



OR
[otter realm]

HONORING
ORD HISTORY

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Love the Life You Live

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The next two weeks will be filled with demands and expectations we have been dreading since the first day of the semester. It is crunch time. A time when our near-professional procrastination has finally caught up with us. As the Fall 2009 semester comes to a close, and I, too, feel swamped by what I need to get done, I can't help but reflect on what I have learned in such a short period of time, both my personal and academic lives. Allow me to share some of the highlights and lessons with you.

As a CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) senior, the word capstone still sends a shiver down my spine. Perhaps yours, too. The advice I have is choose a topic you enjoy and/or are passionate about. You will spend a lot of time with this one topic. You will re-visit, research, sweat and sniffle over this topic. It is not to be taken lightly. I know I sound like your professor, but seriously, I know. My days, hours and minutes have been consumed with, "Is It Wise to Mortgage California's Future? The Consequences of Budget Cuts on Education." If I wasn't passionate about it before, I am now.

Out with the negative and in with the positive. I have spent long nights fretting about the unnecessary. The one person who constantly lies and causes pain in my life and in the lives of the ones I love has ransomed too

much of my time, when I could be investing it in someone or something of value. Is it really worth it? That one bad grade on a midterm. Did it really matter? These are things we should not stress about but instead, make the decision to move on to the bright side. I have spent too much negative energy this semester and not generated enough positive energy for the important parts of my life. So I say, here is to a positive Spring 2010 semester.

Most importantly, I've learned to love the life I live. Absorb the school you attend, and find your niche. Let go of the side of the pool and get out there and swim. Tell your loved ones how much they mean to you. Think about who your heroes are and how you may be a hero, yourself. Try to find that perfect balance in life, as difficult as it may be. Becoming an adult isn't all that bad. After all, it's going to hit you, head on, whether you are ready or not so jump at the chance to make the most of it.

Thank you for riding along with me and the Otter Realm this semester, and for taking in your own life's lessons as the semester unfolds. I look forward to returning next semester to share my thoughts and experiences while the news staff works too inform, educate and entertain you this Spring 2010.

WHAT YOU OTTER DO! GOT AN EVENT? LET US KNOW!
OTTER_REALM@CSUMB.EDU

DEC 3 - JAN 2010

THURS 12/3
THE STORY OF BRAZILIAN SAMBA
UC MIDDLE CONFERENCE ROOM
7 P.M. - 9 P.M.

A one hour and fifteen minute performance by master Brazilian musician Jorge Alabe and his group Samba Rio. (See jorgealabe.com) Various styles of Brazilian music and dance will be performed and explained, including Candomble, samba de roda, pagode, and batucada. Each of the styles chosen represents a stage in the development of samba and/or a different setting in which samba is played.

FRI 12/4
BASKETBALL TIP-OFF TAILGATE
OTTER SPORTS CENTER
4 P.M. - 7 P.M.

Come out and support our Men's and Women's basketball teams as they begin CCAA conference play. The Otters will be taking on CSU Stanislaus. Before the games come out to the gym and enjoy a tailgate BBQ, with free food, and an ongoing raffle. Women's tip-off is at 5:30PM and Men's tip-off is at 7:30PM. This event is brought to you by the Student Athletic Advisory Committee.

SUN 12/6
BLACK STUDENTS UNITED COMMUNITY TEA
UNIVERSITY CENTER LIVING ROOM
2 P.M. - 5 P.M.

Annual event bringing the outside community to the CSUMB community while discussing issues pertaining to the Black populations of both communities.

WED 12/9
TAPS MEDIA ARTS PRESENTATION
UNIVERSITY CENTER BALLROOM
7 P.M. - 10 P.M.

Media Arts Club presents TAPS: an annual media arts presentation put on by students at CSUMB. All the work shown is made by students throughout the semester.

FRI-SAT 12/11-12
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES A CHRISTMAS CAROL RADIO DRAMA
WORLD THEATER
7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

The Charles Dickens classic story produced as a live radio drama, featuring Actor's Equity guest artist, Paul Myrvold in the lead role of Ebenezer Scrooge. Performed with live sound effects, music and multi-media makes this radio stage drama a must see for all ages. FREE PARKING For tickets and information: 831-582-4580

TUE 12/18
EGGS AFTER DARK
DINING COMMONS
9 P.M. - 12:05 A.M.

Annual midnight breakfast - Eggs After Dark - for students, staff and faculty. Join us for free breakfast after dark! Entertainment, prizes and much, much more!

FOR MORE EVENTS, VISIT THE CSUMB MASTER CALENDAR ONLINE @ WWW.CALENDAR.CSUMB.EDU

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NEWS

Got Stress: Get the Cure

Nobia Monsauret, Special Reporter
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'Tis the season to be stressed. But it doesn't have to be. Bring your notebooks, test dates, syllabi and assignment sheets and to the Center for Student Success (CSS), a new resource for students that opened its doors this fall.

Stressed out students can sit down with one of the CSS Peer Mentors, who will help them get organized, plan and execute a final exam strategy to help beat the end of the semester stress and encourage success. Drop-in hours are available from Dec. 1 through Dec. 4 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Students reportedly leave their Success appointments feeling more prepared to take on finals, finish projects and wrap up those final papers. As their gift, each student takes home a "Test Survival Kit."

Feeling overwhelmed is part of the college experience, but it does not have to dictate how successful the semester ends. "Once students get connected academically and socially," said Center Director Dr. Leslie Carson, "then their level of engagement and motivation tends to increase, resulting in success."

The Center seeks to serve as a resource for incoming and continuing students, to facilitate student-to-student interaction and student involvement, and increase overall academic engagement through success workshops, peer mentoring, networking with CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Alumni, community leadership opportunities

and CSUMB events information. It exists as a collaborative partner with other campus units that address issues that have an impact on student development and achievement.

Wednesday, Oct. 28, the Center put on a Stress Management Fair, featuring stations focused on stress management activities and "Finishing Strong," the theme of this year's event.

Students in attendance received instruction on time management and ending procrastination, healthy eating, and ways music helps to relieve stress. They participated in learning relaxation techniques, such as breathing exercises and yoga positions; other stations offered de-stressing crafts for taking time to play. Students also participated in planting California Poppies, a donation from the Return of the Natives greenhouse, in the native planter between the Student Center and dorms as a metaphor for "Planting for Success" while beautifying the campus.

To stay informed on upcoming events like this and other Success Workshops, such as "Beat Test Stress" students can join the CSS group on My Messaging; or Facebook Groups @ CSUMB-Center for Student Success. They also can e-mail CSS at csumb.css@gmail.com.



The Center for Student Success team

PHOTO PROVIDED BY NOBIA MONSAURET

Location: Second Floor
Tanimura & Antle Family Memorial Library
Suite 2163
Hours: 8a.m.-5p.m. Mon-Fri
Phone: (831)582-3615

Traffic Tragedy

David de Grassi, Staff Reporter
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On Thursday, Nov. 12, a pedestrian walking in the far right lane of northbound Highway One was struck by a vehicle at approximately 8:25 p.m. The individual, who was later identified as Seaside resident David Armstrong, 50, was walking just north of Lightfighter, near the highway exit, at the time of the accident.

Armstrong was struck by an unknown vehicle that fled the scene north toward Marina. Police closed lanes on northbound Highway One until 11:40 p.m. Thursday, as an early investigation was conducted. The victim was determined deceased by emergency medical personnel.

After the initial impact, at least 12 other vehicles ran over the body, reported Central Coast News. An examination at the coroner's office revealed the victim's gender and identity, and determined the cause of death as a result of multiple blunt-force injuries.



Commander Earl Lawson of CSUMB's University Police Department (UPD) advises pedestrians to be aware of their surroundings, avoid wearing headphones that prevent hearing vehicles, to wear bright colors and bring a flash light. "It is especially important this time of year, when it gets dark earlier," Lawson said. "If you jog, run, [or] walk at night on a regular basis, consider purchasing some reflective items [such as a] belt or vest."

The accident is currently being called a hit and run, by authorities. The investigation is not yet closed, and anyone with information relating to the history of the victim, the suspected vehicle or the driver, is encouraged to contact the California Highway Patrol, at (831)796-2160.

OR

Citizens for Sustainable Marina: A Resilient Community

Jordan Walsh, Staff Reporter
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Global warming. 9/11. Bail out. Evacuees. Surge. Tsunami. Climate change. Bin Laden. Obama. All-Time Low. The Global Language Monitor declares these words and phrases the most popular of this decade. The country demonstrated fear about the effects the Millennium might have on computers and databases. But as 1999 became 2000, people began to realize it was merely superstition and, perhaps, a great way to make money.

As the planet grows older and nearly 10 years wiser, it has come to the attention of, not only the country, but the world, that there are far more serious problems its inhabitants must face. People from Monterey County, who are looking to get involved in the local community, might consider Citizens for Sustainable Monterey County (CSMC), a non-profit organization with mission toward building a satisfying, sustainable, and resilient community that meets the challenge of Peak Oil and Climate Change, is looking for volunteers.

CSMC sponsors several local sustainability groups, including: Big Sur, Monterey, Carmel, Marina, Pacific Grove, Salinas and Seaside. Luana Conley, spokesperson for the Marina group said, "We are working on several projects and would love student input."

CSMC is working toward the ban of Styrofoam, the development of food waste management, implementation of community gardens into schools, and many more issues in the community.

A potluck is being held on Dec. 14 in the Marina Library to celebrate the holidays and educate the citizens of Marina about what they can do to better their local environment. "We are all about bringing people from diverse political view points and backgrounds," said Conley. "We are here to save the environment, and that's something we have to do together."

Monday, Jan. 11 CSMC will host a public program at 7 p.m.



