

Nation's Most Congested Freeway to Get Relief

By **Cara Rehbein**
Corsair Staff Writer

Top California officials have been gathering in Sacramento throughout the past few weeks in attempts to lobby the California Transportation Commission regarding the particular transportation concerns of their county.

With a tax dollar allowance of \$19.9 billion being distributed by the Commission throughout the state to fund new road projects, \$4.5 billion has been designated to Southern California alone.

After heavy petitioning and lobbying from Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to add a carpool lane to the 405 Northbound and 101, Los Angeles' leading official found success in all his campaigning.

"The 405 is not just a local road ... it's the most congested freeway in the United States of America," petitioned Villaraigosa during a press conference at the beginning of his campaign.

Specifying that changes must be made

on the 405 between the I-10 and 101, the mayor asserted that there has to be a carpool lane continued alongside the congestion-prone area.

Proposition 1B was voted upon last November to invest \$19.9 billion in highway safety and improving traffic congestion, air quality and port security.

Villaraigosa argued that L.A. county accounts for 25 percent of the state's population, and one-third of its traffic congestion, yet, despite this, only about 12 percent of Proposition 1B's funds were to be invested in the city.

The California Transit Commission did not believe the highway was worthy of financial allocation, proposing nearly four dozen transportation projects throughout the state.

Defending the committee in its choice, John Barna, executive director of the commission, said bond money should not be dispensed, like Mayor Villaraigosa argues, according to population density. "The staff," said Barna, "chose projects



Geoffrey Dunn Corsair

Rush hour traffic moves along near the I-10 interchange on Monday. The recently approved and much anticipated 405 northbound carpool lane is expected to stretch between the 10 and 101 freeways.

based on readiness for construction, demonstrable congestion relief and connectivity benefits," mentioning also "geographic balance."

Despite the commission executive's strong comments, Villaraigosa was still able to sway the funds to L.A.'s aid. Because the commission revoked funds

from the formerly approved carpool lane on the 10, passing through the San Gabriel Valley, the eastside of Los Angeles felt abused, state senator

Gloria Romero told the L.A. Times last Tuesday.

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Uninvited Religious Demonstrators Get Students on Campus Riled Up

By **Robert Carbajal**
Corsair Staff Writer

A group of men walked onto the Santa Monica College campus and created an uproar among students Tuesday afternoon.

Claiming to preach and spread their "message of love," the men quarreled with bystanders, shouted offensive language toward homosexuals and challenged just about anyone who made eye contact with them.

Just in front of the library, students were forced to walk by offensive signs that read, "Repent or Perish," denouncing "Muslims, Buddhists, atheists and even mouthy women."

A man who chooses to identify himself only as John Franklin, created a melee of his own, taking on students calling them "bigots" and being taken by "the dark side."

Students were shocked and even enraged upon reading the racial and sexist remarks scrawled on the posters carried by the men.

"Thousands of ex-homosexuals have experienced the life saving love of Jesus Christ," another sign read that was being carried by a few members who proclaimed themselves as devout Christians.

Students fired back however, engaging in debates and invoking their opinions.

"You're abusing the First Amendment!" said Michael Okyere, a Santa Monica College student

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Geoffrey Dunn Corsair

Michael Okyere (left) argues with a member of Cornerstone Ministries at a religious demonstration on the Library walkway on Tuesday. The Ministry was one of several propagating Christian ideology on the campus.

Big Blue Buses Pull Model Ads

By **Demetria Banks**
Corsair staff writer

Advertisements promoting "America's Next Top Model" display 13 bathing suit-clad model contestants, including the show's creator Tyra Banks.

After two weeks of being posted, the ads were pulled from Santa Monica's Big Blue Buses due to objections from the community.

The bus line refunded the CW network for the paid promotion fees.

Some Santa Monica residents complained that the advertisements for "America's Next Top Model" were demeaning to women.

Residents argued that by leaving them posted, the city of Santa Monica might be approving a show that supports chauvinist behavior towards women.

The Big Blue Bus company felt pressured to remove the ads based on such complaints.

Stephanie Negriff, director of transit services for the city of Santa Monica assures that by taking down the advertisements was for the "sensitivity of the community" and is "a matter of public taste."

The exact number of complaints is unknown, however there were enough to encourage the withdrawal of the ads.

Conversely there are others that don't share in the distaste for the advertisements.

"I didn't see a problem with it," says Santa Monica Blue Bus driver. "With

all the ads on TV for bras and panties there was really nothing wrong with the ads."

Negriff does acknowledge that the same advertisements that were pulled are currently still posted on billboards and posters throughout Los Angeles county, including Santa Monica, as well as metro buses, yet they fail in comparison in feedback and reactions from the community.

"America's Next Top Model" advertisements were taken down for the "sensitivity of the community" and is "a matter of public taste."

Stephanie Negriff
Director of transit services for the city of Santa Monica

"My eye doesn't naturally look up to the billboards unless I'm bored," says Santa Monica resident Maria Lopez. "But when I'm walking or standing on the street for whatever reason, my attention is drawn to whatever is in front of me."

The full price of the ads, including the two weeks that they were on display, has been fully refunded by the city to the CW network.

The total refund was approximately \$30,000 for what was supposed to be a four-week run.

