not only will the stage be lightning up by the performance of the LWDT, but most likely the audience’s faces as well.
ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE:

"Take me out to the ballgame. Take me out with the crowd. Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks. I don't care if I never come back." Popular enough to warrant a theme song, and known as America's favorite pastime, baseball continues to delight sports fans. At CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB), the love for baseball continues, and athletes on the men's team show it through their enthusiasm and abilities.

One such athlete who has proved his worth, especially by setting a new CSUMB record of a 14-game hitting streak, is senior and Integrated Studies major, Steve Mays. This season, his second playing for CSUMB, Mays enjoys the "camaraderie, being out there every day, and battling through together."

Having played baseball since he "could walk," Mays can thank his parents for starting him in Little League, along with Pop Warner football and basketball. However, with his passion for baseball and the years of experience behind him, Mays has enjoyed the particular sport he chose to pursue.

"[My biggest accomplishment] was winning State at high school," Mays said. "[At CSUMB], it was beating San Diego last year." Not only did he enjoy the defeat of San Diego, but he also favors playing against Sonoma State University. For Mays, playing against Sonoma is a "friendly rival."

The major difference in being on the CSUMB baseball team, compared to others Mays has experienced, is the professional hitting coach, Rich Aldrete. "He has been there," Mays said. "He's played where we want to go. Most teams don't have that, and we are lucky to have it here."

Watching and admiring players like Manny Ramirez and Jason Bay, Mays models himself after Mark Derosa. Although Derosa may not be a superstar, he is a "utility guy," which Mays values over stardom.

After college ends, Mays hopes to join the ranks of the professionals and possibly play for the Rockies, Reds or Royals. For the remainder of the season, Mays will continue to be thankful for the opportunity to play, "have confidence and believe," he says, "in himself."

STEVE MAYS:
#24 OUTFIELD/INFIELD AVERAGE: .281 AT BAT: 135 RUNS: 18 HITS: 38 HOME RUNS: 3 RBI: 23

"Take me out to the ballgame. Take me out with the crowd. Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks. I don't care if I never come back." Popular enough to warrant a theme song, and known as America's favorite pastime, baseball continues to delight sports fans. At CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB), the love for baseball continues, and athletes on the men's team show it through their enthusiasm and abilities.

One such athlete who has proved his worth, especially by setting a new CSUMB record of a 14-game hitting streak, is senior and Integrated Studies major, Steve Mays. This season, his second playing for CSUMB, Mays enjoys the "camaraderie, being out there every day, and battling through together."

Having played baseball since he "could walk," Mays can thank his parents for starting him in Little League, along with Pop Warner football and basketball. However, with his passion for baseball and the years of experience behind him, Mays has enjoyed the particular sport he chose to pursue.

"[My biggest accomplishment] was winning State at high school," Mays said. "[At CSUMB], it was beating San Diego last year." Not only did he enjoy the defeat of San Diego, but he also favors playing against Sonoma State University. For Mays, playing against Sonoma is a "friendly rival."

The major difference in being on the CSUMB baseball team, compared to others Mays has experienced, is the professional hitting coach, Rich Aldrete. "He has been there," Mays said. "He's played where we want to go. Most teams don't have that, and we are lucky to have it here."

Watching and admiring players like Manny Ramirez and Jason Bay, Mays models himself after Mark Derosa. Although Derosa may not be a superstar, he is a "utility guy," which Mays values over stardom.

After college ends, Mays hopes to join the ranks of the professionals and possibly play for the Rockies, Reds or Royals. For the remainder of the season, Mays will continue to be thankful for the opportunity to play, "have confidence and believe," he says, "in himself."

STEVE MAYS:
#24 OUTFIELD/INFIELD AVERAGE: .281 AT BAT: 135 RUNS: 18 HITS: 38 HOME RUNS: 3 RBI: 23

Otters At Play

Men's Baseball
4/17 vs. San Francisco State University
4/18 @ San Francisco State University
4/19 vs. San Francisco State University

Women's Softball
4/10 vs. Chico State DH
4/11 vs. Chico State DH
4/17 @ CSU Stanislaus DH
4/18 @ CSU Stanislaus DH
4/19 vs. Grand Canyon University DH

Women's Golf
4/20-21 NDU Lady Argo West Coast Invitational @ Roddy Ranch GC

Sailing
4/11 Coed Dinghy PCCSC Champs @ St. Francis YC

Women's Water Polo
4/11 vs. UC Santa Cruz

Men's Golf
4/13-14 Hanny Stanislaus Invitational @ Turlock CC
4/20-21 CCAA Championships @ Hunter Ranch GC

