MONTEREY MARCHES FOR SCIENCE

Page 6
GROW UP WITH
Adulting 101

Page 12 & 13
CAMPUS CONCERNS ON
100 Days of Trump

Page 17
OTTERS OPINION ON
Residential Advisors
The Oxford English Dictionary defines motivation as, “The general desire or willingness of someone to do something; drive, enthusiasm.” Motivation is exactly what is lacking on college campuses around the last third of the semester, otherwise known as right now. Students have hit the annual spring slump, which always coincides with professors piling on the studying, homework, and group projects. So, in the face of these responsibilities and a complete apathy towards them, how do we find our motivation to make it to May 21?

First of all, accept the fact that you have too much on your plate. We all do, it’s nothing to be ashamed of. Sit down and figure out your due dates, and work on things that are due soonest, first. Portion your days; work on homework for a few hours, then watch an episode of that new Netflix show, then do your part for a group project, and go get a meal. Never work while eating, because you might get food on your work and it will be a distraction. Do not try to do it all in one sitting. You will get bored, find a distraction and end up disappointed in your progression take a few hours a day to work, and you’ll make much more headway.

Now, I know, I just told you sit down and work, in one place, for an hours. I hate it too, believe me. But there are some ways to make the work portion of your day better. For the aesthetically minded of you, there are websites and blogs dedicated to organizing study materials and workspaces. “Studybirs” have become increasingly popular in recent years, with their handy designs for desk decoration and organizing and note-taking tips. YouTube also has specific study music channels. Some people work better in an environment that’s messy or loud, as that’s where they are most comfortable. Try a few different environments; silence, white noise, public places, etc.

When it comes right down to the wire, especially for those of you who are crunching Capstone projects into their time, it may all be too much for one person. As pointed out later in this issue in “Adulting 101,” asking for help makes you stronger. Make some extra coffee or tea, ask a friend for help, and sit down together to get it all done. I’m not saying any of these tips will make this last month of school fun, or that you will adore studying after this, but maybe it’ll help us all be a little less exhausted when Move-Out day rolls around.
**WHAT YOU OTTER BE DOING!**

**APRIL 27**

- **Blood Drive**
  - 10am – 4pm
  - Student Center - West Lounge
- **AS Spring Food Pantry**
  - 2 – 6pm
  - Student Center - East Lounge

**APRIL 28**

- **National Superhero Day**
  - SAP, Loan Entrance & Exit
  - 1 – 4pm
  - World Languages & Cultures North

**APRIL 29**

- **A Black and Latino Men’s Retreat**
  - 9am – 6pm
  - Student Center
- **Game Day**
  - 1 – 5:50pm
  - Student Center: Room 120

**APRIL 30**

- **National Oatmeal Cookie Day**
  - NAACP Tabling
  - 1 – 3pm
  - Main Quad
- **FYLC Meeting**
  - 6 – 8pm
  - Student Center

**MAY 01**

- **Study Abroad 101**
  - 12 – 1:50pm
  - Heron Hall: Rm 120
- **ZUMBA!!!**
  - 6 – 7pm
  - BBC
- **Mindful Madness**
  - 11am – 2pm
  - OC3
- **Mixed Martial Arts**
  - 8 – 9:50pm
  - Meeting House Bldg 98

**MAY 02**

- **Queer & Trans Hangout**
  - 10:30am–12pm
  - OC3
- **National Ovarian Cancer Coalition**
  - 6 – 8pm
  - Student Center: Rm 113
- **Queer & Trans Hangout**
  - 10:30am–12pm
  - OC3
- **National Ovarian Cancer Coalition**
  - 6 – 8pm
  - Student Center: Rm 113

**MAY 03**

- **Massage Therapy**
  - 12 – 2pm
  - Student Center
- **Eggs After Dark**
  - 9pm – 12am
  - DC
- **You Scream We Scream We All Scream at Finals**
  - 12 – 2pm
  - Student Center
  - **Cardio Kick Wednesday!!!**
  - 6 – 7pm
  - BBC

**MAY 04**

- **NAACP Tabling**
  - 1 – 3pm
  - Main Quad
- **Startup Challenge Monterey Bay Workshop**
  - 6 – 8pm
  - University Center

**MAY 05**

- **National Cartoonists Day**
  - Paint Night
  - 5 – 7pm
  - Student Center
- **Rugby Tournament**
  - 10am – 7pm
  - Student Recreation Field

**MAY 06**

- **You Scream We Scream We All Scream at Finals**
  - 12 – 2pm
  - Student Center
- **Cardio Kick Wednesday!!!**
  - 6 – 7pm
  - BBC

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**BE FEATURED!**

OtterRealm is looking for opinion pieces, articles, artwork, and many other submissions to be published in our paper. And if it’s student work, it’ll be free of charge!

Showcase your:
- **Capstone Project**
- **Opinion on Music/Movies/TV Shows**
- **Design/Original Artwork**

Feel free to contact our Editor-in-Chief, Kelly Galten to propose or send an article submission.

kgalten@csumb.edu

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Post photos on social media using #NationalSuperheroDay.

-NationalDayCalendar.com

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**Featured day, April 28th:**

**National Superhero Day**

Show gratitude to our everyday heros!

National Superhero Day is observed annually on April 28. This is a day to honor superheroes, both real and fictional.

