For first-generation students, expectations aren’t as great as for those whose parents have a college degree. These students have little or no role models within their family; no mother or father’s college legacy to look up to and become inspired. Therefore, attending college doesn’t feel like a natural path, but more like a seemingly, almost-impossible, objective. Almost half of the student population at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) are first-generation. Financial uncertainties are common amongst first-generation students. For senior Tacia Williams, her budget was the main concern prior to enroll CSUMB. “Coming here, I wondered if I could even afford college. I was far from home and didn’t even have a car.” Despite the quandaries, Williams managed to overcome such obstacles and is currently pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Global Studies.

Jenny Garza, freshman, Collaborative Health and Human Services have an additional difficulty to start college. “I have a little daughter […] I chose this university because I got housing so I can be with her, and I can send her to day care right here.” It is not only the economic hardship but the lack of encouragement that make it harder for some students to pursue their dreams. “Some people think, Jenny is not going to make it, but I know there are students with cars, with more resources than I and sometimes they fail so I know I can make it. For my daughter I will!”

Many students are unaware of programs that can aid them in the process of enrollment and staying focused at school. For example, College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) is intended to support students of migrant and seasonal farmworker backgrounds. It provides academic advising and services which can enhance the student’s college experience.

The CAMP program had completed its third year and was ranked in the top 10 in the nation. The students that benefit from it made the biggest jump in improvement. The program is not ethnicity/race based. People of all races are welcomed to apply but they must prove they are historically disadvantaged.

Similarly, the Early Assessment Program (EAP) is another service offered by the state of California that prepares first-generation students to improve their skills in math, English grammar and literature in order to be accepted by a CSU. High school junior and seniors hopefuls are encouraged to take part in this program.

Perry Angle director of all the Early Outreach & Support Programs, which coordinates all other services for underprivileged students considers that “the programs we have, have gotten to the point where they are doing extremely well to serve the student we have.” However, “these programs still need about triple the amount to serve all populations.” Perry said.

Carina Cisneros, a coordinator for the EOP program, relates how first-generation students have made their impressions felt at CSUMB.

EOP is a popular program that also abets first-generation low-income students, as well as the historically disadvantaged and the under-represented. Benefits include academic advising, grants, on top of many other forms of aid. “At EOP, we help student with major college decisions. Also, we offer one-on-one mentoring, so these students know they’re not alone” A former first-generation student herself, Cisneros acknowledges that her passion for helping first-generation students arises from her own experiences as a former first-generation student. “I have a personal connection with these students and the program. I see a piece of myself in them.”

Accordingly, it is difficult breaking the cycle in striving for a better education; more importantly, becoming the first to do so in one’s family. “Breaking tradition
THUR 9/15
EL GRITO MARIACHI CELEBRATION
CHAPMAN SCIENCE ACADEMIC CENTER
All members of the campus community are invited to this free, outdoor Mariachi Celebration for Mexican Independence Day. Assignments as much as you will forget what you learned.

FRI 9/16-SUN 9/18
BIG SUR SURF & CAMP TRIP
FRI, SEPTEMBER 16 2011 - 1:00 PM TO SUN AT 3:00 PM
Join Outdoor Recreation for a weekend of camping at Kirk Creek Campground, Surfing at Sand Dollar Beach, and hiking in Big Sur. Surf Instruction, surfboards, wetsuits, camping equipment, food and transportation provided. You'll spend your days and evenings exploring beaches, breaks, and day hikes.

SAT 9/17
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS. HUMBOLDT STATE KELP BED (OTTER SPORTS CENTER) 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.
The CSUMB Women's Volleyball team plays a California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) match at the Otter Sports Center located at the corner of 2nd Avenue and Inter-Garrison Road. First serve is scheduled for 7:00 pm.

SAT 9/17
80'S DANCE BLACK BOX CABARET
This is the second annual 80's Dance. The event is on Sept. 17 at the BBC from 9pm-12am. The theme is obviously 80's so come dressed in your craziest 80's attire. Mac D will be DJ'ing some of those 80's classics, 80's remixes, and Top 40.

THUR 9/22
ONE LOVE DANCE BLACK BOX CABARET
8 P.M.-12A.M.
Join us for the FREE 'One Love Dance' feat. Funky C & Joya.

FRI 9/23
OSU FRIDAY NIGHT CONCERT
BLACK BOX CABARET
9 P.M. - 12 A.M.
Live music featuring Barcelona, opened by PK & the Steamwells.

SAT 9/24
RED LIGHT SPECIAL
BLACK BOX CABARET
9 P.M. - 12 A.M.
Come out and join the distinguished gentleman of Kappa Alpha Psi as we bring you an enjoyable night of dancing underneath the dim red lights. Monterey's very own DJ C-3PO will be bringing you the latest and greatest tunes to make you move and groove.

MON 9/26
TIE-DYE FUNDRAISER MAIN QUAD 12 P.M. - 2 P.M.
Out and About/GSA is sponsoring: try your hand at Tie-Dye! Come out and show your support for our club. $5 to buy a shirt from us, $3 for a shirt of your own. You can also bring other items to tie-dye (socks, headbands, etc)

MON 9/26
BENEFITS FAIR 2011 ALUMNI & VISITOR'S CENTER MAIN ROOM 11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
Human Resources invites all Staff, Faculty, and their families to CSUMB's Benefits Fair, Wednesday, September 28th from 11 am - 2pm in the Alumni & Visitor's Center. The purpose of this fair is to showcase CSUMB's benefit programs; give employees an opportunity to speak to benefit providers; provide Open Enrollment information; and assist employees in making plan changes, including HCRA/DCRA annual enrollments.

In Remembrance
The California State University, Monterey Bay community is mourning the death of one of its members. Kathryn Lause, 20 years old, was from Livermore, California. Kathryn passed away September 9, 2011. Although the cause of death is still undetermined, it appears to have been a result of a pre-existing medical condition.
Kathryn joined the CSUMB community after having transferred from Las Positas College, and was majoring in Biology at CSUMB.

The Otter Realm expresses its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Kathryn Lause.

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

EDITOR'S COLUMN
A New Fashioned Welcome

The Otter Realm says Hello to a New Staff and a New Year
Crystal Marie Lopez, Editor-in-Chief
CROPEZ@CSUMB.EDU

I firmly believe in the power of words, conversation, and the interaction they initiate between individuals and groups. It is my hope as the new Editor-in-Chief, to provide the CSUMB community with a medium through which they can express themselves and find the comfort in knowing they and their concerns are being listened to and voiced.

With the help of The Otter Realm I hope to further build a sense of community. I am hoping students, staff, community members, and future CSUMB Otters will interact with us and the information provided in The Otter Realm, along with the discussions that follow, will bring people together. We have Twitter, Facebook, and the Otterrealm.net available to you not only as information sources but also as ways of expression.

This semester The Otter Realm is proudly made up of 27 student writers, a production team of 11 and amazing volunteers. This year we also have a new Production Manager, Kameron Sawyer, and Online Editor, Henry Houston. Collectively, with Dana Keller, Advertising/Distribution Manager, and Brianna Wagner, Webmaster, we strive to deliver you the most recent news about the campus that will effect or otherwise interest you, the reader, and the CSUMB Community directly.

We at the Otter Realm are made up of people just like you. We have hopes, expectations, questions, and needs. We are independent voices, attentive and inclusive to all the diversity on our campus and community. This is a home to readers, poets, sports fanatics, mathematicians, artists, writers, and many more all alike.

Together as a team we will work to make the printed newspaper, as well as the online website, a reflection of the CSUMB community. This is a goal we can accomplish only with full participation of every one of our readers and Otter friends. We encourage you to respond to articles and participate in online polls. Send us an editorial, poetry, or photographs for our Otter Voices section.

This is my call to you, get involved, take full advantage of all the resources available to you, and interact with The Otter Realm. We want to provide you, CSUMB, the opportunity to have your voices heard. Share with us the strengths and weaknesses that make up our community. Alert us of opportunities, and let us know when there is something we Otter have pride in.

For more information, please visit www.otterrealm.net

Designed By: Kameron Sawyer
University Center Renovations

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM CSUMB'S MOST ACTIVE BUILDING

Sarah Carroll, Staff Writer
SACARROLL@CSUMB.EDU

The California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) University Center (UC), home to the Otter Bay Restaurant, multiple meeting rooms and the Conference and Events Services offices, is undergoing construction. The renovation began in early August and is scheduled to be finished Nov. 30.

"The cost of the roof replacement and upgrade of the HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) systems is approximately $900,000," said Kevin Saunders, the Vice President of Administration and Finance whose department is supervising this project. The funding is coming from the "one-time money," or "reserves," which is there for this very purpose.

Returning students and faculty may remember the cool temperature, which constantly lingered in the lobby of the UC and sometimes drifted into the meeting rooms. This was due to a "tent-like" roof, which failed to provide insulation, and did not act as a proper shield from watery weather conditions. The weather wear eventually led to rain leaks making the space an uncomfortable environment to work in and not to mention, host events.

The UC is a major venue for CSUMB affiliated events and events held by our community partners therefore, the refurbishment was extremely high on the to-do-list.

"The basic answer to why we are doing this is that it was extremely necessary and the new roof will help us all students, faculty and staff, our community partners and Conference and Events in the long run from both a comfort and revenue perspective," said Dr. Dianne Harrison, CSUMB President. It will also be more energy efficient, cutting down on utility costs.

In the UC, the Manager and Coordinator each had their own office while the student assistant sat in the lobby at the receptionist desk. However, the Conference and Events Services relocated to the Otter Express. The current office, though, is not quite as luxurious since all three positions now sit in one small room, located on the right hand side of the Otter Express entrance.

"Our temporary office is centrally located but it will be nice to be back in our own space. We are all excited about having the new roof on the University Center. It will improve the venue; no more freezing receptions and no more birds flying around. The changes will make the University Center the showcase it was intended to be," said Patricia Clasen, Conference and Events Services Manager.

The student assistants are just as excited for the new roof since they were the ones sitting at the reception desk during the winter months. The University Center is freezing. You definitely have to dress in layers for opening and closing shifts when it is the coldest. Jilliane Wygant, Senior, Biology and Eric Pichardo, Senior, Business both said.