Women's Volleyball
4/11 CUSMB Spring Volleyball Tournament
4/18 Notre Dame De Namur Tournament

**DH denotes Double Header

otters At Play

Men's Baseball
4/17 vs. San Francisco State University
4/18 @ San Francisco State University
4/19 vs. San Francisco State University

Women's Softball
4/10 vs. Chico State DH
4/11 vs. Chico State DH
4/17 @ CSU Stanislaus DH
4/18 @ CSU Stanislaus DH
4/19 vs. Grand Canyon University DH

Women's Golf
4/20-21 NDU Lady Argo West Coast Invitational @ Roddy Ranch GC

Sailing
4/11 Coed Dinghy PCCSC Champs @ St. Francis YC

Women's Water Polo
4/11 vs. UC Santa Cruz

Men's Golf
4/13-14 Hanny Stanislaus Invitational @ Turlock CC
4/20-21 CCAA Championships @ Hunter Ranch GC

Women's Volleyball
4/11 CUSMB Spring Volleyball Tournament
4/18 Notre Dame De Namur Tournament

**DH denotes Double Header

California State University Monterey Bay

Get Involved!

Men's Baseball
4/17 vs. San Francisco State University
4/18 @ San Francisco State University
4/19 vs. San Francisco State University

Women's Softball
4/10 vs. Chico State DH
4/11 vs. Chico State DH
4/17 @ CSU Stanislaus DH
4/18 @ CSU Stanislaus DH
4/19 vs. Grand Canyon University DH

Women's Golf
4/20-21 NDU Lady Argo West Coast Invitational @ Roddy Ranch GC

Sailing
4/11 Coed Dinghy PCCSC Champs @ St. Francis YC

Women's Water Polo
4/11 vs. UC Santa Cruz

Men's Golf
4/13-14 Hanny Stanislaus Invitational @ Turlock CC
4/20-21 CCAA Championships @ Hunter Ranch GC

Women's Volleyball
4/11 CUSMB Spring Volleyball Tournament
4/18 Notre Dame De Namur Tournament

**DH denotes Double Header

SPORTS

14 | Otter Realm-Sports | April 9, 2009-April 22, 2009 | www.otterrealm.net
The day is a picture of natural elements aligned in near perfection for an outdoor activity. The sun is up, and clouds, off in the distance, offer no sign of eruption, while friends are scheduled to meet soon for an early-morning departure. This new excursion is building fear among participants: it is an opportunity to examine and discover new possibilities. Climbing today will be an adventure previously limited to healthy climbers, climbers without disabilities.

Thanks to Paradox Sports, a nationwide organization led by Dennis "DJ" Skelton, and founded in 2007 by professional climber, Timmy O'Neill is changing the landscape for the disabled community. With help from new adaptive technologies and some dedicated individuals, new outdoor possibilities are opening to the disabled. Skelton, who lives on the Monterey Peninsula, is determined to help the disabled community get outside and live the sports they love or miss.

Paradox Sports has vision to involve just about anyone, regardless of background or ability, into human powered outdoor sports. Such as climbing, surfing, and kayaking. The organization is not only for those born with disabilities, but is also for those who without warning, become disabled. "Outdoors is uncontrollable," said DJ, "but it's something positive for the psychology of healing. It speeds up recovery, reduces stress, and instills self sufficiency."

This recovery system is not foreign to Skelton. In November 2004 while serving in Iraq, he lost his left eye, the roof of his mouth and his upper jaw. He also lost the use of his left arm while simultaneously injuring his leg. He awoke after the accident unsure if everything would be OK. After his recovery, he realized that the United States Armed Forces categorizes disabled vets and sets them apart. In pushing to advance the causes of wounded vets, he wrote, Our Hero, a comprehensive guide for wounded service members.

Skelton’s story tells of being in Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. during recovery and talking to another wounded service member who had lost both legs. The patient later heard that Skelton was still climbing and wanted to do so, as well. Climbing was something this man did before being wounded and mourned, afterwards. Skelton did not want to let him down, so with a little help from others, they worked it out. Before long, other wounded patients became and Paradox Sports was born.

Today Skelton and Paradox Sports are still figuring out new ways to get the disabled community participating in sports, whether untried or sorely missed. Because he thrives on helping the community, Skelton is hosting a fundraising dinner this month to fetch money for new advances in adaptive technologies. The event, titled, "Paradox On The Peninsula," will be held at Sanctuary Rock Gym in Sand City on April 18. For more information on the dinner and party to follow, explore ParadoxSports.com. "Life," said Skelton, "does not have to be second rate."
Another weekend in Monterey Bay area is approaching and some CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students are still unaware of all the outdoor activities available through Adventure Connections.