Our real-life superheroes may not have superpowers or wear capes, but they are also great role models who serve and protect while fighting evil. Military personnel, police officers and firefighters are just a few of the heroes who protect us on a daily basis.

Post photos on social media using #NationalSuperheroDay.

-NationalDayCalendar.com
RECLAIMING THE NAME OF SLUT

Samantha Calderon
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“Slut” is now a term of empowerment. Approximately 40 students participated in Slutwalk, a march and rally on April 19 at the Main Quad. The movement aims to emphasize that every person has ownership of their body, and can express themselves through all types of clothing without fear.

Nellie Dominguez, 3rd-year Humanities and Communication major, said, “For some people ‘slut’ is empowering; but I do not want to be called one. I consider it offensive and degrading, but using it with discretion is okay.” “Slut” is being reclaimed by those who have been stereotyped based on appearance or sexual activeness.

Slutwalk was spearheaded in Canada after a police officer said that if women want to avoid assault, they need to not dress like “sluts.” The movement aims to dismantle rape culture.

Brittany Tuazon, 4th-year Social and Behavioral Sciences major, believes it is important to reinvent the word “slut” to stop slut-shaming. Tuazon said, “As long as sex is safe and consensual, I don’t care if someone has sex with multiple partners.”

Sexual assault can anonymously be reported 24/7 at (831)-402-9477.

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS FOR STUDENT UNION

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Quiet study time and lectures on campus will now be punctuated by the sound jackhammers, tractors, and construction workers, as the construction of the new Student Union is planned to begin next semester.

The Student Union will take the location of the parking lot on the corner of Inter-Garrison and 5th avenue. This construction is part of the campus master development plan. The work currently underway is to make the Intergarrison, 7th avenue, and 8th avenue intersection easier to navigate.

The plan is to realign the roads, and is expected to be completed sometime in May.

Construction here closes part of Seventh Avenue and access to two parking lots, leaving students hunting parking on the east side of campus with less game.

A bike/walking path is also being created along Seventh avenue to give students using that route a safer route.

The 2016-2017 CSUMB master plan has proposed many new buildings to pop up all over campus. So it looks like students will have to pardon the dust.

CELEBRATING QUEER AND TRANS HISTORY

Legacy Week aims to educate and inform students on the trials, fears, and issues facing the Queer and Trans communities.

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Queer and Trans Legacy week celebrates the history of the Queer and Trans communities. The week consists of a diverse array of events for students to participate in. The object of these events is to educate and create awareness about issues facing the Queer and Trans communities.

“Queer and Trans Legacy week offers students the chance to see the culture of these communities and the struggles they have been facing. The Queer and Trans community has rich culture that is generally overlooked because we still fight for our rights to exist in public space.” Says third year HCOM major and President of the CSUMB Pride Club Christian Candelaria.

The week kicked-off on Monday with a Love, Sweat & Tears: Queer and Trans Art Show where Local Queer and Trans artists displayed their works in the East Lounge of the Student Center.

“The art is raw, emotional, expressive, and beautiful. Local Queer and Trans Art communicate the feelings of the community and the realities that the community faces,” Says Candelaria.

On Wednesday, a history of the LGBTQIA+ was given in the Student Center. Students were educated about the community and where it stands with current and past events that are critical to LGBTQ+ advancement. Other educational seminars concerning HIV awareness and breaking down stereotypes were given throughout the week.

The week ended with a bang on Friday night with the Night of Noise. A night of dancing that featured live DJ, Drag performer Honey Mahogany, a drag queen from RuPaul’s Drag Race.
MONTEREY MARCHES TO SAVE SCIENCE

Community, politicians, and students walk in Monterey to protest legislation over science, education and the EPA

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April 22nd local scientists, activists, and educators lead a March for Science around Monterey country to support science-influenced policy and fact-based teaching in schools and universities. The march began at 1pm at Colton Hall (City Hall) and end at 4 pm at the Monterey Bay Sanctuary on the beach at Monterey Bay Park (also known as Window on the Bay). Many people brought children and dogs, and flags and signs populated the crowd. One sign read, “Save Earth! There are no other planets with puppies!” The March concluded with three keynote speakers, including Senator Bill Monning, Professor Arlene Haffa, and Monterey Bay Aquarium Science Communicator Rachel Sa. There was a beach clean-up following the keynote speakers. We use science to get rid of toxins, poisons,” Said Senator Monning during his speech. “Some poisons approved by some administrations and the EPA as essential for industry even though they were known to be carcinogens, teratogens, and dangerous to public health and public safety, and so we find ourselves in a debate.”

Senator Bill Monning speaks to a crowd attending the Monterey March for Science. Photo by Kelly Gatlin/Otter Realm

STUDENTS AND STAFF FIGHT FOR ETHNIC STUDIES

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Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) prides itself on inclusivity, but there is no ethnic studies major. Approximately 40 students, staff, and faculty were at the Ethnic Studies Town Hall on April 17 at the UC Ballroom. Ethnic studies focuses on the intersection of identities in order to dismantle Eurocentrism.

Sonia Olmos, 3rd year Humanities and Communication major, was a Business major but switched after taking a Chicano Life & Culture class. Olmos said it was the first time she had a Chicano professor. Olmos confessed, “Now I am at a stage where I am angry that it took three years to take a Chicano course. My pain does not matter to this university.”