Brain Injury Program Inspires Students to Reinvent Themselves

By **Mayumi Miyasato**
Corsair Staff Writer

Curt, a former psychiatrist, got to act as a man who dreams he could swim like a fish. Shari is filming, which she says is a complete miracle.

These students and many others are part of a small class at Santa Monica College, who together are making big improvements in their lives – and producing films.

All in the class have acquired brain injuries and are enrolled in the ABI Connections class, offered through the Acquired Brain Injury Program (ABI) at SMC.

The ABI Program runs through the Disabled Students Services and has been running about 20 years.

It began in the mid '80s when advancements in medical technology resulted in higher survival rates among patients, thus, the number of those with acquired brain injuries climbed as well.

"Many survivors were having trouble returning and readjusting their lives and their needs were different than those with

other injuries," said Sandi Burnett, ABI program director.

The ABI Program is tailored towards SMC students with acquired brain injuries, providing them with services to help them participate in the college's educational programs.

The program offers a non-credit community-living skills program "ABI Connections," and the credit programs depending on their functional abilities and goals. Credit programs provide students with counseling, problem solving, physical education and other much needed services.

Brain injuries are complex and different for each individual. Common injuries are memory, spacial reasoning, movement and conceptualization impairments.

Most of the students in the ABI Connections class have short-term memory impairments, and expressive aphasia, in which communicating thoughts become complicated, making speech, writing, and reading a struggle.

Acquired brain injuries like these make assimilating back into society

difficult and the class focuses on helping them reintegrate.

"The program is very community-based and very individualized. We make it to the students wants. It's all about their goals," says Jami Evans, professor of the Connections class.

The class is progressive, thus students are allowed to retake the class as many times they feel is necessary. A returning student is Jon, who received brain injuries after undergoing a corrective surgery for a seizure disease.

Jon says the class is "about using your mind, to use what you have, and to try to make it better."

Students participate in innovative activities that allow them to practice the skills they struggle with. For example, the class held a scavenger hunt on the 3rd Street Promenade.

Students were paired in two groups and worked together to return items, ask for books and find certain products.

They also go on field trips to museums, restaurants and movies; places where they can socially interact.

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Mark Bennington Corsair

Darren, aka "Crimson," laughs about a new script idea for the class' third video project at the AET campus.

THISWEEK

“Every area of trouble gives out a ray of hope; and the one unchangeable certainty is that nothing is certain or unchangeable.”
John Fitzgerald Kennedy

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Geoffrey Dunn Corsair

Job Fair Seeks On-Campus Workers

By Pauline Bithell
Corsair Staff Writer

The Career Center held its first job fair of the semester on a windy damp Tuesday afternoon. Unlike the majority of job fairs held at the library path way, this one was focused on finding students on-campus jobs.

There were over 16 campus employers all hoping to entice students to their table with the offer of free candy and possibly a job.

The prime targets for the fair were international students and those eligible for federal work study.

As Ping Cheng, an employee at the Welcome Center, was struggling to hold down information flyers battling against the wind, she explained her role at the fair.

“We just want to raise people’s awareness of us and find some students who are looking to save gas driving to work and instead just come straight from class,” Cheng said. “I’m looking for people to help new students when they come to see counselors, and generally be a representative for the college.”

As people milled around chewing

on candy and talking with the many employers, Nawee Sungkamee from Thailand explained his need for a job on campus.

“I’m an international student and it’s really hard finding a job, so I thought I’d come along and see if anyone had anything that looked interesting,” Marcia Lewis, who works at the Career Center, had a large table set up listing the different departments seeking students and other helpful information such as a book entitled, “Your Guide to Success.”

“We are trying to help students work somewhere more convenient,” Lewis said. “I update the online student employment page at least once a week with a large selection of listings.”

The hourly wage offered for an on campus job is \$8, and the many departments that attended the job fair heightened awareness of sections of the college students may not have previously known about, such as Media Services.

Every time you receive a handout in class or watch footage regarding your subject, Media Services are to thank. Cecil Godbold described what he was

looking for.

“We need people to support the instructors with their multimedia needs. We are accepting work study students as well as international students as our budget increase is promised to us!”

Godbold highlighted a problem that affects many departments on campus that look for students to help.

“We are trying to help students work somewhere more convenient.”

Marcia Lewis
Career Center Employee

International students make up a large percentage of people at Santa Monica College yet the opportunity for employment is limited as it takes a lot longer and more paper work to get a student a social security number.

Therefore, there are a smaller number of positions offered to them. The fair continued on until 1 p.m. and more students could be seen perching on seats filling in applications with their free SMC pens.

Vicki Rothman, faculty leader at the Career Services Center, was happy with the number of applications handed in. “The Media Center received 15 applications, which was a successful result.”

However, Rothman did remark that next time she hopes for an even better turnout and is confident it will be achieved.

Future dates for an on campus job fair are tentatively set for Sept. 1, and employers off campus looking for workers will be holding their own fair on March 22 and April 19, so grab the candy and a free pen and find somewhere comfortable to perch.

At the moment, the best way to seek out employment on campus is to visit www.smc.edu/studentemployment. The site lists available positions.

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Students in the Letters and Science building had their lectures constantly interrupted by the debacle that continued less than 50 feet from their classes.