With only a few weeks left of school, there are still places to go, things to do and fun to be had.

Not only is spring a great time to get outside and enjoy nature, but the season also presents students with many options for adventure. Along with Associated Students, Adventure Connections is heading out on an overnight trip to Yosemite.

For students who have not actually seen this Californian attraction, now is the time, and for only $20. "Yosemite Valley is such an amazing place, that we want our students to have the chance to experience it," said Cynthia D'Vincent, director of Boating and Outdoor Recreation. "Whether you’re after spectacular hiking or just relaxing in paradise, this trip will reinvigorate you just in time for finals."

The group of 30 will head out at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 24, and return late Saturday night. Students will stay at a rustic mountain retreat called, “The Bug.” The $20 includes transportation, bedding, food and guided tours. Event coordinators ask only that students bring their own towel.

The tours will take groups to experience fresh pools, waterfalls and hikes through the park to witness the wonders of the Yosemite Valley. Students choosing to stay in the Valley can hang back and relax in the sauna or enjoy the spring wildflowers.

Signups for the Yosemite trip are on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested students should head to Adventure Connections in Building 93, but be aware; there are only 30 spots available.

Besides the Yosemite trip, Adventure Connections has many other activities on campus. Anything from bikes to camping equipment, kayaks and scuba gear can be checked out in Building 93.

Adventure Connections also provides weekly hikes all around the CSUMB area on Fridays, plus bike rides on Wednesdays. "CSUMB is located in one of the most beautiful places on earth, yet many students rarely leave campus," said D'Vincent. "Adventure Connections provides opportunities for discovery so students can return on their own for further exploration."

For more info on rentals head to www.csumb.edu/adventures.
Gliding across the ocean, sensing the subtle slip of water underneath the board, and getting a clear view of the sea life below the surface. These are the sensations one might experience while participating in stand-up paddle boarding (SUP) across Monterey Bay. The concept is simple – stand on a long board and paddle with a fiberglass paddle, but the experience is surreal.

SUP has roots in Polynesia. Its popularity has risen since pro surfers, such as Laird Hamilton have taken to the sport. Locally, stand-up paddle boarding has been increasing in the Monterey and Santa Cruz areas. Some of the best places to SUP are Asilomar Beach, Pebble Beach and from Fisherman’s Wharf to the Aquarium. On any given day, paddlers can expect to see “harbor seals, sea lions, kelp forests, otters and occasionally dolphins,” said Monterey Bay Kayak tour guide Noel Martin.

SUP is a unique and fun way to look into ocean life because, said Martin, "You’re higher up [and] you can see down into the water better.” Inside the harbor, near Fisherman’s Wharf, jellyfish, starfish and shore birds can be spotted from a standing view on the board. “On a clear day, you can see pretty deep, so it’s kind of like SCUBA diving.” said On The Beach Surf Shop owner Kelly Sorenson.

The fitness aspect of SUP is another great benefit of this activity. “It’s great exercise and is good core strength and balance practice,” said Martin. “It takes great balance and strength to stand on the board and paddle, all while being fun and a great sightseeing opportunity.” Sorenson agrees. “You’re actually getting fit, getting exercise, and you’re on the water.”

Three places in Monterey rent SUP equipment daily. Monterey Bay Kayaks, located at 693 Del Monte Avenue, rents the board, paddle and wetsuit at $20 for two hours. They currently have four boards available. Adventures By The Sea, located at 299 Cannery Row, rents the board, paddle and wetsuit at $30 for two hours. On The Beach Surf Shop (OTB) located at 693 Lighthouse Avenue, rents the board and paddle at $30 for a half day, or $60 for a full day. Starting in May, OTB will be offering free demos one Saturday a month. Call the shop at (831) 646-WAVE, for specific details.

With the warm weather, now is a great time to try this emerging water sport. And whether participants decide to paddle on smooth water or ride the waves, “Every time,” said Sorenson, “it’s an adventure.”

YOU’RE ACTUALLY GETTING FIT, GETTING EXERCISE, AND YOU’RE ON THE WATER.

KELLY SORENSON

Elizabeth Breault, Staff Reporter
ELIZABETH_BREALUT@CSUMB.Edu
We have the utmost expectations for advanced education. Even in second grade, we got the jitters about getting a good grade on our spelling test, getting cooties from Tommy in music class, and how to give Mrs. Smith her daily apple.