PHOTO PROVIDED

for those who are interested in transforming Fort Ord to "University and Public benefit purposes with a sustainable and environmental focus." Scheduled speakers include Jordan Daniels of BuildingWise, project manager in the transformation of Monterey Safeway to Trader Joe's retail; Professor Enid Blader Baxter, CSUMB director of fortording.com project; and Steven Endsley, Fort Ord Reuse Authority, director of planning and finance. The event, called Swords to plowshares: Barracks to books, will be from 7-9 p.m. in the Marina Library, and all are welcome. CSMC is trying to change the image people of the community have about the "spooky, dark and dangerous" streets of Fort Ord and exposing the bright side.

Two CSMC groups from Sustainable Seaside and the Offset Project were selected to receive a grant, along with 73 other organizations eligible to receive funds from the Monterey County Weekly of up to \$100,000. Additional donations can be made to the Monterey County Weekly Community Fund. Sustainable Seaside is now ready to implement its Water Catchment System for Martin Park in Seaside. The goal of the project is to learn ways to catch rainfall, use it to water plants in the park, collect data and educate the community about the effectiveness of their system.

The Offset Project has developed the Waste Free School program, implemented last year at Pacific Grove's Forest Grove and Robert Down elementary schools. With the help of students and faculty members,

the organization has recycled roughly 50 percent of all school lunchroom waste. This plan includes education about composting, recycling, and reduce/reuse programs. The Offset Project is planning to expand into local middle and high schools.

"We need to make changes for the economy and the environment," said Conley, "instead of hoping others will."

Change. Phelpsian. Yes We Can. Suddenness Happens. Truthiness. Hybrid. Smirting. Heroes. These, too, are popular words of the decade. As this year ends and a new decade begins, perhaps citizens of the world will, as the saying goes, "Choose our words wisely" for the next decade.

More Budget Cuts

Lauren Axworthy, Staff Reporter
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During the past year, the California State University (CSU) system has watched the state of education go from bad to worse. Enrollment this fall was cut by nearly 4,000 students and this coming spring, the number is expected to rise by another 6,000 students. An additional 30,000 prospective students will be denied admission to the CSU system over the next two years. These numbers are a consequence of national economics and are necessary to match student enrollment with funding received from the state of California.

As student fees increase and enrollment is cut, the CSU system has recognized a surge in applicants with a 55-percent increase from last year. Nearly 266,000 applications have been received for the CSU system as of Nov. 9.

The CSU Board of Trustees will vote on the 2010-11 CSU Support Budget request to the State. The "Recover and Reinvest" budget requests a total of \$884 million be granted to the CSU system. The funding proposal is intended to mitigate cuts implemented in 2009-10 school year totaling \$305 million.

An additional \$296 million is requested to restore funding for the Higher Education Compact to pay for costs associated with enrollment growth and compensation increases. The 6-year compact was designed to ensure quality, access and affordability at the nation's top public university systems and was adopted by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2004.

Included in the funding request is an estimated \$111 million needed to "buy out" a 10-percent fee increase. Lastly, the budget plan requests \$283 million to restore funding for collective bargaining agreements in 2008-09 and 2009-10 that were not funded as a result of the state's

inability to provide the needed revenue. The total \$884 million budget request would increase the General Fund base of \$2.3 billion to \$3.2 billion and would exceed the budget from this past 08-09 school year by 8.7 percent.

While optimism among students is fading, they are noticeably feeling the pressure as well. "The rise in tuition has made it much more difficult to afford going to school, and there has also been a noticeable change in availability of campus staff and services due to these cuts," said senior Teledramatic Arts and Technology major Ellis Bertschi.

Furloughs for faculty and staff, which sacrifice salary and class time have been implemented to save jobs and money during the deficit, but they will become obsolete by the 2010-11 school year. Students seem to realize that despite the furloughs, their professors strive to maintain the quality education expected of the CSU system.

"I think my teachers have really compensated for the time cut. I almost feel worse for them because now they have to put in much more effort and get paid less," said sophomore Biology major Kinsey Freeman. "I feel like the quality has gone down since now teachers are strained, and classes have been cut short. I feel pretty screwed over; paying more and getting less."

While CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed beckons residents of California to send a signal to Sacramento that asks those in charge to invest in the future of California, and make higher education a higher priority, it is uncertain what the future holds. What is expected next of the CSU system is a submission of the budget plan to the State Department of Finance. In January, the Governor will submit his budget plan to the Legislature, which is to be revised in May. The budget plan should be accepted by the Legislature by June 15.

Surviving the Holidays

Amy Irish, Staff Reporter
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The holiday season is *supposed* to be the time of year when people are celebrating and spreading holiday cheer. However, there is more to the holidays than good tidings. Dr. Sanjay Gupta's column on *cnn.com*, says "At a time when we should be celebrating our lives most, we are prone to depression and dysfunction." Finding a way to deal with these dysfunctions in the healthiest manner possible is more important than pretending to be happy with the family at dinner while taking out frustrations by eating too many dinner rolls.

For those who find themselves in the stressful holiday category,

Health.com has a few helpful tips for dealing with holiday angst in a happier and healthier way.

For starters, the health guide suggests "finding your happy place" and letting all the stress, worries and pressure float away, while thinking of this peaceful place. By lightening up and smiling, the site says, "happiness-inducing endorphins [are released]," creating a happy and calming sensation throughout the entire body. While this technique may help one feel better for a little while, Health.com implies the more practice one has in harboring these happy feelings, the easier it will be to apply them in the real world and make those happy sensations last.

While this technique can help deal with the holiday glooms in a healthier way, the health site implies those stressed should not put themselves in another stressful environment. A common phrase people toss around is, "one should never do something they



PHOTO PROVIDED

don't want to do." Perhaps it is best to do what is best for oneself before worrying about others. If the holidays are too stressful, or there are other pressures such as school or family, people need to realize that a majority of these feelings are normal, and it is

acceptable for one to need alone time to recharge their mind and body.

The holiday season might be better spent as a time for recuperation. If one practices being happy and controlling their stress levels now, as Health.com suggests, the holidays just may surely become more enjoyable. Dr. Gupta says, "The first step is to stay focused in the present, on the things you want for yourself and in your life. Transformation doesn't happen in the past or in the future. It happens right now." Doing what personally feels right, likely will benefit one physically and emotionally this holiday season.

OBR: A Place for Food and Much More

Jordan Walsh, Staff Reporter
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Past the library, up the Sixth St. hill, and through the University Center's double doors, Otters can find their own place for fine dining at the Otter Bay Restaurant (OBR). With menu options of seafood, chicken and beef, plus hearty salads, the OBR makes it harder for Otters to run home complaining to their parents of rough nights living on Top Ramen and PB&J's, while imagining a hot home cooked meal, instead of the bowl of cereal actually on the menu. It may seem like a journey from the main campus to the OBR, but if Otters are looking for something on campus, which is affordable, and tasty, this may be the ticket.

The OBR serves lunch and

dinner, with a lunch buffet and late-afternoon specials from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and has a brew station for the 21 and over.

The buffet is full of vegetarian and carnivorous options, with a few vegan choices. This month's Monday buffet features Chinese cuisine with, among other selections, broccoli beef, egg rolls and steamed rice.

Wednesday presents a Mexican-themed menu with tortilla soup, chicken fajitas, warm tortillas, beans, rice, and churros for dessert.

Late Afternoon specials include \$1 roast beef sandwiches and \$3 calamari. On Tuesdays, instead of driving off campus for tacos, the OBR serves \$1 tacos, their very own version of Taco Tuesday. The OBR has created a block-friendly menu, a \$5 equivalent, with entire meals equaling one block. This is the same

price the Dinning Commons (DC) charges, but instead of a cafeteria-style service, OBR serves restaurant-style. Instead of standing in a line waiting for the cafeteria lady to plop a pile of mashed potatoes on a plate, experience the luxury of a fellow student hosting at the front door, pouring drinks at the bar, and serving food as ordered, off a widely diverse menu. OBR Chef Sam Wallace said, "We are working really hard to put together a better block menu so all students can afford our menu."

As with many restaurants across the country, the OBR has felt the effects from the economy's downfall, but Chef Wallace said he expects business to pick up. "It is hard to compete with the DC and the Otter Express (OE) which are both cheaper in cost and closer to the resident buildings,"

said Wallace. "We always get more business during the spring semester because freshman finally realize we are up here."

The OBR also hosts Monday Night Football, with half-price hot wings. This semester, the OBR began collaborating with the World Theater on campus, to feature themed dinners in keeping with the evening's event. Although there are no more dinner-and-a-show nights scheduled this semester, plenty are planned for Spring 2010.

The OBR, says Wallace, hopes to introduce a stage for the restaurant to host concerts performed by student musicians. They have already held a few shows; as one of the only indoor venues on campus, the OBR encourages bands to contact them if they are looking for a place to jam. "Every night we don't have a University event going on, I would love to have a band playing in here," said Wallace.

	Mon.-Thurs.	Fri.
Lunch	11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Buffet	11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Light Fare	2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Dinner	5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	closed

OR



Honoring Ord's History

Lucas Anthony, Staff Reporter
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From the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument reflects in the shallow pool of the National Mall. Nearby, soldiers are honored with the Iwo Jima, Korean and Vietnam War memorials.

Tributes to American military history residing in and around Washington D.C. can serve as reminders of the triumphs and sacrifices that have shaped the United States during the last 233 years.

A significant part of military history also resides at Fort Ord Army base, which opened in 1940 and has seen soldiers through four foreign wars. Before closing in 1994, Fort Ord trained more than 1.5 million soldiers. Along with the mechanization of World War II, Fort Ord witnessed an end to the use of horses in the Army. Some feel Fort Ord and the soldiers who trained on the Peninsula deserve respect on par with the historically accurate tributes erected in Washington D.C.