Provost Bonnie Irwin believes ethnic studies are needed because it promotes global diversity. “Ethnic studies is part of the DNA of this campus,” said Irwin. Irwin noted that students ask for ethnic studies courses, but do not actually register to the courses. The CSU provided a list of recommendations to make ethnic studies accessible, which includes making an ethnic studies course a requirement for General Education as well as hiring professors relevant to the field. If followed, this campus will see an ethnic studies major within a decade.

Sonia Olmos HCOM student, expresses the need for an ethnic studies program during this political climate. Photo by Samantha Calderon/Otter Realm
SO YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW BE AN ADULT

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Maddi LeKander

We spend almost two decades in school to learn how to be productive citizens once we leave. We memorize the quadratic formula, learn about Joan of Arc, and practice the Scientific Method. We choose a field of study to focus on and take a wide range of general education classes. We try to get internships or jobs while we are still studying so that we will not fall into the post graduation slump. Some of us will even choose to continue our education. While we have spent a majority of our life learning, the education system has failed to teach us something very important: how to be an adult.

In the past year, I have faced multiple things that adults know how to do, that I did not! I voted in a presidential election for the first time, got my first parking ticket, was summoned for jury duty, and submitted my taxes. Facing each of these events, I felt out of my depth and completely unprepared to do any of these things. Luckily I was able to call my mom and utilize the internet to help me navigate through. But it made me think of what else I have not learned through my years in school. And how I am going to survive the real world as an adult.

Why are our schools not teaching us how to do basic things like budgeting, couponing, and cooking? In high school we are required to take a class to learn the pythagorean theorem, something I have not used to this day. But I was never taught how to handle heartbreak, losing a friend, or maintain my mental health. I never learned how to have honest and respectful discussions with peers and people with different views than me. I never learned how to be self-sufficient, because I still needed permission to use the bathroom. Coming to college was a wake-up call for me. I learned a lot in my first year. But I'm still struggling, trying to figure out how to enter into a new realm where I am responsible for everything. I’m excited to finally be adulting, but I honestly have no idea what it means or how to do it.

So, since schools have decided that they are going to teach us how to be students and not humans, we are left to figure out how to handle this world alone. Or perhaps, not quite alone; the Otter Realm is made of students, that are going through all this too. We know how frustrating and often frightening it is to realize you are on the edge of this whole new world. To make sure you’re armed when you enter that fight, we came up with some instructions on how to make being an adult a little less looming.

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**Adulthood 101**

**A crash course in growing up**

**Taxes**
- File as early as possible
- Keep receipts for job-specific purchases.
- Several e-file programs have free versions, but they come with restrictions on what you can file.
- When you have a more complicated filing status (married, new income, etc) seek advice from an expert.

**Budgeting**
- Set a reasonable budget- allow for saving and necessary spending.
- Keep a log of your spending, whether in a notebook or an app (Mint, others).
- Before big spending occasions (holidays, vacations, birthdays) start saving more than usual.

**Food Planning**
- Plan meals ahead, and do as much shopping as you can in one trip.
- Farmer’s Markets can offer better quality, but sometimes high prices, so know the average price of goods you need.
- Shop with a list so you don’t impulse-buy.
- Have go-to recipes and keep the essentials stocked.

**Building Credit**
- Have a credit card, but think of it as a debit card and pay it off every month.
- If you have a favorite store, look into their credit program, but be aware of high interest rates!

**Basic Car Maintenance**
- Know how to check the basics: tire pressure, oil levels, wiper fluid.
- Don't drive below a quarter tank to preserve your engine quality.
- Keep up to date with maintenance check-ups and oil changes.
- Keep an emergency kit in your car.

**Self Care**
- It is vitally important to keep your limits in mind, and respect them.
- Find a place or activity that helps you de-stress and relax.
- It’s a sign of strength, not weakness, to ask for help.
- Surround yourself with positive, uplifting people who support you.
- Therapy is an extremely important resource, and can be very beneficial.

**Handling Loss**
- Allow yourself to complete the grieving process, at your own pace.
- Remember that everyone handles loss in their own way.
- Seek out support groups in your area to help find ways of healing.
- There are all kinds of loss (loss of jobs, relationships, family, pets, etc) and all are valid.

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Informational graphic designed by Maddi LeKander and Kelly Galten/Otter Realm; icons courtesy of Creative Commons
PROM HELD FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

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Cal State Monterey Bay’s International club knew that most international students who study here have seen the American high school prom in some form or at least had some basic idea of the event. Through the media, few young people worldwide are strangers to American cultures. Movies, TV shows, even music boast about the special affair, known as Prom. Because of this, the International Club decided to give the Internationals the opportunity of a real American prom experience.

The International Club decorated the Black Box Cabaret for the fun filled night. The evening started and ended with many international students dancing their hearts out and having the time of their lives. The event even included punch, of which some high school students loved, while others hated. Norwegian Native Frederik Kingell remembers watching countless movies about prom when he was younger. Through the media, he saw how important it is to Americans. The computer science major recalls the “spiked punch” high school students would drink before the event in movies. “It looked cool, I assumed everyone did it” he said as he shrugged his shoulders.