School may look a lot different now for second graders if the proposed educational budget cuts are implemented. Schools may no longer have enough paper to issue a spelling test, they may no longer have the extra-curricular activities known to inspire creative expression and critical thought, such as music or P.E. And Mrs. Smith, a first-year teacher, no longer will have a job.

Education should be the last place to ransom funds for a failing economy. Ironically, education is a way to a brighter future and an improved economy. Due to budget cuts, we are laying off teachers and not giving remaining teachers the salaries they deserve. This makes me think back upon the teachers I have had in my life, and the inspiration and life experiences they gave me. If it weren’t for my high school English teacher, I would not have learned how to use punctuation properly or quote correctly. Without my second-grade teacher, I would never have enjoyed one of the best show-and-tell moments, when I was able to bring in my dog. I still need my college professors, who keep pushing me to make the most of constructive criticism to improve my work.

Without these teachers, there might be jobs but no professions. These champions of education should not have to face issues, such as whether or not they will have a job next year, if they will be able to provide for their family, and how to provide the best education possible without the means to do so. Teachers are the future of the students, and the students are the future of our state, our country, our world.

If, for every dollar the State puts into the California State University (CSU) System, they get $4.41 back, then why do they keep cutting our education? It seems every year tuition goes up, but the educational product is cut. We have fewer classes and fewer professors. The State must not realize what an important role the CSU system plays in the economy and our future.

As college students, we should campaign together for the importance of education. We should do it for ourselves. And the teachers who deserve better. And the second grader, who should just worry about having fun, being creative and learning to spell - not whether a good education is even possible.

### Otterations: Student Submissions of Creative Works

**Budget Cuts Make Me Angry**

Caitlyn Johnson, Managing Editor  
Caitlyn.Johnson@CSUMB.edu

The security guards keep eyeing me; I grasp my purse and hope it is not searched. I show my ticket and proceed down the long, dimmed hallway to the double doors. I’ve made it. I find a seat close to the back, and in relief, pull out my barbequed potato chips, bottled water and fruit snacks.

“No outside food or drinks,” at the movies has been in effect since I can remember. However, with tickets at $10 a person, film aficionados have to choose between forgoing the film or judgling a little on the rules just to afford the function.

Like me, many do the same and take their own snacks and beverages to the movies. Some people are more daring than others. How my friend snuck in KFC filling the theater with the fried chicken aroma without anyone noticing, I have no clue. I say be slick and keep it simple. Don’t get caught like my aunt who dropped two cans of soda, which rolled in opposite directions on the crowded lobby floor.

Some use even less honest strategies to save money. I know people who save their large popcorn bags for future movie outings so they only have to pay the 50-cent refill fee. Ever notice how when you pay with a debit or credit card, the receipt is printed on a ticket?

When purchasing multiple tickets, some buy one less than the amount of people in the group, and add in the receipt at the entrance. I’m too chicken to try this, and I’m certainly not advocating it, but I’ve heard it works.

And don’t forget the ever-popular movie hopping. You finish one movie and, on your way out, you notice the theater next door is showing another intriguing film in just a few minutes, so you slip inside. What’s another hour and a half out of the day if it’s free?

For those who understand karma but still want to save cash, there is always the matinee. Movies before 6 p.m. on weekdays, and 2 p.m. on weekends and holidays, cost only $6.75 at the Century Cinemas in Del Monte Shopping Center, Monterey. Ever heard of the early bird matinee? Viewing the first showing of a film at Century Cinemas is even cheaper than the regular matinee, costing just $5.50 per person.

I, myself, take advantage of these earlier and cheaper films. It’s nice walking out of the theater and seeing there’s still day left. I also don’t go through the paranoia of getting busted with contraband since I have just enough money left for a small popcorn and drink.

### How to Enjoy Movies Again

Monica Guzman, News Editor  
Monica.Guzman@CSUMB.edu

Break Free to Another Paradigm

**Poem by**  
Marinell Bautista

i wish to live in a world  
without walls  
where i can swiftly breathe  
the wind that blows  
not in this room  
filled with smoke  
that stifles and  
ruthlessly chokes  
the grousing tears  
of my constraints  
a cruel world  
that kills content.

forever i yearn  
to touch the sky  
to spread my  
sheltered wings up high  
to soar above the ground  
to seize my reality's sounds  
that echo reflections  
of a silent embrace

Submit a poem, picture or song lyrics to  
Otter_Realm@CSUMB.edu
om·buds [äm-bu-dz]
1. One who investigates reported complaints (as from students or consumers), reports findings and helps to achieve equitable settlements.