Rumors about the Otter Bay Restaurant's permanent closure surfaced, but these can be put to rest as Saunders assured the restaurant will be reopening for the spring semester. CSUMB President Harrison spoke about the school's desire to maximize dining options as student feedback showed discontent with the previous Otter Bay Restaurant. Not much insight was disclosed about the future of the restaurant.

"There will be some format changes however that planning is still underway so I am not sure what those changes will be."

In the meantime CSUMB will have to go forth without the convenience of the UC but, as President Harrison ensured "The work is scheduled to be completed by November 30 so that the Fall Capstones and other major university events normally held in December will be good to go."

Award-Winning Broadcast Journalist visits CSUMB

Belva Davis talks at President's Speakers Series

Nicole Jones, Staff Writer
NJONES@CSUMB.EDU

On September 27, the California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) President's Speakers Series will be kicked off with the visit of the award winning broadcast journalist Belva Davis. Being the first African American woman television journalist on the west coast Davis is a recognized name, especially in the San Francisco Bay area, and much of the Northern California area.

Davis will take the stage of the World Theater where she will discuss her recently published memoir "Never in My Wildest Dreams: A Black Woman's Life in Journalism." A book that exposes the challenges she faced while trying to make a name for herself in broadcast journalism.

During a time where African Americans and minority women in general were almost invisible in mainstream news media, and when racism and sexism were tolerated, Davis achieved and conquered her dreams. She is a certified role model for all minority journalist and those who are in pursuit of a career in media.

For a half century into the 21st century the business Davis has made a name for herself covering significant stories such as the birth of the Black Panthers movement, the assassinations of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and supervisor Harvey Milk, and her internationally reports include the coverage of the first terrorist attacks that put Osama bin Laden on the FBI's Most Wanted List.

She has met historic icons like entertainer and singer James Brown, political activist Malcolm X and world famous boxer Muhammad Ali, just to name a few. She has won eight Emmys and numerous Lifetime Achievement awards.

In her campus visit there will be a Q&A session with an invited audience of 100 students and the lecture event will be held at 7pm until 8:30 pm with a follow up Q&A session. The event is free and open to the public at CSUMB's World Theater. However, reservations are strongly encouraged and those can be made online at www.worldtheater.csumb.edu or by calling the World Theater box office directly at 831–582–4580.
New State Budget Cuts Down To The Bone

Effects Here In Monterey No Different Than The Rest Of California

With the recent passing of California's state budget, students and administrators alike have been warned by the magic eight ball: Outlook Not So Good. The governor's revised budget issued in July included a $650 million reduction from the general funds to both the California State University system (CSU) as well as the University of California system (UC). Community Colleges will also take a hit of between $400 and $420 million.

Here at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB), the school's budget was just finalized in the last days of August with a new set of minimized standards and reduced spending. This move left many students on the CSUMB campus wondering how these new budget policies affect them personally here on the peninsula.

So far it is hard to tell. Tuition will rise at all CSU campuses by $294 this fall for each resident student—according CSUMB website. The CSU Board of Trustees agreed in May to a 10 percent increase for the fall but after the budget was released, an additional 20 percent was voted for on top of that.

Kevin Saunders, Vice President of Administration and Finance, sees some parts of a rainbow through the rain. “The overall number of classes has not dropped,” he said. “We have not released any faculty; in fact, we hired additional faculty this fall,” he added, “and we have not cut wages or hours.”

We can also look at the new policies from the state, which was defined in the amended budget. First of all, more checks and balances are called for throughout the CSU system. For example, new standards will be applied to the Cal Grant Program Renewal Awards to verify recipients do not surpass income and/or asset ceiling levels.

The budget also called for a $15.2 million reduction in various aspects of the CSU library system. CSUMB's library still permeates that delicious new library smell and the idea of stunting its encouraging development is not a pleasing prospect in any aspect.

As for the future, CSU Chancellor Charles Reed has already directed all campuses to cease enrollment for the 2012 spring semester. He has also announced that CSU campuses must cut enrollment by a total of 40,000 students in the next two years.

President Diane Harrison, in her State of the University address last month, stated that 3,000 students had to be turned away this fall. She also implied that admission for the spring would be extremely limited.

Given the continued budget uncertainty, we may admit only a few students in the spring semester, and our growth toward our eventual goal of 10,000 students will be slower than I would like,” Saunders echoed these sentiments, stating, “We have had to turn away qualified students, unfortunately.”

The call for cuts is cast with an even darker shadow when compared with the 2011-2012 CSU Support Budget. The state appropriations for the CSU system are almost the same as in the 1998-1999 school year (2.14 billion now compared to 2.16 billion then), which would not be a huge problem if enrollment had not increased by 58,000 students since then, according to the Support Budget.

That means the state funds per student have gone from $10,930 in 98-99 to just $6,459 now. At the same time, the net tuition and fee revenue per student has more than doubled from $2,572 in 98-99 to $5,517 now.

Sadly, none of this was planned for by the state. In the Higher Education Compact Agreement from 2005-2006, a declaration of future spending between then-governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and the UC/CSU systems, projected funds for the CSU system alone were expected to be 1.69 billion dollars more than we have now.

And to top off every bit of bad financial news, the worst part is that the CSU system still has a $190 million deficit, meaning that nobody should expect these kinds of cuts to cease any time soon.

Hidden Budget Alternatives

Are There Better Budget Alternatives Than Just Raising Tuition?

Hidden Budget Alternatives

With the recent 12 percent tuition hike California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees approved for the fall 2011 semester and the threat of another tuition hike for the upcoming spring semester, budget alternative ideas are quickly becoming more appealing.

South Dakota schools approached the financial crisis by minimizing their school weeks to four days instead of the traditional five. Charles Schwartz, a professor at University of California, Berkley, reported the University of California (UC) system is also considering other alternatives. Thus raising the question, what alternatives are there for CSUMB?

The Best Alternative Would Be For The California Legislation To Fund The CSU Budget Request.

One alternative would be to do as South Dakota did and cut the school week down to four days.

"This probably would not be a viable alternative or substantial money saving opportunity. CSUMB wouldn't have enough space to teach all the sections that are required in a compressed week," said Kevin Saunders, Vice President for Administration and Finance refuting the viability for solving CSUMB's budget alternatives. "The savings from utilities would not be nearly enough to change the cost of tuition fees".

Many believe there are other alternatives besides raising tuition.

"I think there could be a better way," said Ashley Martinez, Junior, Math. "Maybe raise parking fees." However, this idea would still fail to provide enough money for the university.

Schwartz gave a few budget alternatives for the UC schools across California. One alternative was to propose a progressive tax on all salaries in the UC system. For CSUMB, tax rates would be lower for faculty members who make less money, but as faculty members make more money, and, if using Schwartz’s tax rate plan, the rate would cap at 20 percent.

Since CSUMB's budget system differs greatly from that of the UC, there is one alternative that could satiate the university's budget woes, though.

"The best alternative would be for the California legislation to fund the CSU budget request," said Saunders. "The legislature has denied the CSU request and has been cutting the funding to the CSU for the last 4 years."
Ten Years Gone, but Never Forgotten

CSUMB REMEMBERS 9/11

Henry Houston, Online Editor

It has been ten years since the plane hijacking of September 11, 2001, and California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB), hosted a day of remembrance.

CSUMB's Republican and Democrat groups banded together, planting US flags on the campus quad. A total of 2,819 flags were planted, representing those who died in the terrorist attacks, and remained there for the whole day.

CSUMB chaplains Jon Perez and Clark Brown led the morning event, which was attended by about 55 students, faculty members, public safety officers, and family members.

"Our time together is sacred time," Father Jon Perez told the crowd. "As we prepare to this time, as we remember the complexity of 9/11, it's a complex layer of remembrance." Perez added that 9/11 "belongs to all of humanity."

Perez noted that New York State's motto is excelsior, but we should add to that motto when thinking of 9/11.

"I would add pax. Pax excelsior. Which means where do we go from here? Or everlasting peace."

The event also featured CSUMB student Janet Jacquier, senior, Human Communication Peace Studies, also spoke. She recounted the morning of Sept. 11, and the worry she felt during the morning. Jacquier then mentioned the outcomes of Sept. 11.

"This was a war on terror," she said. "I was fearful of war and going to war. I soon became an advocate against war. All Americans must come together for peace."

Another CSUMB student spoke during the event, David Affield, senior, Environmental Science and Technology and Policy, who was a linguist with the Marines. Affield remembered one of his fellow Marines, one he served with, Joey Alamo.

"We slept arms away," Affield said. On December 5, he said, Alamo was killed in Afghanistan by a suicide bomber. "Today is Nick's birthday. He would have been 25."

Affield continued to say that when he thinks about the sacrifices on Sept. 11, he thinks also of the "6,000 men and women dead, 5,000 wounded in those terrible wars. $2 trillion and the war is still going on."

CSUMB President Dianne Harrison spoke also about her experiences with Sept. 11. "I have lived my whole life through the threat of war," she said. She recounted through the different times of American conflict: The Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War, and the rivalry with the USSR, which after failing brought "the Peace dividend. There would be less money for war, more for peace, and humanity." However, Sept. 11 took that era away.

"There is honor in the pursuit of peace. I hope we can find it again," she said, ending her speech during the event.

The event started the National Day of Service, created by President Obama last year. After a day of volunteering and memorials, Sept. 11 ended with the CSUMB Social Justice Coalition's 9/11 Community Town Hall.

CSUMB Students Hope to Remember

IT'S ABOUT BEING PATRIOTIC!

Brittany Harden, Staff Writer

September 11, 2011 marks the 10 year anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center. The day in which the Twin Towers fell and changed the lives of many. This year the Otter College Republicans and the College Democrats, both clubs at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) are putting together an event on Sept. 11 2011 to remember the lives lost and those who are still fighting for their lives.

When asked why did they decide to partner with the College Democrats Hannah Plummer a Senior Business major at CSUMB the Otter Republican Chairman and Laura Benitez also a Senior Liberal Arts major at CSUMB simply replied "it's not a political ploy.

Further, that and the nation as a whole was affected and that it has nothing to do with the fact that the two main political parties think differently. When I asked Adam Pinteris a senior at CSUMB majoring in HCOM the president of The College Democrats at CSUMB believes that "he feels that many students have forgotten what happened on Sept. 11 ten years ago" and he wanted the memorial to be a reminder of what happened on that fateful day.

Even though the Plummer herself had not been personally affected by loss of a family member in the 9/11 attacks she said she felt as if she still wanted to give honor to those who were. She believe "it is her right as an American and as student at CSUMB show the community that the students at CSUMB have not forgotten what happened on that fateful day.