After the base closure, the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) decided the only historically significant part of Fort Ord was the Stillwell Hall Soldiers Club, located at what is now Fort Ord Dunes State Park. Some people seemed to write off all other history and buildings of the old Army base. Consequently, the base was divided into parcels distributed among Marina, Seaside, CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) and the federal government.

Threatening to fall into the ocean, Stillwell Hall was deconstructed, serving as a symbolic gesture that the quest to save the physical history of Fort Ord had possibly come to an end.

However, a number of CSUMB departments making up the Fort Ord Museum Archive (FOMA), are working to secure permanent facilities to house a museum full of historical archives from the former Army base. FOMA also seeks to restore at least one of the World War II-era buildings as a physical reminder of the history of Fort Ord.

Contrary to the hopes of FOMA, CSUMB made its stance clear on the matter at the 2008 State of the University Address. CSUMB President

Dr. Dianne Harrison said, "One of our ongoing frustrations - at least it's mine - is all of those old, empty barracks and other buildings and unidentifiable things. I honestly don't know what they are. If only we could afford to take them all down today, I would be a very happy person."

Harrison later clarified the comments from her speech by citing FORA's historical findings. "Before my time at CSUMB, there was a formal review to establish if any of the buildings had historical value. The answer was no," she said. "That is why we want to clear them out. From a CSUMB standpoint they are a safety hazard. We have students who decide to go [exploring in them]; it's very dangerous, they are magnets for scavengers, wildlife, and full of lead and asbestos."

However, Harrison said she still wants to preserve and honor Fort Ord and its traditions by erecting something front and center in a high traffic area, like in front of the library.

"I think building something really respectful which honors the tradition of where CSUMB started and what used to be here would be fabulous," she said.

Fort Ord's lengthy and diverse history could make agreeing on a memorial a struggle. Additional challenges arise in honoring the local history when it is not clear, from the university's standpoint, which historical accounts are correct. Whether or not the remaining buildings of former Fort Ord have historical significance, it may be beneficial for all parties to make sure the historical recollections of those in leadership are similar, accurate and not hearsay.

For example, based on information given to her from her former Chief of Staff John McCutcheon, Harrison said the stables located on Fourth Avenue were hardly used for horses and, in 1938, were converted into truck facilities.

Disputing Harrison's claim, Army Veterinary Corps Researcher Greg Krenzelok said that the very same stables actually held more than 1,400 Army horses in the early part of World War II. It was not until 1942 when the units were mechanized and those stables might have taken on other functions.

Even FOAA board member and retired Army Major General Fred Lawson was unaware of the significant horse presence at Fort Ord. "I knew Fort Ord was built in '40-41 and the 7th division formed in '41, but I thought from there on it was

mechanized," Lawson said. "I found out differently based on Greg's research. It was an eye opener for me to learn there was a large horse presence up to '43 or '44, even after mechanization."

Defense Language Institute and Presidio of Monterey Deputy Command Historian Cameron Brinkley helped guide Krenzelok through the archives located at the Chamberlin Library and also learned more about the horse presence, the Veterinary hospital and stables at the former Army fort.

"I understand CSUMB needs facilities up to code, free from lead and asbestos. There are a lot of good reasons to tear the buildings down," Brinkley said. "But I think history is important and in the physical structures. We should keep some remnants of the past as a reminder of how we got where we are and they might give us an idea as to where we are going."

While budgets might not allow for a memorial the caliber of those in Washington D.C., Krenzelok, Brinkley and Lawson find it important to remember all of Fort Ord's history accurately and save a portion of the physical evidence to honor the history and traditions of Fort Ord and its soldiers. If something is not done, Brinkley feels that, over time, the complete history of Fort Ord could be forgotten.

"If you bury the past and forget it," Brinkley said, "there are so many things you will never know, and you will never even know you don't know."

I THINK BUILDING SOMETHING REALLY RESPECTFUL WHICH HONORS THE TRADITION OF WHERE CSUMB STARTED AND WHAT USED TO BE HERE WOULD BE FABULOUS

CSUMB PRESIDENT DR. DIANNE HARRISON.

PHOTO BY LUCAS ANTHONY

My Mind is Silenced



Annie Sacks, Staff Reporter
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My mind is silenced. I subconsciously count... One. Two. Three. Jump.

Jumping through hoops isn't really my forte. I never wanted to join the circus. I'm indecisive, I can't seem to find my nook, I can't seem to find what fits. So I just keep jumping. I suppose it's why I've changed my major a few times.

Somehow I imagined that being a transfer student was supposed to be easy. Not only is it not easy, but it poses the question of what I really want to do with my life.

I chose to transfer to CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) because of its location. I needed to pick a school, and I love the ocean. I transferred in as a Human Communication (HCOM) major. I believe my ideal major would be advertising and public relations, and I was unsure if HCOM was the perfect fit for my dreams. I tried it on for awhile and came to the conclusion that I wasn't inspired by humanities. I didn't want to take half of the major learning outcomes (MLO) which, in HCOM, are strongly humanities based. Consider MLO 4 Philosophical, MLO 5 Critical Cultural Analysis, MLO 6 Comparative Literary Analysis, MLO 7 Historical Analysis, MLO 8 Creative Writing and Social Action. It took me awhile to realize that all these MLOs are not really communications based, which is what engages me.

All the sweating I did over humanities-based MLOs doesn't point me in a directions of clarity, it just frustrated me more. Finally I dropped Pro-Seminar and decided to join the business department. I found out I didn't really like that either. Lost once again with hoop jumping becoming a normal part of my life. I decided to take the dive and go back to HCOM.

When talking to many of my HCOM professors, I realized that all their classes will help me in the long run to broaden my area of knowledge. I kept asking why there couldn't be just a communication department? Why couldn't I take all the classes I wanted and have them be geared specifically to communication? I found that, actually, I could. I could make them all fit the way I need. It became a give and take, I had to give up a few classes but in turn I opened my eyes to a wide interdisciplinary education that I'm told will help in the me in the long run.

Now I'm working consciously and consistently to fit into my new niche. CSUMB offers so many different media classes that are interesting to me. Due to the CSUMB format, we are only permitted to take four of them for credit it was a loss but I endured. I've accepted and trust that the classes I didn't want to take, will help me be better versed in the world and help me understand human interaction better, enabling me to be a stronger applicant for jobs in the real world.

I'm back. I found a niche. No more hoop jumping for me I am retiring the circus act.

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Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade: *The Holidays are Here*

Kelli Laughlin, Staff Reporter
KLAUGHLIN@CSUMB.EDU

A drum roll could be heard from three blocks away. Anticipation rose along the streets of New York City through the sea of three million eager spectators. The start of the holidays was just around the corner. The first glimpse of the gold and crimson marching band rounding the bend sent a roar of applause and joyful cheers throughout the mass of delighted onlookers. Behind the band appeared the colossal face of a familiar dog: Snoopy. Dressed as the flying ace, the cartoon character floated above the swarm of spectators, bringing smiles to the faces of the young and old.

The tradition of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade first started in 1924. A group of Macy's department store employees, who were immigrants from Europe and lived in New York City, wanted to celebrate the American tradition of Thanksgiving. They decided to put on a festival similar to the celebrations in Europe.

Many of the Macy's employees dressed in colorful costumes and marched from 145th street in Harlem to the Macy's store where they were employed on 34th street, which later inspired the classic holiday movie, "Miracle on 34th Street." They borrowed animals from the Central Park Zoo for the parade, created attention-grabbing floats, and enlisted the help of professional marching bands to entertain the crowds of spectators.

At the end of the parade, Santa Claus was welcomed into Herald Square, which has become an annual tradition of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

As the years passed, large-character balloons replaced live animals in the parade, and every year, new balloons are added to the spectacle. The first balloon, created in 1927, was of the cartoon character Felix the Cat. This

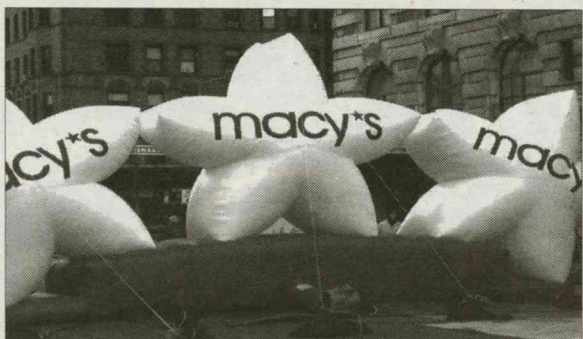
year, the new character balloons were Sailor Mickey Mouse, the Pillsbury Doughboy, and new versions of Ronald McDonald and Spiderman.

This year's parade also ushered in changes to the parade's route for the first time since 1924. The parade began at 77th street and Central Park West, and moved through Times Square, to finish at 7th Avenue. The reason for the change was to allow more space for the parade and provide more room for spectators to view the parade.

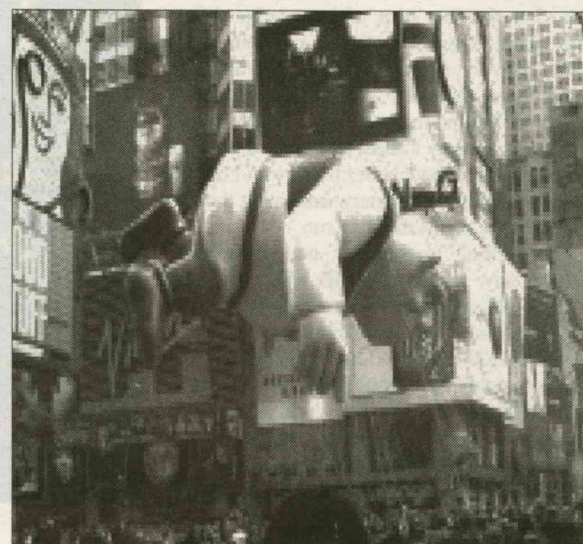
A wide variety of musicians performed this year, including Andrea Bocelli, Boys Like Girls, The Roots, Carly Simon, Ziggy Marley, Jimmy Fallon, Katharine McPhee and Jay Sean. The Broadway shows highlighted during the parade included the casts of Shrek, Hair, Billy Elliot and Bye Bye Birdie.