“We tried to shut the windows, but these guys were arguing with someone and harassing them,” said Renee Zahirpour, a student who heard the chaos while sitting in her math class.

“They were saying that ‘homosexuals were going to hell.’ I went to the police station and to the supervisor... no one’s doing anything about it. They have the right to do whatever they want, I don’t understand,” Zahirpour said.

The police appeared on the scene at 12:30 p.m. but did not order anyone off campus or make any arrests.

According to police, the men were not in violation of any law as long as they remained on public property. The men could have been apprehended if they were to carry their protest in a non-civil manner inside the school buildings.

“They were saying that ‘homosexuals were going to hell.’ I went to the police station... no one’s doing anything about it.”

Renee Zahirpour
SMC Student

“I think it’s the worst way to spread a message,” said Cameron Hall, a second year SMC student. Pointing to Franklin’s poster, Hall said that it showed his “close-mindedness and ignorance.”

Students rallied in support of each other, debating and confronting the language used by the demonstrators, telling them to “get out.”

The men who joined Franklin are part of two separate organizations that call themselves “Left 99” and “Republic America.”

One student who chose remain anonymous said, “I know they have the right to demonstrate, but this is ridiculous and degrading. These guys are the complete opposite of what they claim to represent.”

Spring Forward

Daylight-saving time comes early this year. Be ready to push your clocks forward an hour Sunday, March 11, and expect the Student Self-Service System to be down Thursday, March 8, as the college prepares for the time-shift.

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“The county’s share of money was completely gobbled up by the politically potent politicians of the Los Angeles Westside,” said Romero. “At the end of the day, [the Westside] got the money and we [the Eastside] got the bill.”

Romero is not the only one who believes that the commission’s decision was unjust, as many Santa Monica College students, when interviewed, seemed to view the expansion project not worth the expense. “It would be kind of helpful, but it’s not the perfect solution,” said Crystalyn Fowler, a 405 commuter driving from the area around the Getty. “What they really need to do is to fix the already-there carpool lane because it’s full of potholes,” she added.

Sharing a similar opinion to Fowler’s, Chase Gilomen said the 405 project “is not worth the money because there are alternative methods that could decongest traffic—like ‘stacking.’”

Estimated to cost approximately \$1 billion, though the method of expansion

is yet undetermined, \$90 million was left for the rest of Southern California.

“I think it will be better off for Los Angeles as a whole, especially those who commute to work, but not so much for SMC students,” said Gilomen, who also is a 405 frequenter, when asked what kind of effect it would have on Santa Monica College students.

“I don’t know anyone who uses the carpool lane,” said Casey Black. “I don’t see that already working.” Black argued, “it doesn’t do anything to help students get here, and that’s the most important way of the commute!”

Saying that he avoids the 405 at all costs, and, after 6:30 a.m. takes the “back-roads,” Black, despite having to deal with traffic, claims “it’s not worth the money.”

Be it a project with an exorbitant price tag or the time-saving savior of many Angeleno traffic sitters, the 405/101 expansion has stirred many contrasting opinions among commuters—politician and student alike.

BRAIN continued from Page 1

But by far, the most exciting for students is the filmmaking. Three years ago the class attended a student film showing on the AET Campus. Attending the showing sparked an immediate interest in filmmaking.

“We have the advantage to start this in an industry town. We have more resources,” said Professor Evans.

The class has received outside help from people like Felix Washington, a film editor who donates his time to edit videos, and Martin Sosin, a firm believer in creative educational projects who provided the class with a laptop computer, a camera and other equipment for filming.

“I love filming. I even got a movie camera for Christmas,” said Mike, a former computer programmer who lost his ability to use his right hand after suffering from a stroke.

He loves his new hand-held digital camera because its easy to use, it’s light and easy to manage with his left hand. He takes it with him wherever he goes and shoots footage whenever he feels inspired.

Students participate in everything; the scriptwriting, the filming, production, the acting, costume and set design, soundtrack music and the editing.

They have accomplished two movies, “Reunion” and “Avalon Dreaming,” and are currently working on their third which will be in skit form. At the end of every film, the class holds a premiere on campus and even an awards show.

The class is doing a lot with the resources available to them already but would like to purchase more equipment so they can continue the program and get more people involved.

“The big goal is to get a couple more cameras and some MAC laptops. That’s why we’re looking for more funding. I want everyone in the class to have a more hands-on experience,” said Evans.

The collaborative team effort in making films has proved to be a successful way for students to connect

and work on their cognitive skills.

“Everyone that I’ve met here is part of a team, but I also see them being challenged by Jami. It’s part of becoming who you are, and they rise to it because Jami doesn’t spoonfeed anything, if you want to get from A to B, fine, she’ll help you walk there,” says Rob, a caretaker for one of the students.

It’s required that every school has a program for disabled students but not many are specialized like the one at SMC.

“The program is very community-based and very individualized. We make it to the students wants, it’s all about their goals.”

Jami Evans
Professor of the Connections Class.

“I think that within every community, with every driving distance and bus schedule distance there should be programs like this, because there’s a lot of people with brain injuries and people don’t realize it,” says Professor Evans, who worries that without the program most students would simply stay at home without progressing their minds.

And as the number of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans return from the war with multiple injuries rises, so does the need for programs like the ABI program.