The club will be posting 3,000 American flags and candles for those who wish to participate in the memorial at North Quad.

When Benitez and Plummer were asked what inspired them to put on such an event they said that the Young American foundation sells kits to post flags for memorial events. Plummer and Benitez could not afford to buy the flags from the website because they were too expensive and did not provide enough flags that they wanted, so they went searching for donations. Benitez, Plummer and Pinteris decided to make the memorial open to the public on campus because it was the community that helped fund the event and it would be easier for the students to have access to it. Benitez stated that over a month ago the club itself went out to local businesses and community members donated money to buy the flags and candles.
**Surfin' CSUMB**

Kevin Miller Recognized For Online Contribution

Every year, individuals are honored with the President’s award at California State University of Monterey Bay. This year, at the Day of Welcome on August 17, Kevin Miller of the University’s Information Technology (IT) department was one of the three.

Miller was the representative of the IT department, which recently augmented the CSUMB website and various other online resources. These upgrades came courtesy of Miller and the IT department’s knowledge of open source coding, a money-saving strategy that also touts the vision of CSUMB. Now more intuitive and just generally easier to use, there is much less chance of getting lost trying to find the appropriate page.

The Otter Realm caught up with Miller, an alumus of CSUMB. When asked why he decided to fix the problems of the regular website and the launch of the mobile site, he stated, “I have always been interested in fixing things that frustrated me... There is a sense of knowing what is going on when you’re one of the alumni.” He added that there are at least 15 alumni among the fifty-plus members of the IT department. That makes things easier when it comes to streamlining the web interface for an entire university. This is especially true when dealing with how to make all of the new features of CSUMB’s web features easier for students, staff and faculty to use. Among these features are the user interfaces for the general web site and MyCSUMB. The mobile site would be the most difficult to navigate if not for Miller’s evident tech-savvy knowledge.

Making it easy to navigate and accessible via any given mobile device seems like a difficult task. However, Miller and his team integrated the online voting system used in last semester’s Associated Students election that helped create a system that beats the online system the campus has been using for the last decade. Many would say this should have earned Miller the award. Miller’s choice of making the software an open-source code is once again utilizing the students. “It saves us money and is in line with the mission and goals of the university,” he said.

Miller, though, thinks that it was his team that got him the award. Because of the team’s contributions, he “wishes” that the whole team could have gotten that award.

**Dr. Feinman Receives President’s Medal**

On August 17, California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) President, Dr. Dianne Harrison, awarded three members of the CSUMB family the honor of the President’s Medal.

One of those members Professor Ilene Feinman, who has taught at CSUMB since the Fall semester of 1996, was awarded the Faculty President’s Medal.

Professor Feinman teaches Democratic Participation and US Cultures, where she takes special interest in the ways race and gender impact political life.

“I chose to come to CSUMB because I was deeply moved by the vision statement, by the transformation of (Fort Ord) to a university campus, and by the promise with all that to give back to the underserved communities of the Monterey Bay area,” she said in a statement. “I did not want to go anywhere else.”

In the spring of 2011, the CSUMB community was invited to make nominations for the President’s Award, and out of those nominations, a committee selected the finalists for President Harrison’s consideration.

Professor Feinman’s peers described her as a leader who is able to resolve complex issues and process many decisions at one time.

Professor Feinman has been a professor at CSUMB for 15 years. Ilene Feinman has been a professor at CSUMB for 15 years and realized that was indeed the right path for her. Throughout her career her goal for her students as an educator has been to provide a safe place to feel open enough to learn about new things and teach others about what they may know.

"[My goal] is to be able to strengthen their abilities as critical thinkers so that they come out of my classes knowing more about who they are and how they are shaped by their culture as well as how to learn—since true learning never stops," said Feinman.

Her goal has been met over the years as students have responded well to her teaching styles. "She is very passionate and energetic. [She] facilitates interesting and eye-opening discussions," said Emily Stockman, Senior Practical and Professional Ethics major as well as a former student of professor Feinman.

Feinman plans on teaching at CSUMB until she retires. On the other hand, if we don’t fix the state and national economies, attend to the environmental crises, and get some peace and justice thriving in the world, we might all ask, ‘what, indeed, is our future?’ [But] I have high hopes.

As do we have high hopes for professor Feinman to continue her positive impact on this university and its students and faculty alike.
Breaking Tradition
Continued From the Cover
Nicola's Pérez, Staff Reporter
WWW.CSUMB.EDU

is not easy, and that is what these students are doing by attending college," Cisneros urges first-generation students to expect obstacles, but more importantly, push through."It takes work. Continue to ask questions.

Challenges Staying Afloat
Although the number of first-generation student enrollment at CSUMB has increased significantly from 43 percent to 48 percent between 2010 and 2011, statistics show that the rate of first-time freshman returning for a second year of college has hardly improved between 2004 and 2009.

CSUMB Factbook shows that only 37 percent of students returned for their sophomore year in 2004, and 17 percent in 2009; only a 2 percent increase within those 5 years, the most alarming statistic in 2006, when 52 percent of students returned for their sophomore year in college. Retention and graduation for first-generation students and other underprivileged students continues being a challenge for the university.

Support Matters
Berenice Guerrero, freshman, undeclared major, missed to have more family support. "They [family] didn't know what to say to me. But I'm excited. I have a little sister. A senior in high school and I will tell her all about college, so she can make it too." Support matters, stories of encouragement break a tradition of silence and intimidation that some students face.

"A concern I had before coming to CSUMB was if I was going to be able to handle it. Although a common dilemma for all students, this is a recurring theme for first-generation students, such as freshman student, Guadalupe López. Thankfully, programs like EOP helped her. Outreach programs, mentoring, and financial assistance are vital to these students' success.

A commonality between Williams, Cisneros, and López is the strong support system which was provided by the university and their families. Because their parents didn't obtain a college degree, it is their dream to see their children persevere, including the mother of López. "I don't mind working hard. I just don't want her to work so hard for so little and to be thankful, like me. Then my pain is not in vain."

I "chose to come here because I have a little daughter. And in this university I found housing so I can be with her, and I can send her to day care right here...I know some people may think, no, Jenny is not going to make it, but I know there are students with cars, with more resources than I and sometimes they fail...so I know I can make it. For my daughter I will!" - Jenny Garza, freshman, Collaborative Health and Human Services

The Center for Student Success Succeeds

Ivan Pagan Helps You Stay on Track

Jessica Radogna, Staff Reporter
WWW.CSUMB.EDU

Founded in 1994, California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is the second youngest school in the California State University (CSU) system. Despite the stunning coastal scenery that serves as a major draw for potential students, it is also one of the smallest in terms of population. While the past few years alone have shown tremendous growth and development, the harsh reality is that CSUMB is still a work in progress. The school faces significant obstacles that come with the cultivation of any educational institution. According to a recent study by U.S. News and World Report, some of the larger issues at hand include an average freshman retention rate of about sixty-nine percent, and a four-year graduation rate of fourteen percent. Ivan Pagan, the newly elected director for the Center for Student Success is trying to end some of these problems.

"Right now our emphasis is mainly on [helping students who get into academic trouble], and I'd like to put more emphasis on [helping students to remain in good academic standing]."

Founded in 2008 through a Title V Hispanic Serving Institution Grant, the Center for Student Success exists, as its creed states, to "promote the value of learning and quality performance among students and staff, increase student retention, and create successful transitions for students to become productive and responsible leaders of society." Now more than ever, its creed rings true.

Not to be confused with the Academic Skills Achievement Program (ASAP) which provides private as well as group tutoring sessions, the Center for Student Success tends to student needs in the form of various workshops, which include: time management, test anxiety, note taking and more services.

The Back on Track workshop offered by the center is intended for students placed on academic probation. Although intensive, it is effective: Just last spring, students who fully participated were able to raise their GPAs by as much as .6 grade points.

"Students come to us in despair because they are at risk of being kicked out of school, and they leave with hope because they see a way out," Pagan said.

The Center for Student Success is ushering a change to CSUMB.

"One significant change is that we have become more accessible to students via our new iLearn course, which allows students on probation to more easily complete their requirements with us," said Pagan.

Students will now have faster online access to important files concerning their personal and academic goals as well as a direct line of communication with their peer and professional mentors. The goal is to give students a firm hand in their future while simultaneously maintaining a system of guidance to ensure the smoothest transition possible.

Despite the center's success, it faces an impending problem.

"The biggest change we face is that our grant will expire in two years," Pagan said. "After that, the nature and scope of our services may change significantly depending upon whether we obtain a new grant or we obtain support from the State of California."

Either way, one thing is for certain and Ivan Pagan says it best: "Going to college has its ups and downs, and sometimes you could use a little extra help to stay on track."

The Center for Student Success is located in room 2163 of the Tanimura & Antle Family Memorial Library. You can make an appointment by calling 582-4346 or by dropping in at the Center. For more information, go to http://studentssuccess.csumb.edu/.
All the World’s a Classroom

THE STRAIGHT SCOOP ON STUDYING ABROAD

Erika M. Murillo, Staff Reporter
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Studying abroad is often associated with being expensive yet worth it for the life changing experience. The subject can be confusing for a student who is considering studying abroad, and they should stop to ask themselves what it takes. Of course, there is the general question of whether or not they could afford living abroad, but in reality this is just one of the many aspects a student should think about when looking into the many programs for studying abroad here at California State University of Monterey Bay (CSUMB).

Students have an option of three study abroad programs, the Bharat Abroad program, California State University International Programs (CSUIP), and the National Student Exchange (NSE), from which they can choose. Each of these programs offer different experiences and have different requirements.

For example the Bharat Abroad program, which is for summer and winter break only, is for students looking for experience in the world of Indian or, starting next year, Nicaraguan business and culture.

The CSUIP is the biggest program here on campus, being affiliated with 50 universities in 19 countries, and where a yearlong stay is highly recommended. The NSE is a student exchange within the United States of America and Canada, meaning students from different universities can swap places for a year or semester, depending on the preference.

The number of students who study abroad range from year-to-year. This year, for example, a total of roughly 120 students from CSUMB, studying for both a year and semester, have made the decision to study abroad using one of the programs offered, ranging in countries from Taiwan to the Czech Republic.