The televised Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade has become a Thanksgiving tradition for many families across America. "We tend to think of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade as the opening act of the holiday season," said Executive Producer Robin Hall. "The parade, like the holiday it celebrates, is an event that brings friends and families together, and watching the parade is a cherished holiday ritual for millions of people, whether they are lined up along our famous parade route or huddled in front of their televisions."

As the final float carried a jolly Santa Claus in a sleigh full of toys out of sight, the crowds of lively families began flocking away to enjoy their Thanksgiving meals. The end of the 83rd Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is a harbinger that the holidays are here, once again.



PHOTOS BY PATRICK MAKENEN



NEWS

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Vision and Volume

Brad Boatwright, Staff Reporter

BBOATWRIGHT@CSUMB.EDU

Combining local flavor, cold truthful appeal, and a mess of sound, Vision and Volume bestows Tortilla Flat, Buffalo '66 and "You're Living All Over Me" in this semester's final chapter of underrated works.



Tortilla Flat

One of John Steinbeck's earliest novels, written in 1935, portrays the life of a group of Monterey locals. They return from the Great War to Tortilla Flat, an impoverished district above the coastal town. Danny finds that he has inherited two houses from his grandfather. He invites some of his friends to move in to his second house and the group of California natives, paisanos, live in tranquil poverty, with their only goal of securing quantities of red wine. One night, the second house is burned down. This requires all the friends to move into one house, creating a kind of poor version of the Knights of the Round Table. As he ages, Danny starts to feel the weight of the paisano life and longs to re-experience his youth. He then goes on a month-long crime spree, stealing from everyone, including the housemates. Seeing their friend in a state of despair, they throw an enormous party with 30 gallons of wine. After the normal night's roughhousing, Danny grabs a table leg and challenges the entire world to a fight. Once he leaves the house to search for a worthy opponent, fate catches up with him. In the wake of tragedy, the friends allow the house to fade away with Danny.



Buffalo '66

Written, directed, scored and performed by Vincent Gallo, Buffalo '66 is a semi-autobiographical film about Billy Brown's attempts at revenge and reclamation. The colors, dismal, shadowy blues and grays, bring the

temperature down in every shot. Billy is released from jail after taking the fall for a bookie he owed money. Now out, he has two goals: visit his parents and kill the kicker who lost the game Billy bet on. He kidnaps a young dancer, Layla, to pose as the fictitious wife from his letters from jail. She is immediately attracted to him despite his ignorance and disdain toward her as he tries to shape her into his perfect woman. After meeting Billy's parents and explaining how the two met in the C.I.A office where both worked, Layla embellishes a bit and says she is pregnant. Billy rushes her out of the house to a bowling alley, where he makes plans for the murder. Billy soon realizes his plan may not be the best choice, finding instead that what he was looking for, he already had.



Dinosaur Jr. "You're Living All Over Me"

"You're Living All Over Me" is Dinosaur Jr.'s second album, recorded in 1987. With his droning voice and Neil Young-influenced guitar work, J Mascis relies on heavy distortion, extensive use of whammy bar solos, and playing exceedingly loud. Complementing Mascis is Lou Barlow's thumping and distorted bass lines, and Murph's quick precision drumming. The album pioneers noise rock, with the musical ability of Mascis highly outweighing his lack of lyrical articulation. Most songs feature guitar freak-outs and employ effects pedals from fuzz to wah-wah. After one more album, the band went on a 19 year split, with Mascis focusing on Dinosaur and Barlow through his side project, Sebadoh.

Underground works arrive every day; some get credit, while others go unnoticed. Although they may not reach mainstream, they possess quality that can supersede the rest. To quote Friedrich Nietzsche, "All good things were at one time bad things; every original sin has developed into an original virtue."

OR

IMAGES PROVIDED

Blue Fin: Something for Everyone

Elliott Williams, Staff Reporter
EWILLIAMS@CSUMB.EDU



PHOTO PROVIDED

Three years ago, the Blue Fin Café was unexpectedly shut down and abandoned by its owner. Back by popular demand, The Blue Fin Café and Billiards has apparently reestablished itself as a late-night hotspot on Cannery Row. Primarily a place to dine and shoot pool, it is host to a vast array of events for a diverse audience. Salsa nights, stand-up comedy, live music, beer pong and JELLO wrestling tournaments are a few of the festivities offered by a management team which reportedly endeavors to give back to the Monterey locale.

Tyke Marasigan, owner of the Blue Fin, insists that his staff prides itself on offering

something for everyone, but seems to cater to locals rather than tourists. "We don't exactly want to be a tourist spot like everything else on Cannery Row," he said. "Our clientele is mostly locals, and we like it that way because one of our goals is to give Monterey back the Blue Fin."

Marasigan, who owns several billiard halls in California, was encouraged to purchase the Blue Fin by locals who missed the fun Cannery Row nightlife previously offered by the old Blue Fin. Although Marasigan refers to his rent as "outrageous," he is largely pleased about the way his newest acquisition is running, thus far. "It's not cheap, he said,

but the location is great and we make enough to do get by."

The Blue Fin is located on the second floor of the two-story Steinbeck Center on Cannery Row. At the center of the establishment is an up-only escalator, which ferries Blue Fin customers directly to a wide bar table. Adjacent the bar is a small stage where live music and/or stand-up comedy is presented. Windows align the length of the dining and billiards halls, giving diners and pool players a panoramic view of Cannery Row and the Monterey Bay. At the rear of the cafe, the space is a large, club-like room where DJ dance parties, live music, and other events take place.

A key player in helping Marasigan revive the Blue Fin is General Manager Marvin Romero, who was with the Blue Fin at the very beginning, 13 years ago. Apparently Romero was instrumental in bringing the old establishment to life, and is "an invaluable asset" to Marasigan. Another asset Romero brings to the Blue Fin is his own creation, the Juice Burger—a half pound sandwich with everything on it. "It's the best burger in town," said Romero. Together, Marasigan and Romero strive to produce a fun, multicultural experience—especially for students at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB). "Something else we pride

ourselves on is attracting different kinds of people" said Marasigan. "We love it when CSUMB kids have their parties here. It is easy for us to keep them occupied, and they bring in a lot of culture."

Romero and Marasigan plan to continue to hire new bands to play and host fun events, while at the same time catering to the local community. "We are just getting started. We plan to keep scheduling events and work with local acts" said Marasigan. "Things are going well so far, and I'd say we're on the right track."

'Tis the Season of Bah Humbug

Vanessa Ann Richelle Anderson,
Staff Reporter
VANDERSON@CSUMB.EDU

Christmas time brings great fun and good cheer to many, but there is always that one character who refuses to join in the holiday spirit. The immortal Charles Dickens named him Ebenezer Scrooge, a dour old man whose outward greediness and cruelty affected every aspect of his life. The author's legendary phrase, "Bah humbug" was introduced in his classic story, "A Christmas Carol." From recharacterizing Ebenezer Scrooge and his foil, Tiny Tim, to rewriting the storyline, over the years many variations of Dickens' renowned story have been made into movies, cartoons and stage productions; plus, on

occasion, Christmas carolers sing themed songs and dress in period costume. This year, CSU Monterey Bay's (CSUMB) World Theater will produce the popular story as a live radio drama.

Radio productions are, by design, portrayed through actors' voices via radio airwaves. However, The World Theater will produce this live radio drama on stage. The classic tale will be presented in a visual context with sound effects, music and multimedia elements. Additionally, the actors will be transforming into various characters instantly on stage. "The uniqueness of this radio drama is that we are able to have two audiences; one live at the theater and the other broadcast over the radio (KAZU) on Christmas Eve," said World Theater director Joseph S. Cardinalli. "That's

what makes this production fun and exciting."

"A Christmas Carol" will feature Paul Myrvold, an equity actor, who has performed on Broadway and toured professionally, as protagonist Ebenezer Scrooge. Cardinalli calls him "the ultimate professional, who is bringing all his skills to the play." The rest of the cast includes Donna Federico, Chris Graham, Phil Esparza, a World Theater staff member; Matt Bailey, Christina Bailey and Michelle Vallentyne, a former CSUMB student. "They are local, homegrown actors," said Cardinalli. Music will be provided by The Big American Family, a local band comprised of former CSUMB students. They will play period music appropriate to the production. Other sound effects will be

provided by the Live Foley Artists, a group that creates live sound effects on stage.

"We are putting together a holiday tradition," said Cardinalli; "What we like to think of as our annual gift to the entire community." The Show will be held on Dec. 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m. Currently there is a special buy-one, get-one-free offer on tickets (certain restrictions apply), plus pre-show dining at the Otter Bay Café, which will present a special dinner each night of this radio drama. Additional information is available through the World Theater box office at www.worldtheater.csUMB.edu. Whether it's "Bah Humbug" or "Happy Holidays" this production reminds CSUMB that the holidays are here.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Pieces of California

Kristin Leal, Staff Reporter
KLEAL@CSUMB.EDU

Cobblestone sidewalks lead the way to visual stimulation along Ocean Avenue in Carmel-by-the-Sea. Galleries seem to flank the legendary "Main-Street" and trickle down the side streets. Front and center is a new addition to the art scene, and it is all about California.