Professor Evans said the program is a “very good stepping stone, a good place for veterans to come into.”

The students in the Acquired Brain Injury program have all struggled through a lot; comas, automobile accidents, surgeries gone awry, and strokes. But the program reminds them that they’re not weak victims, but strong, willing and creative individuals, and for those in the Connections class—talented film-makers as well.

Information, contact Director Sandi Burnett at (310) 434-4442.

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CALENDAR

Shake and Pop Your Way to Zanzibar

Local Santa Monica bar and club says, out with the old in with the new as they welcome a new event every Friday.



Andrew Glennon Corsair

DJ Valida Mixes up the on the turntables playing house, funk, and old school

By **Ivette Herrador**
Corsair Staff Writer

Strolling down 5th and Arizona you come to the corner where the marquee, a bit stained and unlit, makes the whole venue seem like a deserted pile of bricks. Night approaches and Zanzibar is jolting with life and waiting for you.

Jason Bentley and Bruno Guez, disc jockeys on KCRW, have had a long-going event, Bossa:nova, for 12 years. In 2002, Zanzibar became the continuous host of the event.

Quango, the independent record label that Bossa:nova was an off-shoot of, was designed to inform clubgoers dance music from outside of the United States.

Bossa:nova at Zanzibar recently has ceased to run as Bentley and Guez may have been gone into hibernation, though they have bequeathed the ongoing Friday night slot to fellow DJ's, Valida and C-Town.

The new slot now called Shake and Pop has an edgier lineup of electronica and house music.

Zanzibar talent buyer Dexter Story said, "Those who attend Bossa:nova will still have a good time at Shake and Pop; The music selection is hot."

Dimly lit red lighting creates an intimate and sultry atmosphere.

Reserved for bottle service, there are three separate areas containing comfy couches and bean bags surrounding small tables. As a whole, the décor forms an opium den-like ambience.

The bar is somewhat small though well stocked. Prices of beer are fair, \$5 a mug and martinis and other cocktails are in the range of \$10 or \$11. Two of Zanzibar's specialties are the Kama sutra and Zanzibar Connection.

The Kama sutra (martini) is tangy yet quite sweet, and the taste is somewhat like V8 Splash. Zanzibar Connection is filled with liquor like Hennessy and Grand Marnier giving it a strong yet smooth taste.

USC Journalism grad student, and first time Zanzibar club goer Jaelyn Lersch said, "I like the atmosphere — there is a good vibe."

The electronica compilations playing were exotic and entrancing, really forming the venue into an eclectic place to visit.

Opening at 9 p.m., there really isn't a crowd rolling in till around 10:30 p.m. By 11 p.m. packs of girls (and a few courageous men) were on the dance floor twirling and grooving to Daft Punk's "around the world."

The night was still going strong right through the last call of alcohol at 2 a.m.

You can hear tricked out mixing of old school and funk as DJ Valida possesses the turntables while C-Town, twists it up with hard beats and spell bounded melodies.

Shake and Pop, is packed with music you'll love whether you're a first timer or a retired raver.

Zanzibar
1501 5th St.
Santa Monica,
90401
(310)451-2221
Shake and Pop has a \$10 cover charge.
The Venue is 21 and over.
www.zanzibarlive.com



Andrew Glennon Corsair

The Zanzibar mural looks out onto his patrons.

Get Your Fix Under \$20

By **Barbara Szabo**
Corsair Staff Writer

In the midst of school, work, and the general stress that accompanies our everyday lifestyle, it is often difficult to take some time out and relax.

A softly lit room filled with the aroma of incense, a feeling of utter peace, and silence broken only by the faint sound of deep breathing just might be the solution.

And the best part is that it won't cost nearly as much as this healing experience is really worth.

"Power Yoga is directed at creating the highest level of energy, vitality and

freedom. By working hard sensitively, we create an environment that's healing and that honors each individual, an environment that respects our boundaries and works within him or her," said Bryan Kest, the owner of the yoga studio.

Power Yoga is located on 2nd Street and Santa Monica Boulevard, conveniently near many parking structures that offer two hours of free parking.

It is donation based, meaning you can pay as little as you are able to, but the suggested cost is \$11 per class (for a schedule, go to poweryoga.com).

It is impossible to even begin to

explain the amazing feeling you get from just an hour and a half of this healing practice. It clears the mind and the body of the constant stress that inevitably controls our lives in this incredibly fast paced world through a series of exercises that focus on breathing. The instructors are amazing at what they do, pacing every class to the needs of each person as much as possible.

With a newly earned relaxed mindset, it is time to head over to Zen Zoo Tea.

Located on San Vicente Boulevard and 26th Street, between Santa Monica and Brentwood, Zen Zoo is an exceptionally calm teahouse (except on weekdays around 2 p.m. when high school students

swarm the place). It serves a myriad of delicious boba drinks. Walking in to Zen Zoo, a sign on the wall lets guests know that the use of cell phones is not permitted. It all connects back to being stress free without connections to the outside world, as Zen Zoo's slogan encourages "a little Zen in the zoo of life."

After all, don't we all deserve a little Zen in the zoo of life?

Get Your Fix under \$20 series will continue in issue 5, so stay tuned on what other activities you can do, \$20 or under.