Now a student could be wondering at this point whether or not they can afford it or if they have the right grades. The cost of studying abroad is simple, yet contrary to what most people think: the shorter the stay the more expensive.

According to Holly White, Study Abroad Coordinator, “The biggest misconception about Studying Abroad is that it’s expensive when there are many ways to pay for it.”

The expense of a student’s study abroad experience depends when they go. White suggests going for the year that is the least expensive option, after summer and spring respectively. The amount of money a student will need to study abroad varies on the country and the program.

The Bharat Abroad costs roughly $4000, while the CSUIP cost varies on the country a student decides to study in, with prices ranging from $31,100 to $16,000. The NSE also has two methods of payment, which are to pay the tuition from the student’s university or to pay the out of state/country fee. This payment depends on the university a student chooses. When it comes to grades, a student does not have to be the top student at their university, but they do need to “have at least a 2.5 GPA,” says White, in order to be eligible for the CSUIP study abroad program.

Just as there are many options for students to study abroad, there are also ways of paying for the programs. Financial Aid is available, for those who qualify, and there are different scholarships, which a student can apply for that are designed with study abroad in mind, and loans. If students find themselves low on cash while abroad they can always opt for teaching English.

“Teaching English is a great way to make some extra cash, I had some friends who did it and they used that money to travel a little more,” said Diaz who studied abroad in Granada, Spain.

As any former study abroad student can agree on, in order to study abroad you have to make sure it is the best option for you. White suggests, “Go because you want to,” instead of going because others tell you too. White uses an example of a student who was ready to go to Madrid, Spain, even though his first choice was to go to Chile and at the last minute he stopped himself because, “he realized he didn’t want Spain, he wanted Chile. He knew what he wanted and what was best for him,” says White.

There are many other issues a student must look at while deciding if they are going to study abroad. Some of the issues students face include leaving behind a family member, a significant other, and health. Although it may not seem important, all these aspects can influence a student to ask if they should or should not study abroad.

For Christina Murillo, Junior, Psychology major and also a former study abroad student, health was the main concern when she studied abroad. According to Murillo, who studied in Puerto Rico, the humidity of the island alone made her asthma worse.

“It was extremely hot and humid, and let’s just say my asthma didn’t agree with it,” she laughs.

Although she had a rough time in Puerto Rico, Murillo says she would recommend students to study abroad but to research more on the weather, so that they know what they are getting themselves into.

Both Diaz and Murillo agree on one thing, which is their experience abroad was life changing.

“I really had a great time. I’m planning a trip back already,” says Diaz. Although it is a tough decision to make and many factors are included, studying abroad will always be a topic that many students ask if it is the right choice. A student should do their research and if they do decide to take the plunge into a different culture, make sure they know what they want.

For more information contact Holly White in Green Hall, Building 58, by email or by attending the next study abroad meeting on Oct. 5, from 12:00p.m to 1:30 p.m. at the Student Center.
Most students know at least one stereotype associated with sororities and fraternities: be it the vapid sorority sister who is only concerned with grooming or the obnoxious frat guy that does little else but drink copious amounts of cheap beer. Collectively, many think of Greek life as little more than a group of materialistic elitists' excuse to host keggers and toga parties.

On the other side of the spectrum, however, fraternities and sororities are known for their philanthropic work, providing incoming students with a social platform along with unique leadership opportunities that can last a lifetime. Stereotypes aside, with a campus that boasts such a small student population, where on the spectrum does Greek life fall at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB), and moreover are the fraternities and sororities worth the trouble of joining in the first place?

The CSUMB website asserts that Greek life is "a big part of Cal State Monterey Bay" but that "big part" is nowhere to be found on the website itself. It lists the twelve total fraternities and sororities, but offers no additional links or information on them individually. The only contact information given is Tim Bills, the elusive Director of Student Activities and Leadership Development who oversees the Multicultural Greek Council.

Though the site does "helpfully" offer the main "focuses" of Greek letter organizations at CSUMB (sisterhood/brotherhood, friendship, service, academic success, celebration of cultures, and career development), its lack of contact information (and information in general) will most likely make it difficult for an incoming student to learn about and become involved in Greek life.

Collectively, many think of Greek life as litter more than a group of materialistic elitists' excuse to host keggers and toga parties.

Still, it must be taken into consideration that Greek life is relatively new to CSUMB, with some chapters having only been recognized last year. The Kappa Sigma fraternity was chartered in May of 2010 and is currently the largest Greek organization on campus. This addition of a nationally widespread fraternity is ushering a new era of Greek life by "starting new traditions for a newer campus," as described by current Kappa Sigma president, Paul Disselhorst (Senior, Computer Science and Information Technology).

The other fraternities and sororities on campus are smaller, cultural organizations that are not as nationally widespread as Kappa Sigma, Delta Omega Rho Multicultural Sorority was actually created and founded at CSUMB, while Nu Alpha Kappa is one of the largest Latino-based fraternities on the west coast. Seven of the twelve are Latino/Latina-interest organizations, but not exclusive; in fact all share similar ideologies of multiculturalism and diversity.

They also share a dedication to service and improving the community. Earlier this year CSUMB led a community service drive in which eight sororities and fraternities participated, lending 906 hours of service total (Omega Delta Phi sorority was responsible for a whopping 435.5 hours.) Various fraternities and sororities have also been known to host awareness events for causes such as alcohol awareness, breast cancer, and sexual violence. These events have included guest speakers, dances, and fundraisers.

Despite efforts, some students think sorority and fraternity involvement with the campus is limited.
NEWS

The end is seemingly near for that white, lightweight container, known as polystyrene, which is better known as Styrofoam. Salinas, on August 16, added itself to the lengthening list of cities, and counties, that are banning the use of polystyrene in California. Salinas City Council voted 6-1 for the city-wide ban. Salinas now joins Seaside, Marina, Sand City, Monterey, and Monterey County in the ban of polystyrene.

"Trash and litter really tear at the fabric of our image. It hurts our business community; it hurts them in times of marketing themselves in a regional economical market. It hurts our residents; it tears at the fabric of their self-pride in their community," Michael Ricker, who is the environmental resource planner in Salinas, said during the August 16 Salinas City Council Meeting. "We have a litter problem, but we aren't the only one who has a litter problem."

Ricker went on to say because of polystyrene's lightweight characteristic, the containers usually blow in the wind from wherever it was being used. From there, the container will go into the storm drains, to the rivers and out to the Monterey Bay.

Ricker cited Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) graduate student Carolyn Roosevelt, who wrote her master's thesis on beach clean-up assessment in Monterey Bay beaches. In the thesis, she said polystyrene is the most common form of litter on beaches, and in order to mitigate this problem, there has to be more control at the source.

CSUMB's Dining Services has taken control at the source by eliminating polystyrene and replacing it with something biodegradable.

Charles Wesley, who is the general supervisor with Dining Services, said polystyrene was replaced four years ago. CSUMB's sustainability statement helped inspired the use of the Dining Services to use biodegradable post-consumer products.

Now they are in their fourth year of using an alternative to polystyrene. The product is called BagasseWare, created by BioMass Packaging. According to their website, BagasseWare is made from agricultural waste fibers—such as sugar cane fibers left over after the juice is cultivated—instead of any petroleum agents, or virgin resources which plague polystyrene's ingredient list.

The switch from using polystyrene to an alternative does pose a cost difference, though. Paviah says that the switch is about 20 percent more costly, but he does say that the more businesses that use these alternative materials, the cost will most likely come down; however it may not ever be as cheap as polystyrene.

In addition, Uriah Paiva, operations manager with Dining Services, said that they are trying to cut back completely on in-house post-consumer waste.

"We have no use of straws for in-house use," Paviah said. "Just one straw does not seem like a lot, but after 1,600 students are throwing it away, it adds up a lot."

Despite the Dining Services commitment to having biodegradable containers that are compostable, CSUMB does not offer any form of compost on campus, where almost all of the containers are consumed, though the campus is working towards mitigating this problem. Wesley, however, is trying to bring in some outside help that would aid in composting the packaging.

"I am in negotiations with an outfit that has a machine that would help compost the material, and they are working on the post-consumer material," Wesley said.

Now the State of California is trying to add itself to controlling polystyrene at the source. Sen. Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach), introduced legislation, which was passed in the State Senate, and now, sits in the State Assembly Floor. The bill, after its July 12 amending on the Assembly Floor, bans any restaurant use of polystyrene on or after January 1, 2016; and school use on or after January 1, 2017. However, food vendors may continue to use polystyrene after the ban dates if the city or county creates a recycling program for the material.

The "New" Otter Trolley at CSUMB

Brittany Harden, Staff Reporter

With this new fall semester comes many new changes. California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is not the only welcoming new students, teachers and classes. CSUMB is also introducing a new trolley system. The new Otter Trolley runs Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The trolley is now open throughout the day and runs every eight minutes. It is a form of free unlimited transportation for all CSUMB students with a valid identification card who wish to ride it. The Trolley is wheelchair and bike accessible and now is able to hold items such as skateboards and surfboards.

Romy Rendon, sophomore, Biology, uses the Otter Trolley and said she likes it. She likes how with the new Otter Trolley she is able to easily get around the CSUMB campus. Luis Vega a driver for the Otter Trolley believes the first few weeks of running the Otter Trolley have been a success. "More and more students are coming," said Vega.

There are 2 Otter Trolley's. One circles the school to help students reach their desired destinations such as the school's Sports Center, Theater and the Library. The second Otter Trolley, MST line 25, goes to the Dunes Shopping Center. Last semester the Campus Shuttle Service (white van) that ran from East Campus to CSUMB is no longer running. Even though the students of East Campus no longer have the shuttle but, Megan Tolbert the Transportation Planner at CSUMB said that students do have a MST bus route that circles the area and brings students to campus. Students that live in East Campus have the ability to get to school by riding line 25 or 16. Both will run from 6:40 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., with each line going in both directions twice an hour. On Friday and Saturday nights line 16 will run until 2 a.m.

There are 9 stops where students will be able to access the transit to get to school. In the MST rider's guide, the stops are shown in a section called Schoonover Park. The new riders guide schedule for CSUMB/MST will be updated in September. For any further concerns about the schedule just visit the website MST.org or call 1-888-MST-BUS/1-888-678-2871.
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Spanish Language Classes Complete Switch To Electronic Workbooks

Adam Shoulders, Staff Reporter
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This fall the World Languages & Cultures (WLC) Department finished implementing a change to its Spanish language curriculum. The department approved the switch from traditional printed workbooks to complete assignments, to a new electronic online system that provides interactivity along with instantaneous grading and corrections.