“They also always made a point to show the awkward slow dances between people that liked each other” he stated with a smirk. “The girls would obsess over their dresses, and be so proud of what they wore”, Kingell, recalling more prom film details. “I always loved watching those movies! It always looked so nice, and something I wanted to do” Kingell said, smiling from ear to ear. “Coming to this prom, I had a lot of expectations! I thought it would be bigger, but it is still really nice, and a lot of fun!” Kingell said as he looked at the dance floor in admiration. “They even have punch! It is not spiked, but that is alright!” He said with a chuckle.

He spoke about having a similar experience when he was in Junior High School. “The food and punch are the same to the dances I went to when I was younger, but we had student entertainment at the beginning, and always had a specific theme to the dances in Norway” Kingell explained.

When asked if the American stereotype he had of prom was proven to be true or false, he said that “it is quite accurate”, and has “definitely been proven.” Kingell is in his second semester abroad here at Cal State, Monterey Bay and will be going back home to Norway after this semester.

Norwegian Native Frederik Kingell getting ready for the prom. Photo by Brittany.

“Leaves of Threes, Leave Them Be”

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It was taught to most at a young age; if encountering poison oak, it is best to have no interaction at all. Poison oak has invaded much of the land around Cal State Monterey Bay. Recently, an e-mail was sent by campus health and safety specialist Arianne Tucker to all faculty members to be cautious of the rapid spread of the plant in most areas around campus and warning to stay on the designated paths to avoid contact.

Poison oak grows all over California, but mainly in the coastal regions of the South-East and the West. This species of plant is normally a woody shrub, a climbing vine in the shades of woods, or a ground vine in forests, woodlands, fields and open land with shrubby areas. Poison oak usually has leaves that group in threes; it can be seen as glossy or dull and carries an oily sap called Urushiol. The oil is a main trigger to the body’s immune system that then brings up a horrible itchy skin rash.

When noticing a red skinned area that is itchy, make sure to keep the rash from getting irritated or infected, DO NOT SCRATCH (can cause more symptoms) and to clean (until healed) with warm water followed by drying with clean gentle patting or natural dry.

In order to remain poison oak free, it is important that cautious actions are taken when outdoors and know where the plants are. Look for the leaf group pattern (if uncertain). Try to stick to main trails, cover skin as best as possible, and take care of symptoms right away if noticed.
O Sole Trio astonished a nearly full house at the World Theater on Saturday April 15th. The Trio is comprised of soprano Erin Shields, baritone Giuseppe Spoletini, and pianist, violist, and tenor David Shenton. They started and ended the night with absolutely stunning musical performances. The night included everything from playful jest and a little acting with their music, to an instrument duet played by David Shenton. The trio sounded as if they’ve been singing together since they could form their first words. The way the three members harmonized sounded like a piano playing the most perfect chord.

Shields, Spoletini, and Shenton live on the same street in New York. The fact that they are good friends is evident in the on stage chemistry between them. They are all of Italian descent and stressed the significance of the Italian culture in music, especially in the United States. They succeeded in educating the audience about how the Italian culture has influenced music throughout the history of the United States. They mentioned and performed pieces from well know Italian artists, such as Frank Sinatra, Louis Prima, and Peppino Turco. Although they performed pieces originally done by the legends, the Trio had no problems filling their shoes.

The group celebrated both Italian culture and their own Italian Heritage with the Opera style concert. For two hours the performers connected with the audience through short anecdotes, giving a more personal feeling to the pieces.

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“Artists with Attitude” (AWA) is a safe and brave space for all levels of artists dedicated to social justice and self-expression. The multicultural event includes visuals such as drawings, paintings, poems, dance or song. It is the first time being introduced to Cal State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) since “Poets with Attitude” (POA) at the Black Box (BBC) on April 21st.

With support from Otter Cross Cultural Center (OC3), Cultural Arts Student Coordinator Jasmine Loitter, and Taylor Coburn organized AWA for students to have the opportunity to showcase their pieces and able to express themselves without judgment.

Loitter explained AWA was not only inspired by POA but the title behind it was from the film NWA (N****s with Attitude). POA was known for spoken word but AWA is best fitted with self-expression. The inclusive event came to mind by CSUMB student and Visual Public Arts (VPA) major, Co-burn because she wanted to feel more empowered on campus. Coburn says, “Being from the Bay Area I get invited to many events and protests that revolve around social justice and there’s just not enough of it here.” Self expression has helped her heal through hard times and release the negative energy.

Loitter a VPA major, writer and painter recently came out as pansexual and states her art is a reflection of her environment and identities. One of her favorite pieces “Sex Museum,” interprets a sexually awakening peace, a mixed media piece of nude people or having sex. Her other piece, “Lost” depicts her depression and the inability to speak her mind due to her mental health.

“I think seeing someone’s art is a true gift and it’s intimate because those images or words come from an experience which affected that person, whether it was positive or negative,” says Loitter.
WOMEN'S SOFTBALL ON TRACK FOR FIFTH TITLE SINCE 2010

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Cal State, Monterey Bay softball team ranked at No. 7, takes on the Chico State Wildcats, who come in ranked at No. 15. Playing back to back doubleheaders on both Friday April 21 and Saturday the 22 for a four game series. Splitting the double header Friday, the Wildcats won the first game with a final score of 7-1. Bouncing back, Hayley Fein threw a shutout in the evening game, powering the Otters to a 4-0 shutout victory.