Rhythms coming from the background vibrate the sounds from the Gold Mining days, flavored with some Beach Boys and even modern hip hop. Anything and everything California is can be heard through this art gallery. "Come in to enjoy the art and music with lots of comfortable seating," said owner Jonathan Lucinda.

Walls are lined with layers of foamy blue surf and lone barns that rest within rolling green hills. The flavor is all California through the doorways of Mountiansong Galleries. Images of sunsets light the room. Burning orange and pink throughout, they highlight bending toothpick sculptures and watercolors on canvas. Glossy photographs complement the textures of oils and acrylics with compositions of California.

The art creates windows into the California lifestyle. A wealth of varied landscapes can be found alongside artistic glass forms. The works are exhibited throughout the bright gallery,

mixing among baby gadgets and blue water dishes, which adding to the vibe of home. "We encourage visitors and locals to come on in and hang out for a while," said Lucinda. "There is always coffee, tea and spring water available." A tea party can create a moment to absorb the California inspired crafts.

On display now is the exclusive toothpick art of Steven J. Backman, a San Francisco native. Early on he discovered his talents with sculpting and has been crafting with toothpicks ever since he was a child. He features abstracts, portraits and realistic sculptures, all made of toothpicks. Many of the pieces bend and twist into series of arches with wave-like layers and distinct angles.

With a vantage point high above the land and sea which hugs the curve of California; William Scherer captures uniquely dramatic images of local golf courses such as Pebble Beach and Cypress Point. Not only a photographer, he is a pilot who he soars solo, capturing the moments from above.

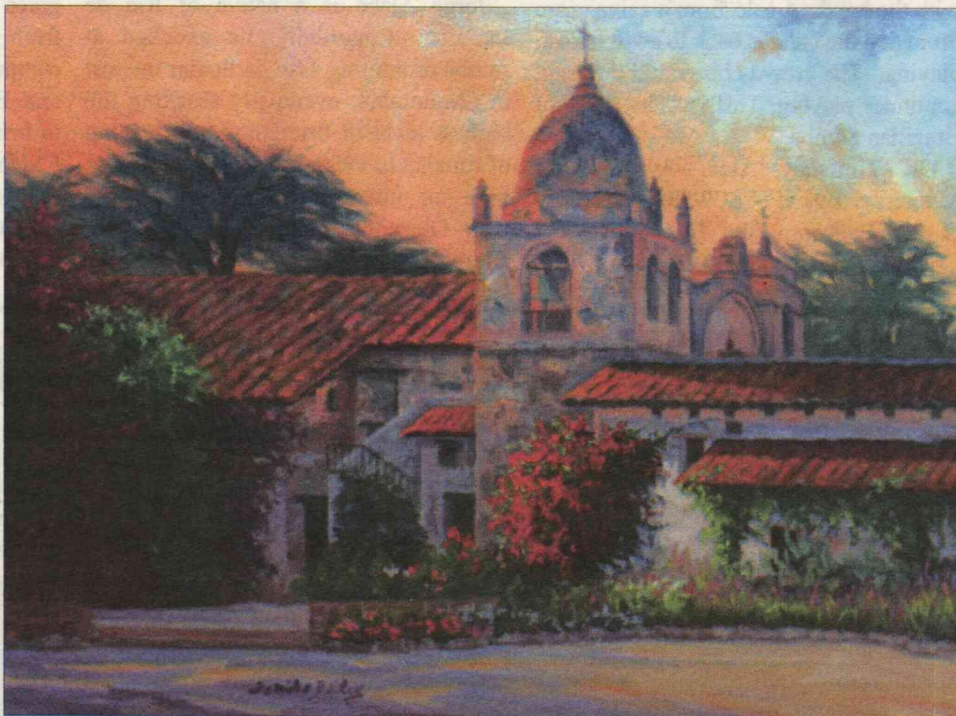
In a rare appearance by Carmel photographer Jerry Warner, is known to encapsulate the jagged coast lines of Big Sur and Carmel-by-the-Sea. He will conduct an interactive workshop to engage all the senses. He will be there from noon till 2 p.m. on

New Year's Eve day.

Mountiansong Galleries seems to epitomize a California context within Carmel-by-the-Sea. Californians may find it easy to relate while visitors can capture the lifestyle and bring it home. Although the doors have been open for only five months, locals are already leaving coffee cups behind for the next visit.



PHOTOS PROVIDED



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VISITORS AND
LOCALS TO COME
ON IN AND
HANG OUT FOR
A WHILE. THERE
IS ALWAYS
COFFEE, TEA AND
SPRING WATER
AVAILABLE.**

JONATHAN LUCINDA

OR

"The Story of Brazilian Samba": The Sounds of Rio Come to CSUMB

Brad Boatwright, Staff Reporter
BBOATWRIGHT@CSUMB.EDU

Anticipation stirs the air as the start of a quick rhythmic beat draws the crowd's attention. Pandeiro tambourines and deep surdo bass drums are layered with cavaquinho guitar, a range of percussion and traditional dance. Musicians with tamborim hand drums move from the songs main groove to a signature phrase and the leader begins a call and response with the band. A solo from a caixa snare drum and the band is back to swift unison playing. The crowd cheers and the band continues playing. This is "The Story of Brazilian Samba."

On Thursday, Dec. 3, in CSU Monterey Bay's (CSUMB) University Center Ballroom, the Humanities and Communications (HCOM) and Music

and Performing Arts departments (MPA) will present a free concert by Jorge Alabé and his group Samba Rio.

"The Story of Brazilian Samba", will take place from 7-9 p.m. in a show designed to present and explain traditional styles of Brazilian music and dance, including Candomblé, samba de roda, pagode, and batucada. After the performance, a short question-and-answer session will allow guests to ask questions.

Jorge Alabé is a native of Rio de Janeiro. Reportedly, he excelled at samba drumming with particular interest in Candomblé, eventually reaching the highest level of drumming and leading of rituals. In 1980, he began performing with an internationally know group, Oba Oba, touring around the world and performing on American television.

After 15 years working with the band, Alabé moved to New Orleans to start workshops on Afro-Brazilian religious drumming and dance. He frequently gives classes to students and community groups, while touring the United States with his band.

Both hosting and playing with Alabé's band is HCOM professor Dr. Umi Vaughan. Africana Studies, Anthropology and Music and Performance. Professor Vaughan also gives performance lectures to campuses from Havana to Detroit. "After other campus events and my research in Cuba and Brazil," said Vaughan, "I wanted to bring more arts and performances to CSUMB." The presentation is another outcome of the New Faculty Research Grant "Researching the African Diaspora: Brazil" a project carried out

by Professor Vaughan during Summer 2008 that has produced art and lectures on the subject.

"The Story of Brazilian Samba" uses music and dance to open topics of Brazil's relations with the United States, Latino Countries and the wider African Diaspora. It will feature musical and dance styles from the religious to Carnaval marches. "This event will bring new languages and sounds to the campus," said Professor Vaughan, who invites all students, faculty and community members to "detect and enjoy both commonalities and differences between Brazilian culture and their own."

The band pounds away at their drums with a seemingly meticulous and excited commitment; the leader blows his whistle, riling the audience from their seats.

Gizdich Ranch: Apples, Pies, Juice and Berries

Courtesy Thorngate, Staff Reporter
CTHORNGATE@CSUMB.EDU

The air is crisp and smells of fall; the sun pokes through a smear of clouds in the sky, as a brisk breeze blows through the trees, disturbing their leaves. Ripe apples consume the air, while the ground exhibits a display of colors from fallen foliage, creating quite a show of the season.

The agricultural town of Watsonville, located in the heart of the Parajo Valley, harbors Gizdich Ranch, which has been family owned and operated for three generations. Today, a ranch is known for public berry and apple picking, as well as watching the press transform luscious apples into fresh juice. The ranch reportedly has the best pies around, as demonstrated by the many local restaurants, stores and citizens who serve them.

Gizdich Ranch was originally purchased in 1937 by Croatian immigrant Vincent John Gizdich. The

ranch was a mere five acres of apple orchards plus five acres of open ground for chickens, pigs and tomato vines. In 1950, the Gizdiches leased more acreage to experiment with olallieberries. By 1959, the ranch spread across 30 acres, and another 20 were purchased to be dedicated to this new berry. Today the ranch is 70 acres of berry fields and apple orchards. And it is likely best known for its olallieberry pie.

The ranch now grows some 12 to 14 varieties of apples, including Fuji, Red Del, Pippin, Black Twig, Mutsu, Winesap, Granny Smith, Royal Gala, Pinova and Braeburn. In April, the apple trees burst into blossom, but in late August through January, the apples are ready to be picked and enjoyed. Also, five varieties of berries including strawberries, begin to ripen from May through July. Olallieberries are at their prime in June and boysenberries, complete in mid June, while blackberries and raspberries are matured in July.

In 1965, to insure widespread marketing of their berries, the ranch established a "Pik-Yor-Self" operation. Today, patrons

travel great distances to partake in berry picking. The ranch relies on a small amount of advertising, word of mouth and those lucky to have been introduced at a young age. "People were brought here for many generations," said Chief of Operations Naomi Manger. "Families bring their children." The various berries can be picked beginning in May through July, and apples are available to be picked for three weeks in September. Both are available for purchase, already picked, fresh or frozen, in the sales barn.

Not only may berry picking be fun; it also is beneficial to the wallet. "It was more affordable this year at \$1.85 per pound when you picked them here," said Manger. Grocery store prices are significantly higher.

Saturday visits to the juice barn take place between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., when guests can watch the apples tumble into a large press, where the all-natural juice is harvested.

Homemade honey and jams also can be purchased in the sales barn, as well as seasonal fruit. Gizdich recognizes that many people do not know what

the different varieties of apples taste like, so they put each variety in a refrigerator and invite patrons to taste them all.