The new online system started rolling out last fall with the Spanish 201 classes and continued with the Spanish 202 classes in the spring. This fall that rollout was completed and implemented across all Spanish language classes. Gus Leonard, the Language Laboratory Coordinator for the WLC, shared an example of the benefit to the online workbooks, "With a paper-based book, you fill out your worksheet, check your answers in the back of the book, you show up for the test and hand it (the assignment), into her (the instructor), how effective was that work leading up to the test? You have had no feedback... with the electronic workbook you should be getting feedback (on the assignments) all the way through, so you show up prepared for your tests..." While the online workbook has its benefits it has also raised some concerns with students who may not be able to purchase the key code to activate the workbooks. These keys, which can cost upwards $50 per code, are non-transferable and only valid for two consecutive years after the initial activation.

In the past, students who were not able to afford the paper version of the workbook in the first few weeks of the term were able to photocopy workbook pages, obtained from fellow students and staff members, to complete and turn in for credit. With the adoption of the new online versions, students are not able to complete work without paying the initial fee for the key codes. Since financial aid disbursements do not happen until the second week of school, students who are not as financially sound as others say they are at a disadvantage and are more likely to fall behind in class. Students have shared their frustration over the new rules and have expressed their dislike to the issue of not being able to immediately purchase this electronic workbook due to financial aid reasons.

When speaking with Leonard about the possibility of students falling behind in class due to the online workbooks he said, "...I've seen students purchase the textbook and not be able to afford the workbook, whether is be printed or electronic, it's the same... there are a hundred and twelve workarounds, and have I seen an increase? (in students not being able to afford the workbook this term), no." When pushed to comment about students who no longer have these "workarounds" anymore due to the new electronic format, Leonard declined comment.

Based on how the previous semesters have worked with the new online format, there does not seem to be much negative feedback from the students, even from those who say they may fall a little behind due to financial reasons.

I personally prefer a printed workbook...it allows the instructor to (get to) know better each student in a more personal way.

Teachers are adapting to the new format well and have had little to say in the way of criticism for the new online format. Rita Vidal de Moreno, who is a long-time Spanish professor at CSUMB said, "...the online Workbook does not have created problems so far, nor has it made my job easier. Class lectures and grading, elements of instructor's responsibility are the same." She continued on to give her personal opinion on the new format, "I personally prefer a printed workbook and I like handwritten diaries on paper because it does allow the instructor to (get to) know better each student in a more personal way."

The Founding Director of the Institute for World Languages, and long-time Spanish professor, Dr. Donald Urioste was unavailable for comment.

HUNGRY FOR IN-N-OUT

Marina Community Takes Unique Actions

Crystal Marie Lopez, Editor-in-Chief
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The city of Marina is hosting a Flash Mob Community Photo for the California State University, Monterey Bay community. The ever expanding city is looking to add its own In-N-Out Burger to "Compliment the University spirit of CSUMB-Marina," said Mayor Bruce Delgado.

On Saturday, September 24, 2011 Mayor Delgado welcomes all CSUMB Students and the surrounding Marina community to join in a Flash Mob Community Photo beginning at noon.

Participants are asked to assemble in the Dunes development at the field adjacent to Best Buy. Those wanting to be apart of this event are encouraged to "Wear your red and yellow hats, shirts, etc," said Mayor Delgado.

Wear your red and yellow hats, shirts, etc.

Once at the location participants will be arranged to form the In-N-Out Burger logo. An airplane will fly overhead and photographs will be taken via cameras on the airplane. For this reason Mayor Delgado explains, hats are of utmost importance.

When asked why In-N-Out Burger would benefit the community Mayor Delgado responded it would furthermore, "bring a popular menu to The Dunes Shopping Center. In-N-Out Burger would also be a natural compliment to the 10-screen Cinemark theatre expected to open November 2012 next to Best Buy. Plus, I love to watch potatoes tun into In-N-Out french fries!"

According to In-N-Out Burger's website, it was founded in 1948 by Harry and Esther Snyder. It first opened in Baldwin Park, California, and although there are now over 140 locations, it remains a privately owned business.
Credit Card Cautions

Smart Credit Building for Students

Jurija Metovic, Staff Reporter
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Many would agree that one of the most frightening aspects of becoming older is becoming financially independent. Building a credit history while in college can establish a great credit score, which will then help in attaining loans for cars or even a mortgage. In addition, a good credit history can help get those loans and mortgages with lower rates. Keep in mind: having a credit card can also have adverse effects if the charges incurred are not paid off on time.

"Your credit record is the most important factor lenders consider when you apply to borrow money or open another/new credit card account," a Chase bank teller said.

First, determine whether a credit card can be responsibly used. If not, consider the idea of being an authorized user on a parent’s credit card account, but be sure to discuss with them the benefits.

While shopping for which bank to take a credit card from, keep in mind card options. Just do not be persuaded by the perks.

"Don’t be misled by low teaser rates. Some credit card start you off at low rates only to triple the interest on money you may owe in the future if you’re not paying your bills on time," the manager at Carmel Valley’s Bank of America said.

Also, consider using only one card at a time. Card issuers will find ways to send you more mail and opportunities to new accounts which led Michelle Singletary of the Washington Post to claim that "card issuers [will] find a way to target and sign up college-age adults, leading them into a lifetime reliance on plastic money."

This is the generation that is expected to deal with an increasingly growing 14 trillion dollar debt.

There should really be no need for more than one card unless you are off campus with a family. Consider more cards when you are close to graduating. However, when considering more cards, forget the rewards. It is hard to resist cash back or free miles, but those reward programs are designed to have cardholders use their cards frequently. If you are a student, your goal should not be to spend everything you have loosely. According to Anika Anand of Life Inc, debt is something that surrounds daily life: "This is the generation that is expected to deal with an increasingly growing 14 trillion dollar debt."

Remember, it is good credit that you are trying to build for your future car or house not lousy credit with an unexplainable debt on graduation day.

CSUMB Speedway

Breaking Sound Barriers and Speed Limits

Eric Warnar, Staff Reporter
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In a flood of assignments, deadlines, and even nap schedules, speeding is rapidly becoming commonplace as drivers zip their vehicles along the streets of the California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) campus.

It is no big secret that speeding is fun; there is no way around it. However, it is imperative to understand the dangers of driving above the speed limit, especially on a college campus with so many walkers, bikers, boarders, and not to mention other drivers.

Rohit Reddy, Senior, Communication Design, is one of the many students who bike to class from East Campus. Cycling becomes less of a relaxing activity and more of a fright ride as the speed limit ups to 50 miles per hour (mph) on Inter-Garrison Road and students become more likely to drive 10-20 mph over the speed limit. "I hear a massive amount of noise behind me and then they come speeding by and it feels like I am going to get sideswiped," said Reddy. "They’re driving really, really fast."

Inter-Garrison is not the only hot spot on campus. Additional speed bumps have been added to the streets of CSUMB over this past summer in an effort to slow down speedy drivers.

A hectic area on campus is the round-a-bout at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Divarty Street adjacent to the Tanimura and Antie Family Memorial Library. The location requires a lighted cross-walk and stop signs as it is frequented by students during open hours. During the heart of the school day, it becomes clogged with walking, biking, skateboarding, and driving students all who are in a hurry to reach their desired destinations. As the number of students in the area increases so does the danger of speeding.

...It feels like I am going to be sideswiped. They are driving really, really fast.

The amount of children that visit the CSUMB campus is a number that may surprise most. At the corner of A Street and Seventh Avenue rests the Reading Center (Building 69). Throughout the school week, more than 50 elementary students are enrolled at the Reading Center to be tutored by a staff of around 20 CSUMB students. These children are oftentimes outside of the building in the loading zone or crossing the street to get to their sessions. As drivers speed, it becomes an increasing danger for these children.

"Their speeds are too damn high. They would not speed by a school so why would they by the Reading Center," said Michael Kwansky, senior, Liberal Studies.

Accidents happen on campus and speeding is a serious issue that students must address. Drivers must realize they are not the only drivers with somewhere to be. Vehicles are hazardous and contain the power to seriously injure, even kill others. Speeding over being a few minutes late is not worth the life-long effects of hurting someone while behind the wheel. All drivers and pedestrians should be safe, be smart, and stop this (shit).
Shaking in the Name of Love

Hip-Hop Band Hits The BBC's Dance Floor

Ayanna Keeling, Staff Reporter

Anticipation stirs the air as various students look forward to attending the One Love Dance on Thursday, September 22, 8pm to midnight at the Black Box Cabaret. This dance is an opportunity for students to get involved in campus activities, while exposing themselves to a variety of cultural diversity. The purpose of this particular event is to create unity amongst the campus community through an assortment of music. Music is a virtual form of expression that all people should enjoy. It helps identify self expression while promoting ethical character. The dance is called “One Love” because it represents the rich culture and intellectual contributions of the school campus and greater community.

Dance is another form of expression used to create joy through a nonverbal lens. It is movement, it is happiness, and it is an invitation into the soul. HCOM Professor Dr. Umi Vaughan has graciously put forth an enormous amount of time and effort into promoting this event. He believes this dance will create value for community development and academic excellence. “I wanted to bring more arts and live performances to California State University, Monterey Bay,” said Dr. Vaughan. This specific event is free of charge for California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students.

The One Love Dance features DJ music as well as a live performance from Funky C and Joya, a hip-hop funk band from Chile, South America. Their instruments include a blend of guitar, keyboards, bass, and conga drums. Fortunately, their vocal styles range from rock to funk, reggae, hip-hop and beyond. Therefore students have the opportunity to experience more than one culture, in regards to music. “Their repertoire consists of original songs and covers of artists like Tupac and Michael Jackson, sung in Spanish and English,” said Dr. Vaughan. The group’s founder and leader, Funky C (a.k.a Cristian Moraga), believes his overall mission is to bring people joy and happiness through music.

The event is a great opportunity for CSUMB students and the outside community to explore something different and connect with others around them. CSUMB encourages students to engage in a wide variety of activities throughout the campus, in order to expand their overall understanding of arts and entertainment throughout the world. You will see beautiful decorations aligning all facets of the building, and various people to share the experience with. We encourage everyone to take advantage of these opportunities so that they can expand their overall outlook on other cultures, as well as life as a whole.