In need of a 2 game sweep Saturday, the Otters could secure the CCAA title if Humbolt State loses at least one game in their series. Senior day was in for extra innings, as Saturday’s first game needed 5 extra innings to pull out a victor. Chico leading the game headed into the 7th inning by a score of 6-8, but with a late rally in the 7th, the Otters scavenged up 2 runs to send the game into extras. In the bottom of the 12 inning, the Otters loaded the bases with no outs. Julia Garcia drew walked to bring in the walk off run. Final score of 9-8 in favor of the Otters. The late start game allowed the Otters to jump out to a 3-0 lead in the 1st inning, adding one more in the 3rd, with it being enough to get the win with a final of 4-2 Otters. Sweeping the doubleheader series Saturday against Chico State, the Cal State, Monterey Bay softball team clinched the California Collegiate Athletic Association title for the 5th time since 2010.

Photo by Anthony Denevi/OtterRealm.
**BASEBALL TAKE THE SERIES OVER SSU**

With the season coming down to the wire, Cal State, Monterey Bay Otters welcome in the Sonoma State Seawolves for a four game series through April 21-23 with a doubleheader on Saturday the 22. Bryan Granger on the mound for Friday, the Otters gave him plenty of early run support, scoring three runs off three hits and two errors in the first inning. The Otters would go on to win big in game one by the score of 15-5. The first game of the double-header Saturday was a nail biter as there were great defensive stops all over the field. This came down to a run scored in the 8th inning to break the tie for a final of 3-2 Otters. The second game of the double header started out quickly, with 2 runs scored in the 1st inning by the Seawolves, and 3 runs scored by the Otters. The Seawolves would go on to score 12 runs total in their first victory of the series by a final score of 12-5. Wrapping up the final game Sunday, with a chance of taking the series, the Otters needed a comeback to acquire the win. Down 6-3 in the 7th inning, the Otters rallied back with 8 runs in the bottom of the 7th to win the series 3-1, with a final score of 11-6 Otters. The Otters stay in 2nd place in the CCAA North Division, playing a crucial series next weekend against 3rd place team Stanislaus State.

**OTTERS GOLF IN POSTSEASON MODE**

CSUMB’s Women’s & Men’s Golf
Eye NCAA West Regionals

Since September, the Otters golf season has been in full effect. Eight months later, both the women’s and men’s set their sights to take their play well into May as they plan to extend their seasons via postseason success. After recently placing first out of 12 in Colorado for the Maverick Invitational, the lady Otters have their eyes placed on the NCAA Division II West Regionals. Cal State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) won two invitational championships and placed top three, five different occasions this season. Winning the invitational should only boost the Otters tournament candidacy, which last placed 11th out of the 12 teams that qualify for NCAA’s West Regional tournament. But nothing is set in stone for the ladies, as they wait for the final NCAA regional rankings, which will determine if they will get to participate in this year’s West Regionals.

A familiar scenario is in the hands of the men’s team, as they commenced their postseason journey earlier this week. The Otters are participating in CCAA’s Championship, and aspire to prolong their postseason by qualifying for the men’s Western Regionals. CSUMB, failed to win a championship this season, but finished top three in six different invitational.

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NEW ERA FOR CSUMB MEN’S SOCCER

After Six Seasons, the Otters Men’s Soccer Team has a New Boss

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After three losing seasons, Cal State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) were forced to start digging for an answer to instill winning ways. The Otters turned to former San Jose State Assistant Coach, Shane Carew.

“I am very excited for the opportunity to be the Head Men’s Soccer Coach at CSUMB,” coach Carew said. “I am very proud to be part of the community and hope to leave a legacy here at CSUMB.”

It has been more than half a decade since the Otters have had a peculiar face at the helm of the men’s soccer team. Throughout those six years, the men’s side found themselves finishing with a winning record only once (2013). Something, that coach Carew plans to overturn.

“We will start with building a culture with standards of excellence and breed a winning mentality with our student athletes,” coach Carew added. “Winning is a mindset and I believe there is enough talent here to be very successful in the CCAA.”

The Otters will not be taking the pitch until September, but the Carew and co. era is well afoot.

“There are very good players here at CSUMB, we want to tweak some things culturally and guide them to give their all in everything they do on and off the field,” coach Carew told Otter Realm.

“We want to be competitive in the conference and take it one game at a time.”
These are the so-called honeymoon days for most presidents. But not for President Trump. After 24 executive orders that includes travel ban version one and two (blocked by the courts), a thin budget proposal that shrinks resources for education, science, environment protections and social services, and after filling his cabinet with the super rich and with allies allegedly too close to Russia, President Trump’s sees his poll approval numbers dropping, according to Gallup polls in April.

ETHICAL CONCERNS

“The roll out of the first 100 days of the Trump administration has raised a number of questions about potential conflicts of interest. They range from the President’s use of Trump Organization real estate properties and his refusal (as all Presidents have done since the Nixon administration) to release his tax returns so such potential conflicts would be more visible, advisors with close ties to businesses and organizations subject to executive branch regulations, and unclear financial relationships of his own family members working in the West Wing to their continuing business interests. News organizations have been keeping a close eye on these potential conflicts, as should we all, especially since transparency is critical to ensuring effective and ethical decision-making in government.”