Courtesy of 10th St. Entertainment

Lead singer, Jonny Dubowsky (front), (left) Bass, Tommy USA, Drummer, Jon Weber, and Guitar, Christian Langdon.

Jonny Lives! up the music industry

By **Demetria Banks**
Staff Writer

Hailing from the streets of Lower East Side New York, Jonny Lives! brings forth a sound that is sure to resurrect garage bands in the indie music industry.

This party band has already made its way through the party scene of college campuses, bars, radio and soundtracks, with a diverse blend of story telling lyrics, grunge and punk rock.

With their East Village background and lifestyle this band is bound to keep your party going through drunken brawls, hook ups and let downs throughout the night.

Their latest CD "Get Steady" is quickly grabbing attention with its similar sounds to the European bands of the '60s and '70s and mixes of punk and multi-layered lyrics. But don't let that fool you.

"Get Steady" is sure to make you feel like your living like a rock star. With songs influenced by the band's recollections

of sex, drugs, parties and flings each track can fairly be a soundtrack for your highs and lows.

Songs like "Cliché" can fuel your hookups while songs like "lost my mind" can wind you down from your night of hard partying.

Over all, Jonny Lives! lyrical messages may be subtitle repetitive, but they're still catchy as hell.

You can catch these guys on the Van Wilder soundtrack as well as the Van Wilder tour, along side other bands featured on the soundtrack.

Tickets can be purchased at HOB.com (<http://hob.com/>) or Ticketmaster.

The tour is scheduled to hit major cities across the nation.

For full list of tour dates and arenas checkout their My Space page at <http://myspace.com/jonnylives> or jonnylives.com.

Also Listen to sampling of their music and watch their music video straight off of their band website.

Be heard!

Your opinion counts ...

Big Blue Bus Community Meetings

Come share your thoughts and find out about:

- Fare restructure
- Community transit services
- Possible changes to Line 10

Language interpretation and disability-related accommodation requests can be made by contacting Big Blue Bus Customer Service at 310-451-5444 at least three business days prior to the date of the meeting you wish to attend.

For more information:

www.BigBlueBus.com
310-451-5444



Monday, March 5

- 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Santa Monica Main Library, Multipurpose Rm, 2nd Flr
- Use Lines 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 to get there

Tuesday, March 6

- 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
- Santa Monica Community College, Business Building, Room 111
- Use Lines 7, 8, 11, SMC Commuter to get there

Thursday, March 8

- 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.
- UCLA, Student Activity Center, Room B05, Conference Room 1-2
- Use Lines 1, 2, 3, 8, 12, Super 12 to get there

Saturday, March 10

- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Ken Edwards Center, Room 100 A-B, Santa Monica
- Use Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 to get there

Monday, March 12

- 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Virginia Park (Thelma Terry Center), Santa Monica
- Use Lines 7, 11 to get there

ARTS & LEISURE

SAVE MONEY AND RESOURCES
WITH SUSTAINABLE WORKS**By Krystal Peak**
Corsair Staff Writer

Dear Students of Santa Monica, We have noticed that you have been using an exorbitant amount of resources. Perhaps you were unaware that there are many alternatives to the fossil fuel-based energy you pay for. (Because frankly, we would hate to hear that you were aware of the many environmental alternatives and did nothing about it – but you would never do something so careless, right?)

Representatives of Sustainable Works spoke at an environmental lecture Wednesday, Feb. 21 and gave a crash course in lowering bills while helping the environment. Their various “greening” programs are professionally run meetings and courses in how to live using fewer resources while also being aware of how our actions affect the world and people around us.

The Sustainable Works program knows that you want to save money and protect the environment without changing your lives too much, so they’ve expressed several ways to make

a difference on any budget during this inspiring lecture.

About Sustainable Works:

- Nine-week programs on Sustainable Living are offered every semester to SMC students for an exceptionally low fee of \$25.

- These programs meet once a week and are offered at several different times of day to fit in to any college student’s schedule.

- Six-week courses are held all over the city of Santa Monica to overcome the obstacles that may arise when learning to conserve. Meetings occur everywhere from community centers, schools, coffee houses, and even condominium complexes and apartments. Support tools (like aerators and compact fluorescent bulbs) are provided at each meeting to promote immediate action.

- This semester’s program begins March 12 and ends May 14. The last day to sign up is March 9, but don’t wait because certain times already have a wait-list. Call 310-458-8716 for more details.

Learn to Save, then Educate Others:

- Compact fluorescent light bulbs use 75 percent less energy than other incandescent lights.

- Those who’ve completed the six-week Sustainable Works course have reduced their waste output by up to 50 percent, lowered water bills by 20 percent, saved \$300 a year on utility bills, and cut one ton of pollution per year for a single family home.

Water is Life: Water programs specialist Matt Henigan alerts everyone who cares about the world’s water supply:

- Most of the water that L.A. and Santa Monica receive comes from Northern California and the amount of energy that it takes to pump the water down here is approximately 2-3 percent of the electricity in the whole state.

- Wasted and excess water creates urban runoff. Pollution gets into the ocean because of runoff, which is the number one source of pollution in Santa Monica Bay.

- Adding aerators to sinks in your home can save one gallon of water per minute.