Party in the Desert

Burning Man: What The Heck Is It?!

Ross McCafferty, Staff Reporter

Burning Man: A world renowned event held every year in the Nevada Desert (Black Rock Desert), where over 50,000 “Burners,” from all over the globe, gather to create a self-sufficient city for seven days.

After attending the Burn for the first time this year, I realized that Burning Man is not just a social gathering. It is a combined force of art, interpretation, and impromptu performances by world renown DJs. Dust, heat, and isolation are all elements which Burners must prepare for, some preparing months upon months in advance.

What is quite interesting about Burning Man, is their idea of a non-capitalistic society, one which encompasses community rather purchasing goods at a cost. At Black Rock City, also known as “The Playa,” Burners are encouraged to barter, and even more so show an act of communal support. The only item on the Playa offered at a cost is blocks of ice. All other items on the playa are bartered among the community or offered as a gift. The event stresses to its participants to bring gifts, which they can offer fellow Burners.

Burners must come prepared for complete survival. As may be known, Burning Man is held in the desert with extreme temperatures. The “Burner Survival Guide,” given to burners after the purchasing of tickets, stresses many tips for the Playa. Among them the two most important being shade structures and water. With temperatures reaching into the low 100’s, it is essential to be out of the sun and hydrated as much as possible.

Burning Man is an event of mind blowing decadence of epic proportions. Love and Light shines for an entire week and Burners unite to embellish life and strive for a better life. Frolicking in the dust storms, while the ground shakes from the monstrous sound camps, smiles and laughter will bellow from the core to the sky, disappearing from the real world, and entering a world of what could be...

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Not the Same ‘Ol Ship
MUSEUM OF MONTEREY IS REBORN AND OFFERS NEW EXHIBITS
By Aubrey Madrigal
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The Museum of Monterey offers something new and different. However, there is one thing you must know about its predecessor, which was The Maritime Museum. The Maritime Museum needed an upgrade. There were very few frequent changes in its exhibits, and even fewer people coming to see it. After over 15 years at Fisherman’s Wharf, it was ready for a change. It took 15 months for the museum to metamorphose into what it is today, the “new” Museum of Monterey.

The Museum of Monterey has recently undergone a great deal of restoration. Alongside historical artifacts from Monterey’s nautical past, there will be art exhibits and displays promoting the health of our Bay. “Flows to the Bay,” their current feature exhibit, focuses on how much our purchases and consumerism affect the world around us but specifically our oceans. A number of artists who support the group “Plastic Pollution Coalition” have contributed to the exhibit. Each piece has much to show us, and one specific series of photos, “Midway: Message from the Gyre,” taken by Chris Jordan, made this reporter ill. Images of seabird carcasses filled with familiar plastic pieces, plastic bottle caps, lights, and children’s toys leave unadulterated impressions on your mind. “Flows to the Bay” is definitely something different and new.

The museum is full of California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) alumni power. Addison Moore, who graduated from CSUMB last year, has his capstone on display with “Flows to the Bay.”

“When trash to create art is my way of taking something useless and unsightly and turning it into something that can be appreciated by many,” Moore said on his sculpture, “Washed Ashore.” “For me, it is the ultimate form of recycling.”

Along with many CSUMB artists, a vast collection of the staff and interns are current and past CSUMB students.

While adding some new fun to the museum’s wings, some of the original classics will still be there. Beautifully restored for a new generation to share, the original exhibits range from historical artifacts to costumes and textiles. The second floor of the museum, which will house their historical and maritime permanent exhibits, will open in mid-October. At that point, the metamorphosis will be complete.

Lisa Coscino, the Director of the Museum of Monterey, wants students to take a big part in the evolution of the museum. Coscino started as the curator for “Flows to the Bay,” and while the exhibition is her pride and joy, she has opened her heart to be the director for the rest of the museum.

“We want to be a place where the community can see a variety of things!” Along with the opening of the second floor, “Transcendental Visions” will open on November 12th. The exhibition will showcase a collection of paintings and artwork that portray Asian migration in American contemporary art. She also spoke of having an Anime exhibit, coinciding with “Transcendental Visions,” to get children involved.

“Involved” is the key word when it comes to this new space, and that word is directed mostly at students.

“The museum wants to hear from students,” Coscino exclaimed. She spoke of hosting film festivals and performances in the museum’s new 100-seat theatre. The element she needs is the ideas. Students are highly encouraged to bombard the museum with new thoughts. There is a real belief that students are the future here, and the Museum of Monterey should be a bastion for great ideas.

When asked about what students expectations should be when entering the museum when it is Cornish, and it is true... This is a place to come, hang out, discuss, think... Once the full renovation is complete, it will be a strong, proud jewel, sitting at the tip of the bay. One need only visit to experience what it has to share.

Oktoberfest in September
THE FAMOUS GERMAN FESTIVAL MIGRATES TO MONTEREY
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"Lassen Sie uns trinken, tanzen, essen und fröhlich sein! Oktoberfest ist hier!" Translation please? "Let us drink, dance, eat and be merry! Oktoberfest is here!"

Oktoberfest, the world's largest beer festival held annually in its home country of Germany, is making the 5,600 mile trek to Carmel this weekend for the first annual Monterey Bay Oktoberfest. The festival, which will be located at the new outdoor event space at the Barnyard Shopping Center, will be a celebration of German tradition. Dating back to October 1810, Oktoberfest began as a celebration of the royal wedding between Crown Prince Ludwig I of Bavaria and Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghhausen. Today, it is the largest public festival in the world with over 5 million people in attendance each year.

Andre Lengacher of the Barnyard's Lugano Swiss Bistro is putting on this year's event. Lengacher described Oktoberfest as "a great time of camaraderie, beer, dancing, Lederhosen, fun," he said in a statement. "It's just fun." From the traditional German eats, like Bratwurst and Bavarian Chicken, to the German inspired music, the Internationals, and of course the endless amounts of beer, this weekend's festival is sure to be a "grand ole time."

The event is for those who are 21 years old and will be held from noon until 6 p.m. on both September 17 and Sept. 18. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at Lugano Swiss Bistro in Carmel or at www.oktoberfestmontereybay.com. General admission is $15, and a discounted admission for students and members of the armed forces is $5 (with valid I.D). A V.I.P package can be purchased for $50, which includes entry into the festival, 1 German-themed dinner, 2 Spaten beers, 1 glass beer stein souvenir, 1 giant pretzel, a $10 gift certificate for Lugano Swiss Bistro, VIP seating and service by the St. Pauli girls.

So whether you enjoy German cuisine, lively music, or a nice cold "bier," this weekend's Oktoberfest celebration is one to not miss. Help make Monterey County and Oktoberfest history and to continue the yearly tradition in its new home.
La Ensaladera
LOCAL Y FRESCA EN Toda ESTACIÓN

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Tomates maduros, zanahorias crujientes, cebolla picante, dulce fresa de verano... Hmm! La hermosa zona en que vivimos tiene un apodo: "La Ensaladera." La agricultura de la Costa Central se ha ganado este nombre con toda razón.

Quienes vivimos aquí tenemos la suerte de contar con un sin número de mercados locales, tiendas de alimentos naturales y puestos de frutas que ofrecen los productos más frescos de la región. Además de comer sano y rico, los estudiantes y el personal de la Universidad Estatal de California de la Bahía de Monterey, pueden apoyar a los agricultores locales mientras se hacen un bien al cuerpo.

Con el cambio de estaciones, es importante estar al tanto de las verduras y frutas que están disponibles y aquellas que ya no se encuentran en la venta.

El inmenso potencial nutricional de frutas como fresas, melones, cerezas, higos, mangos, uvas y melocotonas, se puede aprovechar mejor en verano. Lo mismo sucede con los beneficios para la salud de los pepinos frescos, berenjenas, judías verdes, radicchios, calabaza, tomate y calabacín.

Los frutos que se cosechan en el otoño y el invierno son: arándanos, peras, persimones, kiwis, naranjas chinas, naranjas ambrosinas y granadas. Hay una lista de verduras sabrosas que aparecen en el invierno: bok choy, coliflor, hinojo, col rizada, calabaza, nabos, tomates y batatas. Pero no hay que preocuparse, todo lo que uno necesita para beneficiarse plenamente de la cosecha de invierno es un poco de creatividad y la voluntad para cambiar la dieta del verano.

Poudrier cree que es importante cambiar de dieta con el cambio de las estaciones "Por supuesto, nosotros comemos solamente frutas frescas de temporada y verduras, lo que limita nuestra dieta a lo que está saliendo del campo esa semana. Cuando uno se limita a comer sólo verduras de temporada, esta comida se hace muy especial. Por ejemplo, un tomate está sólo en temporada entre los meses de agosto y octubre. Después de octubre, simplemente uno no come tomates frescos. Eso significa que cuando llega agosto uno está salvando y no puede esperar para hundir los dientes en un tomate fresco."

En esta área se pueden encontrar frutas y verduras en el mercado campesino de Monterey de la calle Alvarado los días martes, en el mercado de Carmel, los martes, en el centro de Salinas, los sábados, y en la Plaza de Marina los domingos.
Sweat Harder

Local Area Gyms Offer More Than The Otter Sports Center To Students Looking For A Workout

Adam Shoelcrft, Staff Reporter

G
oing to the gym seems play an important part of many people’s daily routine. When going off to college, many students feel as though they are not able to keep up with working out at a quality facility somewhere located near their campus.

California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) offers students’ access to the Otter Sports Center where there is a small gym and workout facility that offers standard treadmills, elliptical machines, stationary bikes, and an assortment of weight training machines and free weights. The fees for accessing this gym are charged once a semester to every CSUMB student in the student fees.

While many CSUMB students choose to use this fitness center located on campus, there are some that would like access to a gym that is up to date and has more to offer than what students currently have access to. “With everyone [the students] paying that much money [with fees], it seems like the gym here should be nicer,” said Aaron Snyder, senior, Environmental Science & Public Policy.

There are a few places around the CSUMB campus that offer state-of-the-art fitness facilities, classes, and gyms. Some of these fitness facilities even offer discounts to students and locals of the Monterey area to soften the blow of initiation costs and monthly fees.

On August 21, 2011 the city of Marina opened the doors to the brand new Peninsula Wellness Center. It houses 34,000 square feet of space and is also an extension of the Monterey Peninsula Regional Hospital (CMHP). Special discounts and weekly incentives can help lower the cost for those who qualify. For membership pricing and more information call them at (831) 646-3730.