The most popular barn is likely the pie barn. Inside, a deli offers fresh sandwiches, but the main attraction is the varieties of pies made fresh daily. Pie by the slice can be consumed in the Farm Park Picnic area, and whole pies, are available fresh or frozen.

On the average day Gizdich produces 100-200 pies. During the holiday season, and especially the Monday-Wednesday before Thanksgiving, 4,000 pies are made. Workers get to the ranch at 4:30 a.m. and finish their day at 5:30 p.m. Gizdich stopped taking orders this year the Friday before Thanksgiving.

Visitors can stop by the pie barn to watch the production of pies being made, while selecting a pie, juice, apples or berries. Surrounded by the orchards fall colors and aromas of apples, guests sit down to taste what Gizdich claims to be the freshest and ripest fruits.

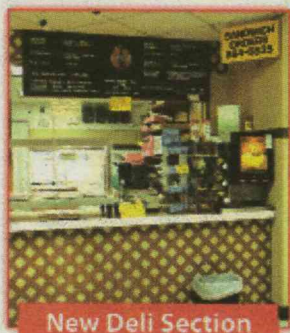
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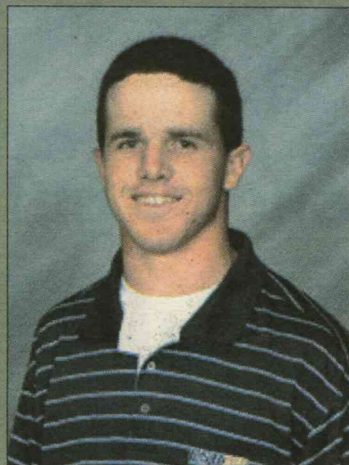
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ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE:



DYLAN JACKSON:
MEN'S GOLF
CLASS: FRESHMAN
MAJOR: KINESIOLOGY
HOMETOWN: SAN DIEGO

Ashlee Trotter, Staff Reporter
 ATROTTER@CSUMB.EDU

Practicing on the links in San Diego with Chris Riley, a golfer on the Professional Golfers Association (PGA), this Otter is learning everything he can from the pro. Tee boxes to sloping fast greens, the Titleist ball flies down the fairway learning to play all possible angles of a course. "The one thing he has taught me that has really stuck in my mind," said Kinesiology freshman Dylan Jackson, "is when he told me to take in the college experience but not lose focus of my goals." Jackson is an up-and-coming golfer at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB).

Ohio bound as children, the Jackson boys went off to visit their grandmother with no idea they would find something they love besides Grandma. "My brother and I went to one of our grandma's golf lessons when I was 11 years old," said

Jackson. "I enjoyed it right off the bat." The brothers now play a competitive round of golf every time they hit the course.

Jackson was being recruited by rival Sonoma State University and also Division I schools, such as UC Santa Barbara and San Jose State University. He chose CSUMB because of the opportunity to compete, right away, as a freshman, along with the high caliber facilities the CSUMB golf team uses and the ability to play competitively with his brother, golfer and Business Administration senior John Jackson.

As some athletes in their freshman season, may have freshman jitters, they have not been an issue for Jackson. In the short fall season, he seems to have found his place on the course, having settled into competition as an Otter. He placed 8th at the Chico State InterWest Wildcat Classic, 12th at the Western Washington Invitational, 14th at Saint

Martin's Invitational and 23rd at the Sonoma State Invitational.

The Men's Golf team will begin spring play in February when the Otters have been invited to compete in the prestigious Florida Division II Golfweek Spring Invitational in Orlando, FL. Only 18 Division II schools were invited. The season will continue through the end of the school year in May. In the meantime, Jackson will continue to practice his game throughout winter break.

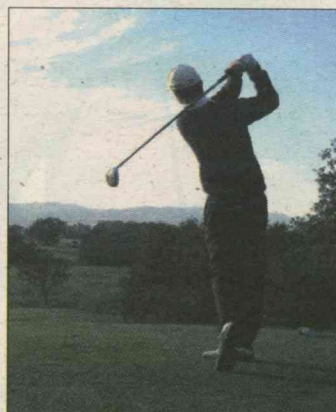
Jackson and golf pro Riley travel down the links to the next green, with Riley giving advice about putting fundamentals, as they walk down the course. Fundamentals will get stronger, he will get stronger mentally and physically and improve his game. As spring rolls around, he will be ready to compete in the California Collegiate Athletic Association.

Otter Games

Date	Time	Sport	Opponent
Fri. 12/4	5:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball	Cal State Stanislaus
Fri. 12/4	7:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball	Cal State Stanislaus
Sat. 12/5	5:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball	Chico State
Sat. 12/5	7:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball	Chico State
Wed. 12/9	5:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball	San Francisco State University
Fri. 12/18	7:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball	Menlo College
Mon. 12/28	7:00 p.m.	Women's Basketball	Dominican University
Tue. 12/29	7:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball	San Francisco State University
Sat. 1/2	5:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball	Humboldt State University
Sat. 1/2	7:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball	Humboldt State University
Sun. 1/3	5:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball	Sonoma State
Sun. 1/3	7:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball	Sonoma State
Fri. 1/22	5:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball	Cal State San Bernardino
Fri. 1/22	7:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball	Cal State San Bernardino
Sat. 1/23	5:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball	Cal Poly Pomona
Sat. 1/23	7:30 p.m.	Men's Basketball	Cal Poly Pomona
Sat. 1/30	12:00 p.m.	Baseball	Alumni Game
Fri. 2/5	11:00 a.m.	Baseball	Sonoma State

All games listed are home games

ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE: DYLAN JACKSON

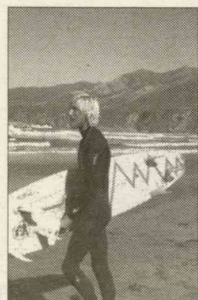


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SPORTS

Current Swell: Local Motion

Patrick Makenen, Staff Reporter
PMAKENEN@CSUMB.EDU



Broken windows. Yelling. Fights on the beach. Waxed windows. Snapped surfboards. Local surfers take certain measures to keep what they consider a weak surfer out of the water, and keep as few surfers at a break as possible.

When surfers hear the word "local," they usually cringe and turn away. I think of an angry dude out in the water, yelling and being protective of "his" spot. I think of someone who has surfed at a particular beach his whole life, and anytime I paddle out, he is likely to glare at me whether it's my first time surfing there or not. Locals are notorious for bad behavior and intimidation, but for good reason. Surfing is a sport free from rules and regulations. Instead, surfing takes on customs that everyone might not agree on. Without some control, there would be chaos.

A system of localism works for a lot of famous breaks and even some hidden beaches that few know about; it keeps only "certain" people around.

Surfers know this.

There is value to specific waves, and this value should be respected. Hierarchy is just a part of surfing. It may work to keep the water open, but is it an ethical way to go about things? When I travel to other ends of earth to surf, is it fair that I should be kept away from certain places because I am an "outsider?"

We are not living in the '70s when waves were still being discovered, and beaches were empty. Huge increases in surfers across the State and around the World are encroaching upon surf breaks some call home. I don't like crowded beaches either, but I won't yell at someone for being near me in the water.

I would say most surfers are generally nice out of the water. The problem is they have a hard time keeping this attitude in the peaceful ocean. We should go back to the origins of surf culture, remembering the reasons we surf and let skill and nature decide who gets wet.

Double overhead waves will keep most people out of the water. Many of those who paddle out anyway, may not even make it out to the lineup. This is the system of natural selection. We might even call it survival of the fittest. I don't need a local to tell me if I can get in the water; nature can do that for me. Out in the water, you can tell who surfs well and who doesn't. The surfers catching all the waves, dropping in late with style, and relaxing in the barrel are serious contenders. They know the beach well and should be respected. Surfers who haven't acquired this skill level should stay away until a natural competition of skill can be obtained.

Sometimes violent control is the only way people will listen. I don't think surfers know what the best solution to a crowded wave is without being aggressive. There may be a solution to the problem, but no one has figured it out. With regard to regionalism, some people can't get over their basic primal instincts to claim their territory even though, legally, it is open and free for anyone. With an ever-growing surf crowd, I think we need to lay localism to rest and let nature be the wake-up call.

Disc Golf Takes on New Meaning

Lauren Axworthy, Staff Reporter
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Disc golf, reportedly, is experiencing a rise in popularity across the nation. The sport that parallels the object of golf replaces the traditional club and ball with a simple disc that is thrown for "par" into a metal basket.

The CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) disc golf club has been making quite a name for itself. The Otters recently hosted the fourth-annual West Coast College Open in their very own kelp bed, the CSUMB Oakes course, and won the coveted Stancil Johnson Cup for the fourth year in a row.

The tournament, created in 2005, is the only intercollegiate disc golf tournament on the West Coast. Its competitors include the UC Santa Cruz Banana Slugs, the Broncos of the University of Santa Clara, and the University of Oregon Ducks. The Ducks, whose coach is 2007 Disc Golf World Champion Dave Feldberg, "Played well," said Otter disc golfer Greg Tomascheski. "I was impressed with their performance."

In the spring, the Otters will hold the Otter Open, a local tournament sponsored by the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA). Competing among nearly 75 participants, the Otters will endeavor to uphold their winning streak.

The Otter disc golfers, who reorganized and became an official club in 2004, were a group of friends who wanted to take their passion for their sport to the next level of competition. Despite the recent winning reputation the club has made for

itself, senior-founding members worry about the continuation of the club, following their graduation from the University. They encourage any "young blood" out there with a love for the sport to join the club and carry on the legacy.

For those interested in the sport, CSUMB offers a disc golf course every semester that completes the vibrancy activity ULR. The seemingly easy-to-learn sport is low-impact and can be fun for everyone. Merle Witvoet, a former professional disc golfer and coach for the Otters, has been teaching the disc golf class for two years. He took over for Dr. Stancil Johnson, for whom the West Coast College Open Cup is named.