-HCOM Chair David Reichard

BUSINESS & GROWTH

Graduating senior Alison Womack (Sustainable Hospitality Management) sums up President Trump’s first 100 days in office in one word: “impractical.” Womack is miffed by the Trump Administration’s “past tense sort of view” in regards to their lack of support for the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as their indifference to advances in (clean) technology (particularly in relation to Trump’s promise to bring back coal jobs.) While she does agree with the administration’s vision to increase job growth, she believes “we need to do it in a way that’s safe for the planet.”

SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS

“While defunding the NEA (National Endowment for the Arts) is very worrying, the response to it, for me, has mostly been very encouraging. One of the things that attending Arts Advocacy Day showed me is that the arts and arts education are really a nonpartisan issue. At the event, we were addressed by politicians from both parties who were firmly in support of governmental funding for the arts continuing and even increasing in spite of the President’s proposal. That, I think, is a nice reminder of the power of the arts to unify and of the value that our country recognizes in them. In some ways, I think the defunding proposal has strengthened the NEA by both encouraging folks to learn more about what it does and rallying supporters together. Also, arts communities can be very different from each other, so opposing the President’s proposal has brought together artists, audiences, and advocates who might otherwise have a lot of common ground.”

-Lanier Sammons - Recordist, composer, and music professor at Music and Performing Arts program.
OPENNESS TO REFUGEES

Julio Castro, the Education Abroad Coordinator, said that students come to this country in hopes to fulfill their dreams and to experience something different from what they are used to in their home countries. “We believe in cultural exchanges, whether academic or about home countries. It’s depressing to see the things happening in our political climate,” said Castro. Castro mostly expressed his concern about the Syrian Refugee Crisis. He believes that everyone matters and that we should all share concern as global citizens. Castro would like to see European countries and the U.S. take in and support more refugees from all around the globe.

IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Sugethy R. Ronquillo, the International Studies Office Administrative Support Coordinator, said she has seen the negative impact on international students regarding future immigration policy. Ronquillo said, “We are here to serve and support the students and to be the source they need while being afar from home.” Ronquillo shared that the international students have taken the results of the elections in the past November hard. The coordinators themselves face more concerns, worries, and are taking changes in decision to affect the office and the university.

Last fall, the International Programs Office welcomed 400 international students. The number was expected to rise Fall 2017; but with the new administration, CSUMB will be seeing the same number of international students. Ronquillo said that several students who were supposed to study abroad in California will now be going to Europe. Ronquillo expressed that this is the first year that family members of international students monitor how they are being treated when they arrive on campus out of fear.

IMMIGRATION & UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

Regarding the immigration policies of the new presidential administration the Academic Senate of CSUMB approved a resolution supporting the safety of “members of our educational community and their families, particularly those students, staff faculty and administrators without US citizenship and/or Muslim, religious and refugee communities.”

As the Otter Realm reported in the last edition, the resolution expresses strong commitment to respect the privacy of students, refuse to collaborate with immigration forces in arresting or interrogating students, and allowing immigration agents entering the campus. The resolution crafted by history professor Meghan O’Donnell, includes provisions that support financial aid and advocacy for DACA students in case their status is reversed.
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INTERVIEW WITH CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

THE MAN BEHIND I.T.

Have you ever wondered how secure our campus IT department is, and how at risk we are while using CSUMB online systems?

We talked with Dr. Chip Lenno Chief Information Officer for the IT department, and he gave us some updates on what’s to come regarding campus IT security and tips on what to do at home, to protect yourself from Phishing!

Q. How secure is CSUMB compared to other campuses on IT related issues?

"Yes, it’s secure we won’t need a phone call to login, but last year we started using a new system."

Q. What is the most common problem people have?

It used to be password resets, but now I would say it’s still login issues or them not being able to access a part of the site.

Q. What are some security measures that CSUMB is taking to better our security?

Last year we started using a new identity management system called that includes Multi Factor Authentication, we have been waiting for a perfect time to start Multi Factor Authentication we will most likely start at the end of May for all employees and before Fall for faculty and students. This change will consist of four forums of second factor authentication

One being the app from the vendor, which pushes authentication to phone to say yes or no. Second is Google Authentication, which is similar to the app.

SMS/Text you will receive a text message with a code.

And last security questions, that are different from your forgotten password security questions.

We recommend that students configure at least two of the forms of security especially the security questions, in case your mobile device is stolen, you can still have access to your account without relying on another device.

This secondary authentication will have to be used at least every 24 hours when using one device.

Q. What is it that students can do at home to prevent themselves from having an IT problem?

They can do a lot of things, like encrypt their hard drives, but most importantly they need to stop responding to “Phishing”! We will never ask you to confirm credentials or accounts via email. The IRS won’t do this either. Be suspicious, csumb or the IRS will never contact you via email to confirm certain important information. If you do encounter a suspicious email Don’t click on it or the link, forward it to ISO@csumb.edu and they will monitor that account with possible Phishing Scams.

Q. How can students make an appointment in case they encounter a problem regarding IT.

We have drop in, which is probably the best way to reach out, in the library from 8am until the library closes. If it’s serious you should call in the office, or email iso@csumb.edu. The fastest way to get help is through the IT help desk.
DEFEND IMMIGRANTS AGAINST ICE IN MONTEREY COUNTY

SIGN-UP FOR RAPID RESPONSE TRAININGS

LEARN TO ACT AS A LEGAL OBSERVER. HELP DEFEND UNDOCUMENTED COUNTY RESIDENTS FROM ICE DETentions AND RAIDS.