Reduce your Waste Size: Executive

**Mark Bennington** Corsair

Sean Anderson takes notes at the Sustainable Works Environmental Lecture at the Bundy Campus on Wednesday, Feb. 21.

director of Sustainable Works Genevieve Bertone alerts us:

- The City of Santa Monica offers free recycling and pick-up services.

- Being an environmentalist doesn’t mean you have to chain yourself to an

old oak forest or march down the street protesting the government – although Sustainable Works does support those things. Being an environmentalist means making the right choices.

- Supporting green businesses

supports the environment. Green businesses are listed at www.smgb.org or www.smsqa.com.

Rogelio Mitchell Quintet Shines

By Katia Semercyan
Corsair Staff Writer

Congregating around the hour of 7 p.m. to have their tickets ripped and ears exposed to new sound, students and long-time fans gathered. The Santa Monica College Concert Hall was nearly full to capacity on March 2,

with concertgoers arriving to experience the tropical jazz blend of the Rogelio Mitchell Quintet.

Walking into the music with just their hands as their instruments, percussionists Munyongo Jackson and Walter Rodriguez engaged and encouraged the audience to clap along and follow the beat. Composer, singer,

and guitarist, Rogelio Mitchell joined on stage, along with Diego Guzman on bass, as he explained the theme of night to be “Aligned with Nature.”

The rich timbre and fast tempo of each song performed had audience members tapping their feet and dancing in their chairs. With songs such as “Yesterday” originally performed by the Beatles, and “Ain’t no Sunshine” originally performed by Bill Withers, Mitchell and his fellow performers added their Caribbean, Latin, and jazz style to these familiar tunes.

With just a guitar as the percussion and bass pause, Mitchell added a unique blend of lyrics to keep the sense of a full sound.

The movement of the performers and the rhythm exuded gave each word uttered and each note played soul and a sense of history, slowly hitting the audience members’ ears.

Guest performer and violinist, Karen Briggs, joined Mitchell along with his band for various songs throughout the performance, seemingly unscheduled, as she walked on and off stage during segments of pieces.

“This music and this sound is what I was born with. I was hearing this music in my mother’s womb,” Rogelio Mitchell said in a personal interview with the Corsair. “I’m originally from Panama, so the music I perform is from my culture. This is World Music.”

With songs such as “Listen Up,”

that engaged and united the audience to sing and become part of the music, to “I am Saying,” with Mitchell and his guitar alone in song; each told a story with their words and the expression as he connected with the audience.

Briggs and Mitchell perform “Ain’t no Sunshine” as if it was a conversation between their instruments. Watching Briggs on violin, audience members seem captivated and in awe of her ability to tell a story with the movement of her bow, concluding the song with a standing ovation.

Ending the set, the Rogelio Mitchell Quintet played a song titled “The Beginning,” ironically enough. It was the most powerful piece of the night, with a strong bass line and roaring congas and bongos.

Each instrument was allowed a solo, letting the performers to freely improvise melodic tunes with fast paced rhythm. The beautiful performance left each member of the audience at their feet in applause and praise.

“I really enjoyed the performance,” said Joshua Primicias, Santa Monica resident and former Santa Monica College student. “I’m not really sure what I was expecting, but I wasn’t expecting such a spectacular performance as this was. It was great!”

The sensational performance took spectators somewhere different. Although it was clear most had not listened to this type of music before, the beat allowed concertgoers to travel somewhere different; somewhere new and uncharted.

Marian Winsryg’s ‘Predator and Prey’ on Display

By Kathryn Caroline Ernst
Corsair Staff Writer

“My painting is visible images which conceal nothing; they evoke mystery and, indeed, when one sees one of my pictures, one asks oneself this simple question ‘What does that mean’? It does not mean anything, because mystery means nothing either; it is unknowable.”

-René Magritte

Art is but an expression of one’s own creative mind and thinking.

It can simply be a dot on a five-foot canvas or an intricate watercolor painting of Paris, France.

Whatever it is, it is the creative vision of the artist to share with others. Without art there would be no lofty level of creativity, new ideas or prospect.

Marian Winsryg’s art exhibit, “Predator and Prey,” is honored to be located at Santa Monica

College campus as well as having Winsryg as a fine arts professor at SMC. Her collection of digital prints explores the notion of what preys on what in the animal kingdom.

The pieces are brilliant and thought out. Inspired by her love and passion for animals Winsryg has created more than a dozen of ingenious art pieces.

For example, a print of a bird with a cat weaved in the background, and the body of the bird is breathtaking and thought provoking.

Prints combined with animals that are predator and prey such as a pelican and fish or a resembled

likeness of a bird and an airplane’s blueprints as the interior of the bird’s insides.

Winsryg’s inspiration comes from famous surreal Belgian artist René Magritte, whose work is in museums all over the world such as the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

Winsryg’s mother was and most certainly still is

the biggest supporter of her work.

People like Rene Magritte and Winsryg’s mother are what keep her art fresh and astounding. From age 7, Winsryg had an infatuation for the arts.

“Every Saturday morning when I was a child I would voyage down to the Chicago Art School where they taught me about drawings and cultured me in the life of museums and fine art, which jump-started my future profession and passion for the arts,” she said.

Winsryg’s pieces come in a range of image sizing and mediums of digital print and 3D digital print, costing anywhere from \$300 to \$700.