For those looking for a gym which offers a smaller size and an intensive specialized training session, there is Crossfit Monterey. Crossfit has been spreading across the world as an intense set of workouts that produce increased levels of fitness across numerous physical skills such as strength, flexibility, and stamina. Crossfit Monterey offers different pricing plans dependent on your fitness needs and goals. They offer a free community class every Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. For more information about membership and pricing call them at (831) 920-3522.

Also available is Sanctuary Rock Gym located in Seaside, and it specializes in rock climbing. There are over 6,000 square feet of custom sculpted RADWALL * climbing surfaces, inverted staircase, a traverse wall which is located on the party deck, and an exercise area. Sanctuary Rock Gym offers both monthly memberships, day-use passes, and offers discounts to students and teachers. Call them at (831) 899-2595.

It is well known that college students have busy lives. Even so, many of them are seeking out gyms and workout facilities that offer more than what the school currently offers. There are many different style gyms out in the area, many of them even offering discounts to students.

We have everything we need to be successful, and for a Division II university, when we are done I hope it feels like a Division I. That is truly our goal.

A Fresh Start
Henderson Joins CSUMB as Head Athletic Trainer

Kylie Fields, Staff Reporter

A new school year often comes with many new beginnings. This year California State Monterey Bay is welcoming a new staff member, John Henderson, as the new head Athletic Trainer. The previous head Athletic Trainer, Ken Howat, is retiring after ten years and Henderson is taking over his duties.

Henderson moved to CSUMB from Weber State; a NCAA Division 1 and a member of the Big Sky Conference after serving as an assistant athletic trainer and strength and conditioning coach for Football as well as both Men’s and Women’s Basketball and Soccer. In addition to watching over all of the CSUMB athletes, Henderson plans on focusing on the Women’s Water Polo team, Men’s and Women’s Basketball, Sailing, Golf, and Volleyball. Henderson will be introducing a new Concussion Program that is considered one of the best. This program has two base line tests, a Computerized Cognitive test and a balance test, which will help determine the state and health of the student athletes. Henderson states that this program “lets us know that this really is a concussion and that we are not just guessing anymore.”

The duties that Henderson will be covering include making sure that every student athlete is healthy, hydrated, and getting the proper care when injured. Henderson is accompanied by a team that will help him and ensure that all the student athletes here at CSUMB are successful. There are also two assistant Trainers, Alex Blake and Crystal Sullivan, along with an orthopedic surgeon and family practice doctor. The program is currently seeking out a registered dietitian, chiropractor, and a dentist to help make it successful. One of the most important things that Henderson wants to accomplish is for every student athlete to know the athletic doctor by name as well as who to turn to with any problems they have. “We have everything we need to be successful, and for a Division II university, when we are done I hope it feels like a Division I. That is truly our goal.”

Henderson was not only a staff member at Weber State in Ogden Utah, but a student as well. Serving as a student athletic trainer and overseeing the entire student athlete population, Henderson started Weber in 2003 to then become an assistant athletic trainer and Strength and Conditioning coach after graduation. Henderson is a trained and certified trainer (ATC) through the NATA or National Trainer’s Association and is also a Strength and Conditioning Specialist certified through the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA). At Weber, Henderson knew almost every student athlete. In fact, that is one of the main things he likes about CSUMB. “Smaller student population and an intimate situation where everyone kind of knows everyone.”

Henderson applied for the position of Head Athletic Trainer here at CSUMB and was thrilled when he got a phone call back. When asked why he was so excited, Henderson replied “the size of the school and the fact that the school was young and that there was a lot of opportunity for this school to grow is what attracted me to this school.”
Swimming, Biking & Running for a Cause

CSUMB STUDENTS GET INVOLVED IN THE TRI-CALIFORNIA TRIATHLON IN PACIFIC GROVE

On the weekend of September 11th, Pacific Grove was taken over by the intense excitement of the Tri-California Triathlon. A few California State University Monterey Bay students and organizations gathered to help the brave souls as they made their transitions from each section of the races a lot easier to handle.

Up and early, racers and volunteers started to gather at 6:15 in the morning while the participants to prepare for the day. Each group of people volunteering their time was sent to different sections throughout the course. Many groups were sent to handle the transitional stages for the triathlon racers (this could be from the swimming stage to the biking stage, then on to the running stage).

On Saturday, September 10th, California State University Monterey Bay student, Michael Kwasny Junior Liberal Studies major, was one of the many members of the Team in Training with the Leukemia and Lymphoma society who participated in the triathlon. This was Kwasny's first year participating in the triathlon. Once he attended one team training session, he was automatically hooked by both the rush of the training and the devotion for the cause.

This organization has gained nearly half a million people who have devoted their time to running, biking swimming and evening walking to help accumulate over $1 billion towards Leukemia and Lymphoma research nation-wide.

On Sunday morning, the participants and volunteers stood up and had a moment of silence to remember the 10th anniversary of the September 11th, attacks on the World Trade Centers in New York City then enjoyed the sounds of the Star Spangled Banner being sung. Once the crowd was ready to go, a group of runners participated in the "5k Fun Run" where they could get their juices flowing while being helped by the volunteers who provided them with water and snacks, if they needed it.

Fifteen minutes into the "Fun Run," the first wave of the "Sprint Triathlon" racers began by diving into the ocean for a quarter mile. Once they were out of the water they, with the help of some volunteers, would have a few seconds to prepare themselves to hop on their bikes to ride a 12.4 mile bike course and then finally top off the race with a two mile run towards the finish line.

The day before, Saturday September 10th, the racers participated in challenging Olympic-styled Triathlon. These racers went through 1.5 kilometers (.93 miles) of chilly ocean water, 40 kilometers (24.8 miles) of an intense Olympic-styled bicycle course, and, finally, topped off the day with a 10 kilometer (6.2 miles) running course to the finish line. On the second day, the racers did a "Sprint Triathlon" where they raced or relayed half of an Olympic-styled triathlon.

To be able to complete these races with excellent times, these participants had to go through months worth of intense training to be able to cross that finish line. That meant eating right, daily exercises and a lot of mental preparation for this event. Though many of the racers were in this to score high and make an impact, many came to race to be a part of the rich and diverse community that would come out and support them, even if they came in last place.

These people made a huge impact on the volunteers that helped out with this annual event. Even CSUMB's very own Science, Media Arts and Technology Senator, James Dunn, (Junior, Biology-Pre Med major), couldn't help but to feel the excitement that was running through the racers' veins. "I just got so excited watching and cheering on the racers going through the finish line that I just wanted to get out there and run with them!"

Having students from CSUMB helping out at this event really shows how much they want to help out within the community and especially to help out at a huge event like this really shows their commitment.

CSUMB STUDENTS SHOW THEIR SUPPORT TO VOLUNTEERING THEIR TIME TO HELPING OUT THE RACERS OF THE TRIATHLON

PHOTOS BY ADAM NAPOLETANO

HUNDREDS CAME OUT TO EXPERIENCE THE EXCITEMENT THAT THE TRI-CALIFORNIA TRIATHLON BRINGS TO PACIFIC GROVE EACH YEAR.

9 WAVES OF TRIATHLON RACERS SWAM A QUARTER OF A MILE IN THE CHILLY PACIFIC GROVE OCEAN TO START OFF THE RACE
Men's Golf Team Faces Losses

Can They Swing Their Way To Another NCAA Title?

Katie Shoneff, Staff Writer
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Last year, the California State University Monterey Bay men's golf team claimed the NCAA Championship title with a stunning put by John Jackson on the 18th hole. With Jackson, as well as a majority of last year's members now graduated, the team is left to start from square one.

Scott Yeakel, member of the 2010-11 golf team, said that the team's win was "extremely exciting" but he was "not shocked at all." The team had just come off their sixth straight win after scoring yet another title at Conference and went on to win Super Regional's just a few short weeks later. These two wins led the team straight to a place they had never ventured before: the NCAA Championships. Yeakel thought back to the beginning of the season and said he "had no idea they would be National Champions just months later." With the help of his teammates, they did claim the title and with much confidence. "We had almost gotten used to winning and probably would have been more shocked if we had lost," said Yeakel.

Goals are what spark improvement...but effort and commitment are what ignite it.

Oskar Nystrom and DJ Miligan were both huge contributors to last year's squad. Nystrom, originally from Sweden, moved back home after graduating and has now turned to professional golf. Miligan has taken a similar path and has also moved up to professional golf. With Nystrom, Miligan, and Yeakel all off the squad, and one member red shirting this season, coach Jason Owen is left to start over with a new squad. The question being asked is if the team will reach another NCAA Championship title.

According to Yeakel, coach Jason Owen "expects to have the individual and team trophy's in the van upon departure." With this no holds bar attitude, last year's team was led to the finals and a championship win, but will it be enough to grab another title this year?

Colton Bollinger, member of this season's golf team, believes they have all the chance in the world, but can never expect to just have the title handed to you. Bollinger and the rest of the team recognizes the loss their team faces with losing so many valuable players, but does not feel this is any kind of disadvantage. Bollinger went on to say,

"The golf program at CSUMB will always consist of a variety of notably talented players who will grace the team for a period of time, but the dedication and hard work put into our golf program has no grace period or scheduled graduation date."

This year's team is taking that notable talent they saw so much of last year as a learning example. They have a lot of pressure following an NCAA win, but have all the knowledge in the world to follow the footsteps of last year's squad.

With disadvantages now reshaped as great advantages, the team plans to emulate the same work ethic last year's squad applied to their game. Bollinger believes that "whenever you practice, no matter the sport, your practice should have a goal." From putting to chipping, every time Bollinger steps foot on the course, he has a goal. He continued, "Goals are what spark improvement...but effort and commitment are what ignite it. I feel the same way. We go to tournaments, we don't go into a tournament without a goal or expectation. We plan to win, and if our efforts and commitments were great enough in preparation for the tournament...we most likely will!"

Although a majority of the CSUMB men's golf team is brand new to the school, as well as each other, the passionate mentality of these players just might be able to drive them all the way to another title. As the season begins, the players seem to be very confident in their abilities.
New School Year Resolutions

The Promises We Fail To Keep

Desiree Sheppard, Staff Reporter
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It's that time again folks, the beginning of the school year where we promise ourselves change. We say that this will be the semester where we say goodbye to our unhealthy friend procrastination and hello to our long distant cousin "on time." There will be no more late night cramming until three am in the morning on the last seven chapters of Spanish 201 for the test that is tomorrow morning, "no mas!" We will turn things in on time and avoid Facebook, it will be the one book that we try to keep closed.