TWO TRAININGS ON SATURDAY, MAY 6
10AM - 12:30PM
COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER
AT THE MONTEREY COLLEGE OF LAW
2620 COLONEL DURHAM ST.
SEASIDE

2PM - 4:30PM
TEAMSTERS LOCAL 890
207 N. SANBORN ROAD
SALINAS

SPACE IS LIMITED. REGISTER AT:
MOCORAPIDRESPONSE.ORG
MORE INFORMATION: CALL ADRIANA MELGOZA
AT 831-228-9787
It was only nine but I was exhausted. In the hour that I had the phone, I had called the police twice and received five additional calls. Luckily everyone was okay. I was not near tears, I walked back to my room, emotionally drained, just wanting to sleep. I had a few minutes before I had to leave for rounds. I grabbed a bag of chips, the only thing I had eaten all day, and plopped onto my couch, letting my eyes close. Knock, knock, knock. An RA’s job is never done.

Because of my job as an RA I have become a different person. I have grown confident in who I am and in my abilities.

I’m in my third year of this job and I love it! And hate it. Because of my job as an RA I have become a different person. I have grown confident in who I am and in my abilities. I know my strengths and how to improve my weaknesses. I know that I am able to care beyond myself and handle tough situations. But I had to fight to learn these.

I work two jobs, have always taken a full course load, and am managing to graduate summa cum laude in a few weeks. And while I like to think I’m a good RA, I struggle. I can’t always get my door decorations up on time, my bulletin boards aren’t always as nice as I want them to be, and when no one shows up to my event I feel defeated. But then I remember all of the times when my residents take a second to say thank you, the privilege I have had watching my residents grow each year. And I realize that this job has touched my heart in such a profound way, I wouldn’t trade these past three years for anything.
Chief Eats:

CARMEL BAKERY

Carmel, in the minds of many students, is the land of things we cannot afford, but this is not so. Ocean Street, home of Tiffany & Co, also houses Carmel Bakery at the west end of the road. The windows of the cafe are stuffed with cookies, pastries, brownies, and best of all, big pretzels. If there is anything your reviewer cannot resist, it is big pretzels. Carmel Bakery certainly delivered; the brownie and pretzel that ended up at our table were both utterly magnificent. The crunch of the salt and the tang of the sourdough of the pretzel, and the rich chocolate weight of the brownie were exceptional. The coffee, while Starbucks brand, was still well brewed.

The bakery itself is always busy. People are packed almost as closely inside as the window display, and that’s saying something. There are tables, but they fill up fast. If you are there with other people, one of you have your head on a swivel for an empty spot and claim it fast. The prices are fair, and certainly affordable for window-shopping college students. The one-room cafe has darker walls, but never feels dingy. A TV to the right of the door is always showing sweeping views of Monterey Bay. The staff is friendly and very efficient. So, in short, this reviewer will be returning for more than sourdough bliss, because Carmel bakery is a Solid 4.5/5. Perhaps, one day, they will have their own coffee brand....

Carmel Bakery is located at Suite 203, Ocean Ave, Carmel.

Kelly Galten
kgalten@csumb.edu

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Photos by Kelly Galten/Otter Realm
The Netflix original adaptation of Jay Asher’s popular novel, 13 Reasons Why, has been available for streaming since March 31st. From the initial release, the show has been a hot topic of discussion in regards to how it handles suicide on screen. 13 Reasons Why tells the story of Hannah (Katherine Langford), a high school student who ultimately commits suicide after a chain of demoralizing events perpetrated by her peers. After her death, cassette tapes are passed along one by one to the 13 people who unknowingly had an impact that contributed to her decision to end her life. Each episode is attributed to one of the 13 individuals and their dedicated tape recording.

While the show is compelling, as it tackles such a poignant subject, it is important to warn potential viewers of the show’s intensity. Not only are the topics emotionally jarring, but the scenes are sometimes graphic. For example, rather than implying that Hannah’s suicide occurred, they show the entire scene as she ends her life. Because of scenes like this, 13 Reasons Why can be triggering to those who battle with depression and suicidal thoughts, and it is important to consider this before watching the show yourself. One critique I have towards the show is its failure to provide resources for those who may be triggered by the content. The lack of consideration for the show’s viewers made me question if 13 Reasons Why was intended to help those struggling with a similar issue, or solely for entertainment.

If you or someone you know is contemplating suicide, contact the Suicide Prevention Lifeline for emotional support at (800) 273-8255.

When the name OJ Simpson arises in conversation, key things come to mind immediately. Whether it is white Bronco, a beautiful model murdered, a glove, or a super star discredited, we all have some sort of knowledge of the story. The People Vs. OJ Simpson: American Crime story is an original FX Television show that was recently released on Netflix. America’s fascination with this particular case continues even as decades pass. It is a real life murder mystery that only seems to be possible in a novel, and it has an audience captivated. Picture it, a superstar football player with a past of reported abuse to his supermodel wife turns up dead right next to her alleged lover. Sounds like a bestseller to me!

The murder happened at the tail end of the Rodney King movement which sparked emotions of racism and accusations of a man looked at as an “all American hero”. After further research of the key players in the historic event, the resemblance and attention to detail the actors portray is uncanny.