One-of-a-kind stuffed animals and pillows are also included in her “Predator and Prey” collection.

All prints are Winsryg’s proofs and come in editions of five prints.

Talent Agent Lectures for Mary Pickford Series

By Barbara Szabo
Corsair Staff Writer

The Mary Pickford Lecture Series was designed with the intention of informing students about the art of storytelling and addressing different aspects of film and television that combine to make a story come to life.

Throughout the spring semester, Santa Monica College students are invited to attend lectures held by various successful and accomplished individuals in different fields of the entertainment industry such as journalism, screenwriting, acting, directing, producing, editing and talent recruiting.

These lectures are held in the Academy of Entertainment and Technology Screening Room on Mondays at 7 p.m., free of charge.

On Monday, Feb. 26, Cynthia McLean presented a lecture on the elements of being a talent agent in the industry, with an emphasis on a day in her life on the job.

In addition to being a voiceover talent agent with a focus on animation, she is also the department director with SBV talent (an agency that represents hundreds of actors).

McLean has been a voiceover talent agent for 22 years. She represents numerous amazing actors such as Rob Paulson (Pinky in “Pinky and the Brain”), Jennifer Hale (Cinderella), and Dee Baker (Klaus the German goldfish in “American Dad”).

McLean explained that her job calls for “multi-tasking personalities and problems,” as she has to constantly be on the phone with actors and producers, meet with clients, interact and communicate with people within

her field, and figure out which actor to choose for each job.

“I look at my job as being a salesperson. What I’m selling is my actor’s performance. What’s different about selling actors and selling shoes in that actors have opinions and shoes don’t,” she said.

A crucial part of McLean’s daily routine also includes reading entertainment magazines and websites (where she catches up on the latest gossip!).

Although there is no major offered to become a voiceover talent agent, McLean devised a curriculum, which she summed up by saying, “You get your foot in the door and you follow the path.”

The only way to gain an esteemed position in this field is to start at the bottom and move up within an agency.

McLean graduated from UCLA with a degree in English literature, but landed her job due to her skills in accounting.

She recommends taking classes such as sales, marketing, acting, psychology, English composition, and having basic computer skills to obtain a job such as hers. Moreover, one must have negotiating skills along with the ability to “aggressively listen and ask questions.”

When I asked her what she hopes the audience will gain from the lecture, she replied, “I hope they will have an appreciation for what a voiceover talent agent does, or if they might be interested in entering the field, then I will provide them with information they can use.”

To learn more about voiceover talent scouting, visit www.sbv.com and make sure to check out the upcoming lectures for information on other fields of the entertainment industry.

with other people.

He meets Cynthia, a white British actress, who rents him out as a tour guide for the day. In an attempt to try to get Cynthia to help him get into London, Kojo begins a day long seduction of Cynthia.

It ends with Kojo and Cynthia having sex after he finally confesses his need for a letter of recommendation to get into the U.K. Cynthia agrees only after learning that Kojo has money saved up.

When he arrives he stays with Cynthia in her tiny, depressing apartment; where they develop an awkward, but seemingly natural relationship.

Hanging in the living room is the ever present, ever pristine poster of Audrey Hepburn from the film “Breakfast at Tiffany’s.” The poster, a character in itself, seems to mock its surroundings and later in the story takes on the physical form of abandoned dreams and lost hope.

Finding a job operating a clothes press at a dry cleaner, Kojo struggles daily to make his dreams come true while shouldering the verbal abuses of his boss. He eventually gets robbed

which causes him to show up late for work, he gets fired and has a scuffle with his abusive boss; played with wicked abandon by first time actor and an actual owner of a dry cleaning business, Memmet Abdi.

He arrives home to an unsympathetic Cynthia who has grown detached. Jobless and without any prospects, Kojo spends the majority of his time looking for work and handing out pamphlets of his poetry on the street.

Meanwhile, Cynthia begins revealing true aspects of her nature and introduces Kojo to a host of unsavory friends. One of these is Jimmy, a drug dealer who blackmails Kojo into employment. Though reprehensible, Jimmy is actually a breath of fresh air in the film. With so much hidden and unknown, Jimmy is the one character who truly wears his heart on his sleeve.

No thought remains unspoken with Jimmy and you come to appreciate him for it.

What follows is Kojo’s descent into a hole of Lewis Carrollian Design where he finds enlightenment and finally proclaims, “I’ve had enough of everything and everyone.”

musical expression and jewelry had the feel of an exotic bazaar.

The eye-catching exhibition of master artists and craftsmen was of interest to nearly any person, no matter their taste.

The main focus of the festival was the presentation of over 170 international films in the effort to promote world knowledge and awareness with “positive and realistic media images.”

These presentations included 72 short films, 64 documentaries, 62 feature films, 28 world premieres and 20 U.S. premieres, mostly screened at the AMC Magic Johnson Theatres in Los Angeles.

Countries represented included Nigeria (the third largest film industry in the world), France, Ghana, Mali, Morocco, Germany, Jamaica, Austria, South

Africa, the U.K., Brazil, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Iran, Thailand and the U.S.

One of the many perks of the festival is the ability to get up close and personal with people in the film industry.

For example, guest speakers included this year’s Academy Award winner for Best Actor, Forest Whitaker.