Alarm clocks will be shown a little more tender loving care rather than their usual beatings across the floor in our attempts to silence it. Professors will know us on a first name basis not because of our small student to teacher ratio but because we will make it a goal to visit them during their office hours on a weekly basis so that they don't forget our faces.

This is also the year of shedding those stubborn twenty pounds rather than gaining another fifteen. We will put down the cookies in the Dining Com-

mons and walk pass the pastries in Peet's Coffee. We will have perfect attendance at the gym, and the results of our dream body will be the end of the year exam.

So how do we make this the year different from those failed in the past? Like a light switch are we just supposed to turn on and make things happen before we suddenly feel turned off? Will a sign be given to us like a dove flying over the campus symbolizing that this is our time to soar? Or maybe it just simply starts with us.

Every rational and irrational decision we have ever made was based solely on our own judgment, and when it comes to school we tend to make more irrational ones. Like when we choose to text during class rather than actually pay attention, when we decide to start our partying Thursday night and put off our homework until that hung-over Sunday. When we hit the Snooze button and choose to skip class that day because we know we have a friend in that class who will let us borrow there notes.

However the difference between you and that friend is that they got up for class that morning and the ones after, they took notes while they watched you send your LOLs, and they were the ones who received the A+ at the end of the school year. You on the other hand will be begging the Professor to give you the bare minimum of a C+ so that you can pass the class.

So the next time you decide you want to miss class, sleep in a little longer, and party a little harder, think about your decision and how it will affect you in the long run. Good luck Otters and cheers to the 2011 school year!

The laptop is a commonly used item among college students. Whether it's typing papers, checking emails, or seeing what's new on Facebook, it can either be a help or a distraction. The calender contains all the daily tasks we have.

Photos Provided By Desiree Sheppard
Left: A spiral bound notebook, a cell phone and a snack embodies the simplicity if a college student's afternoon.
Right: A "to-do" list is a good idea to keep from forgetting tasks and keeping stress levels to a minimum.
Following The Money

When It Comes To Student Fees, Are We Paying Too Much?

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Officer of Student Admissions and fellow student, "We have proposed an additional $66000 in spending towards programs that directly benefit our students on campus." The distribution of these funds can be found in the Associated Students Group page in CSUMB dashboard. He further explains "The Finance Board meets every Thursday from 12pm - 1pm

I am getting a private education for the price of a public school and my student government is really paying close attention to what we need.

-Rahul Pillay

and we have been blessed with members that know the importance of monitoring the spending so that we can add value to all our students"

Our school withholds technological advances and a multitude of educational resources. We have a plethora of reasonably modern computers, class furniture, and a long list of faculty to help us with our questions. Within the tuition, CSUMB additionally supports everyone's ability to take a trolley home, watch Pirates of the Caribbean in the World Theatre, or attend pajama raves. In fact, it is the student fees that allow you to be holding this newspaper right now. This non-discrimination approach allows any student to readily use a resource without worrying about signing up or paying extra. Yet, do all of our students take advantage of such benefits? After conducting a sample survey of 20 students, I found out approximately 65 percent students never use the bus and 25 percent seldom print papers in the school library. Moreover, 35 percent never utilize the campus gym and 23 percent seldom do. (For a more extensive survey, check www.Otterrealm.net)

Pillay explains "The reasons for the increases are because of our growing CSUMB community and the need for an enriching education and social environment. I am sure you have somehow benefited from the various services these programs provide on campus and will continue to do so."

According to my admittedly brief survey, a relatively large percentage of students DO take advantage of the aforementioned campus privileges. Though the ones which do not, fail to understand why they have to pay for them. "Half the stuff I pay for I don't use," said Jessica Campus, Junior, Business Marketing. So should we all have to pay for resources that the entirety of the student population does not utilize? Pillay reaffirms, "I am getting a private education for the price of a public school and my student government is really paying close attention to what we need. Last year we increased our retention rate to 76 percent and I am sure it will only get better once they

Half the (resources) I pay for I don't use.

-Jessica Campus

experience the involvement that Associated Students will bring this year." CSUMB withholds an open-door policy where anyone can ask questions or criticize the policies. If you have any comments or questions on the student fees policy, don't hesitate to contact Associated Students.
SUBMISSIONS

Ever wanted to have something published in a newspaper? Now's your chance!

The Otter Realm is now looking for creative works of poetry, short stories, letters to the editor, and reviews. Send your submissions to submissions@otterrealm.net. Our print limit is 500 words, but we will publish the rest at www.otterrealm.net

MATH PUZZLE

Mike and Jeanne go to a dinner party with four other couples. Each person there shakes hands with everyone he or she doesn't know. Later, Mike does a survey and discovers that every one of the nine other attendees shook hands with a different number of people. How many people did Jeanne shake hands with?

PROVIDED BY RACHEL ESSELSTEIN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICAL
FIND THE ANSWER ONLINE!

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.

SUDOKU

su-do-ku [soo-do'koo]

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.

1 5 9 7
6 8 9 7
2 7 3 1
5 3 8 7 6
1 6 8 4 9
7 4 2 9

“Distance makes the heart grow fonder.”
-William Shakespeare

This famous Shakespearean mantra is the comfort statement for those who find themselves in a long distance relationship. Though to what extent of distance can this concept hold true? Can love prevail throughout the scales of miles over extended periods of time? The romance of the day will say “Yes, no distance can terminate a true love”; while the idealist will claim that eventually distance will cause a relationship to deteriorate.

As a member of the Confederate Long Distance Relationships, (which doesn’t actually exist) I have learned through experience how to keep the adhesive between partners intact throughout the continuance of the lines of longitude and latitude. The first question you must ask yourself being: “Is this person worth it?” It is not easy relying on Skype and seldom visits to keep a relationship alive, especially while attending a school with such beautiful people. (We are quite the sexy raft of otters!) This is why it is crucial to assess your dedication to this person before you commit yourself to a long distance relationship.

OK, you’re in love, beautiful.

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sexual healing

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Ah, long distance relationships. One of the most talked about and controversial relationship types. Many people choose to give it a shot and when doing so they immediately begin to wonder if they made the right decision or not. A distant relationship has just as much of a chance to succeed as any other relationship. Any relationship involves effort in communication, sacrifice, and understanding. A heavily weighted difference in long distance relationships is it takes away your ability to see each other frequently along with the choice of being intimate whenever you desire. Not to mention, major trust is required on both ends. So what is a couple to do when they decide to give it a go?

Step 1: Make an agreement of expectations and commitment levels. Be clear that neither of you will be dating anyone else and share what each of you is willing to give and take.

Step 2: “Technology has come a long way!” Take advantage of all there is out there for you to connect with each other. That includes the use of video calls, e-mailing, texting, and basic phone calls. You should indulge in these activities every day.

Step 3: Take advantage of living apart and growing individually. A lot of couples spend all their free time together but now there is more time for family and friends. Most importantly, being apart gives you the pleasure and true experience of seeing your partner after a long absence.

Step 4: Remember, you are still in a relationship! You have to be there for your partner even if you cannot be physically. Be sure to keep the love alive by planning visits, being positive, and talking about your future together. Avoid jealousy and be trusting. This is no reason to destroy all you have both worked for by poisoning each other with drama. Your partner will want to have a social life, and so will you. So have fun and be happy. Everyone is worthy of trust until proven otherwise.

Whether you are only an hour apart or 1,000 miles apart, you have entered a long distance relationship! Not everyone is capable of sustaining these relationships and that's okay, it is not for everyone. You have to decide for yourself if 'love knows no distance,' or not.
It has been ten years since the tragic attacks of September 11, 2001 which stunned the nation on that horrific Tuesday morning. None of us that bore witness to the terrifying ordeal can forget what we saw on television. The despair, sadness, and devastation done unto humanity in a short amount of time, caused by a group with such hatred.

On September 11, we pay our respects to those who died in the two World Trade Center towers, the Pentagon, and in a rural field in Shanksville, PA. We did not know these people then but now we do. They were someone’s son, daughter, mother, father, husband and wife. We also in that day gave thanks to the heroes that gave their lives to save the lives of others in the burning buildings.

But this writer would also like to pay respects to those who in the days following the attacks of 9/11 lost their lives as well as the hands of those who committed hate crimes thinking that it was a righteous choice to avenge those who died in the previous days. Following the attacks of 9/11, many news stories reported innocent people from other Middle Eastern and sub Asian countries living in the United States whom were attacked because of their resemblance to the 19 terrorists that attacked our eastern shores on September 11, 2001.

The tragedy to this is that those who died at the hands of hate crimes during that time, were not involved in the 9/11 plot, nor were they from the same origin as the terrorists. These were people who were innocent of any wrong doing whatsoever. Those who committed those hate crimes became what they were fighting against on 9/11 – they became terrorists themselves. What we can do is honor them as well in our thoughts and in our prayers too; because the attacks did not end on 9/11, they lasted for quite some time with hate crimes all around the country causing anger and fear towards one another. So I would also give my respects to those who were innocent victims, those who suffered from hate crimes after the horrific events of September 11, 2001.
How did the events of September 11 change you, why?

Dillon McBride
Freshman - Psychology Major
Yes, I'm more aware of what is going on in the world and I have a greater respect for our government's ability to handle a crisis.

Hanna Cobb
Freshman - Kinesiology Major
The events of September 11 have brought my family closer together. That is because my mother's cousin was killed in the attack. It affected them greatly so now every we morn for him and all come to gether to support each other.

Mackenzie Jassowski
Freshman - Biology Major
Yes, I learned a lot that day about how bad situations can bring people together and what people are willing to sacrifice for our country. I have a deep respect for everyone serving to protect our country.

Cate Bagacina
Freshman - Psychology Major
My friend's uncle almost was on one of the planes that crashed but changed at the last minute. I cherish my friends and family more.

Raymond Nirberger
Senior
Communication design
It just kind of reminded me that religion - whether it's Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, etc. - isn't as innocent as it presents itself to be. An extra dose of skepticism never hurts, and no matter what, you still have to enjoy the gift of life and find a way to be happy.

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