Johnson, a psychiatrist in Carmel, is often considered a founding-father and legend among disc golfers. This historian made many contributions to the sport at the University. The club renamed the courses at CSUMB, "Stancil Courses" in honor of the hall-of-famer.

Nestled within the CSUMB campus lies two courses, comprised of 18 holes each. The Cypress course is mainly for beginners, while the Oakes course is for those more advanced at the sport. The courses, located behind the Black Box Cabaret (BBC) and south of the new library are open to all and free to play, provided players bring their own discs. Scorecards are available through the CSUMB disc golf homepage clubs.csUMB.edu/discgolf.



DR. STANCIL JOHNSON CUP



PHOTOS BY GREG TOMASCHESKI
AND KRISTIN LEAL

OR

Snowboarding Without the Snow

Marc Russo, Staff Reporter
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After taking in wide-angle views of the Monterey Bay and the Pacific Ocean, the rider drops into the soft white sand, which sprays up in the air, obscuring the waves crashing into the coastline until he has completed his 40-foot descent down the sand dune.

Home to some world-famous surf, the Peninsula also hosts some pretty well-known sand. A much less visible sport than surfing, sandboarding has made a prominent home on the coastline as well.

The sport of sandboarding is most closely linked to snowboarding. In fact, sandboarding was first introduced in the 1970s, when snowboarding was just beginning to achieve popularity. However, it was not until the last decade that the sport started to gain more attention. Reportedly, the popularity of snowboarding has had an indirect effect on growth of sandboarding.

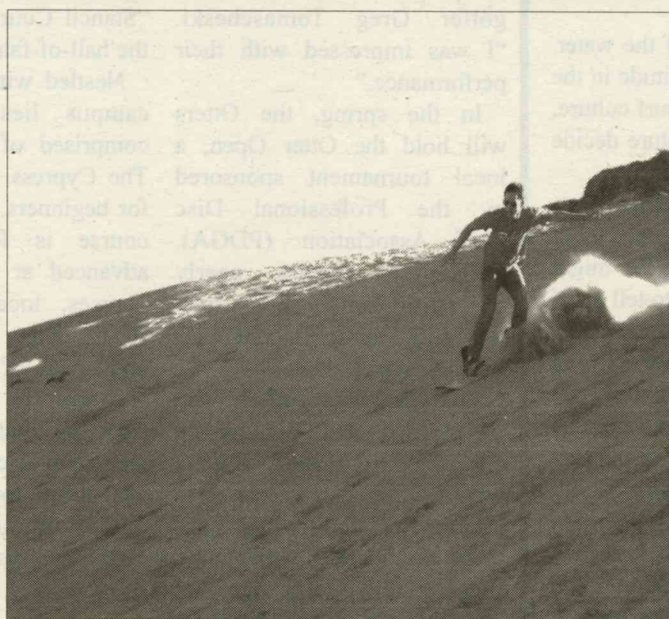
Unlike snowboarding, riding the sand can be done year round. All it needs is a sure slope of dry sand. Wet sand tends to be sticky, which makes sliding down the dune much more difficult for the rider.

The soft sand on the local dunes rides like powder on the ski slopes. Because of this, the rider's stance is farther back, which keeps the nose of the board above the sand, facilitating a swift and smooth ride.

This seemingly up-and-coming sport has its own boards. The base is usually built with formica or laminex, which is harder than snowboards. While a true sandboard is recommended for better results, they are hard to find in board shops, so many riders use old snowboard equipment. Unlike snowboarding, however, sandboarding requires wax to be applied on almost every run. Without wax, the board will gradually slow down.



PHOTOS BY BRENT MEZA



Jeff Towle riding "The Pitt"

The sport already boasts enthusiasts world wide but is most common in desert areas or on coastal dunes. Without lifts, every run requires a trek back to the top. It is common to see dune buggies or quads used as lifts in the desert. But motor vehicles are prohibited on Peninsula dunes. A hike will have to suffice.

While Monterey Bay dunes are relatively moderate compared to the more popular sandboarding destinations, most of which are in South America, it offers some of the most accessible terrain for riders. The local area, according to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary website, "has some 83 accessible beaches and 24 dune systems."

Sandboard Magazine's online addition has a link of places to ride world wide. Riders in Sand City have named one area, "The Pitt." The website states, "There are a few chute runs and a couple of cliff drops, but the fast line to the bottom of the bowl and the ride up the far bank levee is what "The Pitt" is famous for. The view of the Pacific is excellent, and sunsets are worth being there for."

Junior and Liberal Studies major, Jeff Towle has sandboarded in both North and South America. "The Pitt," measuring at about 50 feet tall, is a few thousand feet shorter than the sand he rode in Peru. "I have a new faith in Monterey hills," said Towle. "This is the best place I've ridden since moving here." The area has numerous lines to choose from. Riders can access long, gentle runs to the bottom or cliff lines measuring up to about 10 feet.

After reaching the bottom of the dunes the riders unstrap their bindings while taking in the view. They then catch their breath before the hike back to the top begins.

Where The Otters Roam

Tristan von Junsch, Staff Reporter
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Monterey shares its coastline with a vast undersea national park. The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) contains 10,663 square feet of ocean, encompasses 276 miles of shoreline and, at some points, is more than two miles deep. It is the largest marine sanctuary in the world, one of only 13 in the United States.

Extending from San Francisco to Santa Barbara, and from the shoreline 31 miles into the ocean, the Sanctuary provides protection to a fragile shoreline and undersea environment and to the unique kelp forests of the Central California coast. The Sanctuary is a refuge for a diverse population of marine life including the celebrated marine otters, sharks and whales, which can be seen spouting along the coast on their southward winter migration.

The MBNMS was created in 1992 to protect coastline, marine life and ocean waters from pollution, over fishing, poor management and activities that may have deleterious consequences, such as the building of sea walls or break waters that cause wave reverberation. The organization also provides jobs and research opportunities for scientists. For the rest of us, it is there for our enjoyment. CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students can experience this national park in many ways. They can surf it, sail on it, fish it, dive in it and, sometimes just take a look.

The MBNMS website (<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/>) presents information on the Sanctuary's many research activities. A recent effort is the lost-fishing-gear retrieval project that brings up lost nets, crab pots and long lines that are a threat to numerous creatures on the sea bed. Most projects create volunteer activities, such as beach monitoring, coastal clean ups, coastal discovery docents. There are also some intern opportunities for research, education and outreach programs. The Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Research Institute, both associated with it, as well as the Marine Labs in Monterey and Moss Landing are all portals to the Sanctuary.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY KRISTIN LEAL

The key to experiencing this protected area is to get out there in it. Kayaking is one way to explore the Sanctuary. Monterey Bay Kayaks rents all the equipment needed. They have a website, (<http://www.montereybaykayaks.com/>), listing kayaking tours for all skill levels, with helpful related links. This is a way to make contact with the marine environment safely, affordably and, best of all, quietly. For example, the company offers monthly Full Moon guided tours of Elkhorn Slough for \$50.00 that last 2.5 hours. Kayakers can slip through the silver waters and experience the ocean in a way they might never do on their own. Monterey Bay Kayaks offers, among others, birding tours, kids' trips and coastal expeditions off Point Lobos. Bennett Leda, senior business student, local surfer and guide for Monterey Bay Kayaks, said, "The winter months are great for kayaking on the Bay because there are a lot of days with no wind so the water is calm. The surfing is great now too. Summer tends to be windier and rougher."

With such resources available, CSUMB students have opportunities to explore the Sanctuary and make vital contact with a unique marine environment.

Zen Exercise

Annie Sacks, Staff Reporter
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With the ubiquitous ocean as her backdrop, her breath steady and warm against the cool air, she places one foot in front of the other along the trail. She walks past little old ladies with their toy dogs, and mothers with their strollers. And she wonders if they are as grateful to be out in the fresh coastal air as she is. Reaching the legendary Cannery Row, with its bustle of tourists buzzing in the background, she powers by the chaos. But none of it matters; not the tourists, not the traffic, not the noise. All that matters is that she is walking. When all is right with the world and when the world falls apart, she walks, knowing the stress will melt away, the drama will evaporate. It is she and the wind and her feet fall, one in front of the other.

"When I have a lot of homework and other stress, I go for a walk," said senior Kirsten Makela a business major. "It's sort of my Zen. I make a point to do it every day; the exercise relaxes me and keeps me sane."

Most people know that exercise is a crucial part of life and that their bodies were not made simply to sit around and watch T.V. for hours. But western society seems to be based on T.V. We have even learned to call it "Reality." There are entire studies to show what gets attention and what does not.

Exercise can help students get the rest they need, which will help boost student attention in class. Exercising helps cast things back into focus, giving the brain oxygen and the body endorphins. Many people know these effects of exercise. There are other aspects to exercise as well.

The Otter basketball team shows another aspect of exercise. They exercise even on game days and has proved to be helpful. They lift on game days to increase their flexibility and to improve circulation in their muscles, this enables them to be loose and ready to play, not tired out like most people would think. The work outs are short 20 to 30 minutes often a light jog or push-ups and some light weight. "We are not trying to build muscle in these pre-game workout sessions, just merely trying to wake our body up and get oxygen into our muscles," said coach Renee Jimenez CSUMB womens basketball coach. "After our workouts, we send them about their day till game

time, making sure they are staying hydrated and eat a good meal"

The womens basketball team of course exercises for their sport but the importance of the short work out before games is helpful to their success. "We have found that by doing this, our athletes feel much looser and have a greater amount of energy com tip-off. They arrive at the gym feeling good and ready to go as hard as they need to go to get the WIN." said coach Jimenez

From walking to a pre-game work out exercise has shown to have other positive qualities than just keeping people fit. From boosting immune systems or loosening muscles for a big game. Many people athletes, students find a way of exercising that helps them the in the best way possible. Exercise can bring calmness to some, like Zen or bring home a win for others.