The angle of the show is taking a close look into the courtroom. From all decisions made, to the brave fight of both attorneys to obtain their desired verdict. We all know the outcome of course, but audiences like myself still seemed hooked on everything leading up to that moment.
Hello Otters!

Thank you to everyone who voted in our AS Elections in mid-April. I am so excited and honored to have been elected to serve as your AS President for one more year. It has been a great time working with the students on this campus and I am looking forward to doing so again. With that, I am also very proud to announce your 2017-2018 AS Officers!

On our Executive Board we have the following:

Executive Vice President:  
Nathaniel Bond

Vice President of University Affairs:  
Esteban Castillo

Vice President of External Affairs:  
Jared Reyes

Chair of Inter Club Council:  
Kimberly Haley

Chair of Sports Club Council:  
Hailey Edwards

For our Senators we have:

College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Senator:  
Maddy Maurer

College of Science Senator:  
Kate Ingram

Senator for Diversity & Inclusion:  
Michelle Vasquez

Even though elections are over, we still have a couple vacancies for our senator positions. These are the Sustainability Senator, the College of Business Senator, the Undeclared Senator, and the College of Health Sciences and Human Services Senator. To apply and for more information, check out our website at csumb.edu/as.

Thanks!

Lauren McClain
president@ascumb.org
Every minute feels like an hour, every hour feels like a day, every day feels like forever, but I will wait forever and a day for you.” For as far as I can remember, I have always been in love with the thought of being in love with someone; but I never thought about the challenges and hardships that I would have to go through to be with the one I love most. I fell in love my sophomore year of college, when I met a handsome man that was perfect for me. Before my heart could skip a beat, I became his baby girl on the outside and a very happy girl on the inside. I was in an amazingly beautiful relationship but distance got in the way and duty called.

Around January of 2017, my heart shattered to pieces, when I found out that my boyfriend was officially enlisting in the United States Armed Forces; I reacted how any girl in love would; I cried too many times to remember and started to question the future I imagined us having together. Hearing that your special person is leaving to another state/country is very disheartening, but the saying “Distance means nothing when someone means everything” really helps when processing how much you would go through for the individual you love. Our endless days together began to have a countdown, and the loving from a distance started the moment we said good-bye; I would never wish the hardship of loving someone and having all the miles in between on anyone.

Long distance relationships are hard, but doing a long distance relationship with a future military police officer has been the biggest test yet. The absence of not hearing his voice, not being able to hold his hand, kiss him, cuddle him or be with him has left my heart feeling empty and tears to run down my face more often than I’d like. Until his return in June, I am relying on the letters that are sent randomly, picture perfect photos together from past adventures, lengthy old voicemails left on my phone, and the random calls or text messages once a week. Every minute I miss him, every hour I am worrying about him, and every day I am wishing that I could talk to him. When we are able to talk, we tell each other “We are one day closer and one day stronger” because we feel the powerful love we share for each other and how much we are going to cherish the day we meet again.

“Behind every strong soldier, there is an even stronger women who stand by him, supports him and loves him with all her heart.” Regardless of the struggles that I face every day, none of them stand a chance of winning because I chose to love and support this soldier with all my heart; the only difference? This journey is going to be a part of our lives. I learned to never let distance be an excuse to not be with the one that you love. Through all the difficulties involved with love, I’m happy to say I already have my prince, I’m just waiting for him to come home.

The difficulties of dealing with distance, worrying non stop, and making sacrifices don’t stand a chance against the love she has for her military man.

Haley Mathis
hamathis@csumb.edu

“Every minute feels like an hour, every hour feels like a day, every day feels like forever, but I will wait forever and a day for you.” For as far as I can remember, I have always been in love with the thought of being in love with someone; but I never thought about the challenges and hardships that I would have to go through to be with the one I love most. I fell in love my sophomore year of college, when I met a handsome man that was perfect for me. Before my heart could skip a beat, I became his baby girl on the outside and a very happy girl on the inside. I was in an amazingly beautiful relationship but distance got in the way and duty called.

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Cracked
StumbleUpon
Reddit
BuzzFeed
YouTube
CollegHumor
Pinterest
Mashable
Tumblr

START OF A SEMESTER
THIS SEMESTER IS GOING TO BE GREAT!
I LOVE ALL MY CLASSES!!

END OF A SEMESTER
OKAY I'M DONE!!! I'M READY TO SWITCH TO SOME NEW CLASSES!!

Andre Sitolini/Otter Realm
OTTERS OF THE BAY

What do you wish you knew before college?

“Something I wish I knew before coming to CSUMB is how amazing and involved the HCOM professors are as individuals. I think knowing this I would have entered my courses and projects with a higher degree of optimism before entering my upper division classes.”

Kyra Joseph, HCOM Major with Business Minor

“I wish I knew how cold the weather was going to be in Monterey. I expected hot California weather all the time but coming here I realized I could barely leave the house at night without a heavy jacket I didn’t prepare.”

Jessen Winaardinata, Computer Science Major

“Coming from Pakistan, the colleges are very close together and tight knit, I wish I knew how spread out the campus was going to be so I could have prepared some sort of transportation device like a car to get around easier.”

Neymar, Cinematic Arts Major
FALL 2017
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