April Greetings, Otters!
Are you aware? Or do you just think you are? That is a question I truly want you to ask yourself this month. Perhaps you are probably wondering what there is to be aware of. The answer is sexual assault. Most students have an idea of what it is but don’t necessarily know it is something that should never ever be taken lightly. As a person who has had many friends sexually assaulted by loved ones and even so-called friends, I can’t stress enough how important it is to be knowledgeable about what is cool and what is NOT cool.

Know the line where respect ends and disrespect begins. Know how to let another person know when they are making you uncomfortable or feel unsafe. Never once should that be compromised on behalf of someone else. As important as it is to be aware of boundaries, it is just as important to be the support system for a friend who has experienced assault. In those instances, I have learned there are no golden words to give; simply be there. This can mean just listening or making a friend feel encouraged or empowered. Give it your best; that’s all you have to offer. Check out the story in this issue about sexual assault. Learn something new because sexual assault can happen to anyone. Be aware and stay aware; I’ll write to you all again in two weeks.
Sincerely,
Lauren Owens, Staff Reporter

P.S. Please remember that all opinions, whether complimentary or constructive criticism, are always accepted and appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you!

EDITORIAL POLICY
The Otter Realm is a bi-weekly student publication produced by the Otter Realm club and HCOM 389. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Otter Realm, CSUMB administration, faculty, staff or college policy.

The Otter Realm serves two purposes: It is a training lab for students who wish to develop journalism skills, and it is a forum for free expression of campus issues and news. The Otter Realm Editorial Board will determine what to print on these pages. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for libel, space or clarity.

OTTER OOPS
~ Photo credit on page 16 for CSUMB Baseball should be Benjamin Mayberry

If you Google the words “kama sutra,” you will encounter more than 14 million results, telling you how to tickle more than just your fancy. Most people believe the Kama Sutra is just a guide to kink up your sex life; in fact, it’s an entire guide to living.

The Kama Sutra is a small portion of a much larger work detailing the facts of ancient Indian life. Though the sections about sex take up most of the book, it also includes instructions on preparing for marriage, buying the couple’s first house, and arranging furniture in a way to maximize the pair’s new Kama Sutra-filled life together. Also, the book mentions how to maintain a harem for the busy man-about-town, as well as directions for running a “modern” Indian household.

Sure, the Kama Sutra does have some sex positions—27 to be exact—but many are more common than you might think. If you have ever done it up against the wall, you have participated in sammukha, or “face-to-face.” If you have ever knelted between her legs while she hooked her heels around your thighs or hips, you have performed the maamathriye or “dear to Cupid.” Most of the listed positions likely exist in the experienced couple’s repertoire, so it might be fun to read them all to see what you have already accomplished.

Besides the sexy contortions of the Sutra, the text offers details on kissing, biting, using your fingernails and even performing oral sex. Vatsayayana, the author of the Kama Sutra, said any place which can be kissed can be bitten, so go and make your mark...just make sure you have permission before trying anything new. If using your hands is more your style, you can learn about different areas of the body where making a trail of half-moons (fingernail indentations) will help incite lust from your partner.

When you both have finished your horizontal belly dance, the chapter on beginning and ending congress offers some helpful ideas; that is, assuming you have servants and honey-scented wine available. Perhaps Vatsayayana’s most pertinent suggestion comes at the very end, when he says, “Let her lie in your lap, with her face turned up to the moon, point out Polaris and the Morning Star...and tell her all the stories of the night sky.” I can almost guarantee this will make her want to wiggle her hips and provide a perfect ending to your Kama Sutra-fied evening.
Person on Campus

What changes would you like to see with the new DC?

“More seating and I miss the pasta, it was so good.”
-Amanda Lyons, Sophomore, VPA

“They have the same food every day and the juices in the machines have a lot of sugar and it’s not very healthy.”
-Darrell Collins, Junior, HCOM

“The taco place is only open on weekdays. It should be open on weekends.”
-Janelle Blaine, Freshman, KIN

“More tofu and more vegetarian food.”
-Amanda Lyons, Sophomore, VPA

“There needs to be more options of food available.”
-Joe Rosa, Freshman, BUS

OR Post Secret
Log in to orpostsecret@yahoo.com
Password: hotterrotter
Send your secrets to the same account

If I wasn’t doing what I’m doing, I would move to Nashville, Tennessee and try to make it in the country music industry.

I decided to get back at her by being straight.

I’m a cliche. I’ve never been kissed.
I turn 27 this year.

I wish he went to CSUMB so he could have read my Post Secret that was in the Otter Realm two months ago, then maybe things would be different.