She uses her heartbeat as the guide to create a rhythm for her steps and then focuses on the ocean and the cool breeze floating through her hair. The stress of her senior year slowly evaporates with the crashing waves. She feels as if nothing can stop her now.

OR

Me, Myself and I

Safeer Bhombal, Staff Reporter
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One learns many things their first semester away from home and away at college. As I approach the end of my first semester at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB), I am beginning to reflect on my life lessons and skills.

In the past two months, I have acquired many new lessons. I would like to think of myself as a better and wiser person since arriving on campus. One skill set I have acquired this semester is writing for a newspaper—the good, the bad and the ugly of writing for a newspaper.

The first thing drilled into my head is that while writing, avoid projecting any bias into the article, unless it's a column. In this piece, for the first time, I am permitted to state my own thoughts and opinions. This is the first time I can relax and tell a story about my experiences with *The Otter Realm*. Experienced and written by yours truly, Me, Myself and I.

Prior to coming to CSUMB, I was praised on numerous occasions for my writing skills. I liked to think my writing was exceptional. However I had never written for a newspaper, which has its own standards and style for deciding what material is published and how. I never fathomed the number of nuances behind writing effectively for the newspaper. *The Otter Realm* was nothing more than a mere class I added four days prior to arriving at CSUMB. Or so I thought.

Little did I know how hard the work would be, how much I had to learn, and yet, how quickly I would pick up the process and become engaged by newspaper writing. It has been quite a surprise to find that I enjoy it so much and have done so well, especially since I was a slow learner growing up.

I also have come to enjoy a bit of a celebrity status as fellow CSU Monterey Bay students wonder about this writer with a very uncommon name. I've heard various phrases upon a member of this campus hearing my name for the first time: "You're that Otter Realm guy aren't you."

So, to *The Otter Realm*, thank you for the new knowledge you have instilled in me and for giving me this wonderful opportunity to write. Thank you for the new writing skills I will use for the rest of my life. To those reading my words, thank you for tuning in and for giving me my 15 minutes of pseudo-celebrity status. Thank you for the comments, the praises, the criticism and the encouragement on my pieces. I highly recommend this experience to anyone who has a voice, who wants to be heard and who is looking to get better at it.

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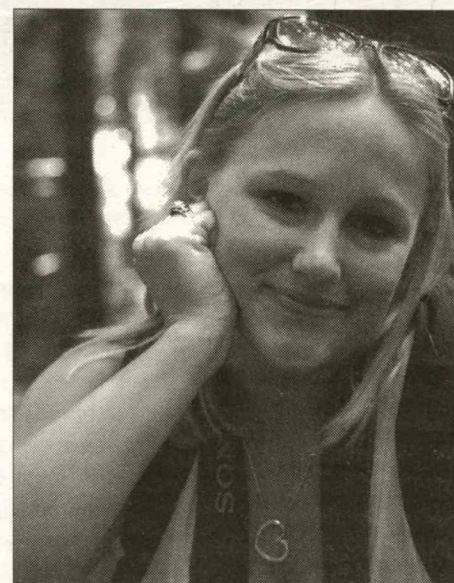
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Goodbye Otter Realm

Shannon Conner, Production Manager
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I remember it like yesterday. I spent months packing, making sure I had everything I would need, minus the trip to Target after I moved in. I loaded my car and started the long drive to college.

My first year at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) passed in a blur. I spent many weekends driving down Highway 101 to San Diego, and getting two speeding tickets along the way. After living in the same house from the day I was born to the day I moved into my residence hall, homesickness hit me hard.

My sophomore year changed me. I took 20 units, was an RA (Resident Advisor) and worked 30 hours a week at Starbucks. I slacked in school because I could not find time to do my homework, do residence rounds and make lattes. In the end, I learned how much is too much and that sometimes, you just need a break.

My junior year, I moved to nearby Pacific Grove, continued working at Starbucks, found *The Otter Realm* and settled into my niche. I learned how to balance work and school, and got my life under control.

This final semester, the only semester of my senior year, has been laden with work, I assume it has been for all of you as well. I will say that my hard work during previous semesters paid off, leaving me with only my Capstone class and my last MLO (Major Learning Outcome) class to complete.

As my time at CSUMB comes to an end, I can't help but think back through my educational experiences without a poem coming to mind. One my Kindergarten teacher read to us on the last day of school, called, "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten," by Robert Fulghum.

As I prepare to graduate, I feel inclined to rename it, "All I Really Need to Know I Learned at CSUMB."

"Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hand before you eat. Flush."

Each different concept outlined by Fulghum can be applied to our lives, both during college and after we commence. The author challenges the reader to "think what a better world it would be if all—the whole world—had cookies and milk every after noon and then lay down with our blankies for a nap."

With that in mind, I want to thank CSUMB for all of the doors opened, closed and even those slammed in my face. I will take with me four years of experiences, memories and lessons learned as I enjoy my cookies and milk after graduation, and then lie down with my blankie for a well-earned nap before I travel the world this coming year.

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om·buds [äm-bu-dz]

1. One who investigates reported complaints (as from students or consumers), reports findings and helps to achieve equitable settlements.

Crunch Time Otters,

Well the end of the semester is upon us and if you are reading this, it is the final 2009 issue of the Otter Realm (OR). Thank you for your support and we hope you have enjoyed our content this semester. We have attempted to present a variety of stories from news, arts and sports in order to entertain and educate the campus and surrounding areas.

I will be stepping down as Ombudsman for the CSU Monterey Bay paper as I will not be enrolled in HCOM 389-Otter Realm Workshop- next semester. Although I was not given the opportunity to field any ethical questions or comments from readers this semester, the Ombudsman will be here for you to confide in upcoming issues.

Most of our staff will be moving on after this semester; however the OR is always searching for budding and talented writers to try their hand at journalistic writing. If interested or need another class, HCOM 389 is an excellent choice to discover how news reporting and writing develops from pitch to print. Good luck with the last weeks of your semester and see you around campus.

Your Ombudsman,
Lucas Anthony

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

OTTER OOPS

~ Page 15 of the last issue in the Sanctuary Rock Gym stated it opened in 2001. In fact, it opened in 1992



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Candy Flip

The Florence C. and Alwin R. Krause Scholarship for the Division of Humanities and Communication

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SUDOKU
su·do·ku [sōo-dō'kōo]



Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.



Sexual Healing

The Unwrapping
of Our True-Selves

Marc Russo, Staff Reporter
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There is a point in relationships where we are completely comfortable being our less than desirable selves in front of our significant others. It's almost impossible to notice the gradual change or pinpoint an exact moment. But one day we think to ourselves, "wait a minute. When did we become this open and honest?"

Once we have a significant other in our grasp, we slowly reveal ourselves. This is really the most critical part of a relationship because we begin to see whom we are actually dating. Once the uncovering begins, we start to wonder what we may hear from the other side.

Is he in debt? Is her family crazy? Does he ever get out of bed? Is her black lace underwear going back in the drawer? Does he have a snoring problem? Does she fart during sleep or even worse, purposely in front of you? Does he still sleep with a night-light? A security blanket? Will she abandon her leg-shaving regiment? Leave the door open to the john?

Most of these things are seemingly innocent and shouldn't affect the outcome of a relationship, but there is an unconscious balancing act of when they are appropriate to make public. The correct time is usually when the bond shared, somehow surpassed a normal relationship, and into the realm of family.

We just can't begin courting with conversation such as, "I've got a real heavy flow." Honestly, that conversation never needs to be brought up. Surely the majority of women would never actually say that, especially on a first date. "I've got to take a dump" has most definitely been heard in the voice of a man. Contrary to popular belief, there is such a thing as too much honesty in a relationship.

There are some things opposite sexes should never bring up in conversation. Bodily fluids are among them. Our parts and processes are just not the same. Perhaps that kind of understanding and awareness should wait for the sanctity and security of marriage.

We value the motto, "Be yourself." But if I can't stand myself sometimes, why should she be any different? Thomas Masson, an early 20th century author, said "Be yourself is about the worst advice you can give to some people."

What we can do is hope the partner we have chosen accepts all our negative faults along with our positive. Now the hard part is finding that special someone.

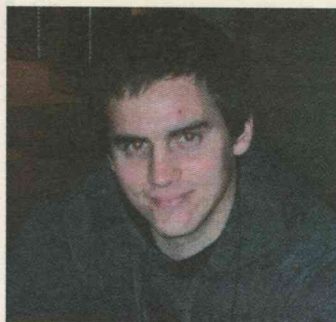
OR

Person on Campus

What Are Your Plans For Winter Break?



I AM GOING ON A CRUISE THROUGH THE CARIBBEAN. I STILL HAVE AN EXTRA SPOT IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED.
~LEWIS HALL,
PSYCHOLOGY, SENIOR



I'M GOING WITH LEWIS AS HIS PERSONAL ASSISTANT IN THE BAHAMAS.
~COLIN COLE,
LIBERAL STUDIES,
SENIOR



I'M GOING ON A COUPLE SNOWBOARD TRIPS, TO ARIZONA, OREGON AND VEGAS FOR NEW YEARS.
~SHARAYAH JAMES
KINESIOLOGY,
FRESHMAN



I'M STAYING HERE AND PRACTICING BASKETBALL. I ONLY GET TO GO HOME FOR FOUR DAYS.
~COURNTEY ROSE,
BUSINESS, FRESHMAN



I'M GOING TO DISNEYLAND!
~MENNA ESHETE,
BUSINESS, FRESHMAN

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*Love,
The Otter Realm*