I had the pleasure of getting to talk one on one with the creator of “A Goat’s Tail,” Julius Amedume, who brought to life a tale of a man from Ghana.

I also chatted with actor Richard Gant (Hostetler in HBO’s “Deadwood” and the Preacher in “Norbit”), a well-known face in film and television.

‘A Goat’s Tail’ Debuts at Pan African Film Festival

By Yehoshuah Young
Corsair Contributor

“A Goat’s Tail” is the first independent feature-length film, shown at the Pan African Film Festival, of Ghana descendant London-bred, Julius Amedume.

Amedume, who is the writer, director and producer of the film said, “It is still a common belief by many people that the Western world is a place where the streets are paved with gold.”

This became evident when he visited Ghana with his parents and experienced life there first hand.

In an attempt to show the many misconceptions and breakdown ideologies of Ghana in Western eyes, and vice versa, he created a story for film.

“A Goat’s Tail” is the labyrinthine, cautionary story of Kojo, a black taxi driver in Ghana, who dreams of becoming a successful poet in London.

Played magnificently by first-time actor, Godfrey Nortey, Kojo is quick witted and has a direct, simple way of living and interacting

examples of this is shown through Kojo’s reaction to Cynthia serving up plates of greasy, fatty, artery clogging cuisine that seem to become tangible and lethal right on screen.

The release of this film is also important as a celebration of Ghana’s Independence exactly 50 years ago.

The film pays homage to Kwame Nkrumah, arguably the most influential man of 20th century Africa.

There is a moment in Ghana where Kojo takes Cynthia to the Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum to test her knowledge of his pivotal role in Ghana’s independence from British rule.

Amedume, soft spoken, reserved, and with an unmistakable British accent, let me know before the screening that I was, “seeing three years of his life condensed into two hours.” It shows.

Though done on a small budget, the heart and vision of Amedume and the dedication of the cast and crew make this film great. Sure to rub some the wrong way and sure to open some eyes, Amedume’s “A Goat’s Tail” is hopefully the first of many for the talented filmmaker.

in common with. One of the more humorous

ARTS & LEISURE

Live Music and Discussion at the Natural History Museum

By Liliانا Prina
Corsair Staff Writer

The Natural History Museum opens early and closes late on the first Friday of every month to present an evening with eccentric revolutionary dialogue, film, music and tours guided by a museum curator.

The tour began on Friday, March 2, at 5:30 p.m. with the active and enthusiastic guidance of curator of vertebrate paleontology Lawrence G. Barnes. He led visitors around the Fossils Pavilion which displays the Cenozoic Era "age of new life," including large diversity of North American mammals.

Among the fossil remains on view is a gazelle-like camel, an antelope that eats digestible plants, and leaves and is capable of fast movement.

The animal sought to run away from "dangerous predators such as the lion in the grasslands and savannas of Africa or Southwest Asia," he said. Lawrence moved the group from one mammal to another as if he were at home with his private collection of interesting animals.

He entertained the audience with a sharp sense of humor. He invited some of his students to touch the warm-blooded

vertebrate creature as he said that the "paired-horned rhinoceros is a large, thick skinned, herbivorous mammal that frequents open country while feeding on things that other animals would not eat such as the ground sloth."

The bones of these beautiful creatures are often discovered in a cave, and paleontologists reassemble the bones until the whole animal takes shape for museum exhibition.

Next there was a vibrant debate led by Geerat J. Vermeij, a distinguished professor from UC Davis who is recipient of the Daniel Giraud Elliot Medal by the National Academy of Sciences. He is a MacArthur Award recipient, and author of his latest book *Nature and Economic History*, where he looks at the subject that "economic principles applicable to humans are the same as those that govern all other forms of life."

Also on the panel was Hope Tschopik Schneider who teaches "planning, plain and simple," and is a management consultant who in her spare time climbed Mount Kilimanjaro for spiritual transformation.

The third panelist was Margaret Wertheim, a well-known writer from Australia with a bachelor

of science degree in physics, and a bachelor of arts in mathematics and computing.

The team took a provocative verbal approach with paleontologist Vermeij in the search for the "parallels discovered" in the "competition for resources."

A reporter in the audience asked how the speakers' ideas relate to human experience.

She compared Thomas Robert Malthus' views about population published in 1798 which stated "the power of population is so superior to the power of the earth to produce subsistence for man, that premature death must in some shape or other visit the human race."

Vermeij's point of view is that homo sapiens are the most powerful species in the world, and "technological innovation will continue to ensure further growth" humans will maintain "global power within our natural resources in the future market" since consumption and production are absolute in our universe. Later the group moved to the "Diversity of Life" film series which explored "evolution as innovation" from the age of the dinosaurs until the "dream of the horseless carriage" became a reality.



Liliana Prina Corsair

Curator and Paleontologist Dr. Lawrence Barnes speaks about ancient creatures at the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles on Friday.



Liliana Prina Corsair

"The Dueling Dinosaur Exhibit" at the L.A. Natural History Museum shows the skull of a triceratops.

'Restricted Access' Shows at 18th Street Art Center

By Jessie Pollack
Corsair Staff Writer

"Restricted Access" is the first exhibition from "The Performing Archive" by Suzanne Lacy and Leslie Labowitz. With video projects and performance work, the exhibition explores activist feminist art.

"The Performing Archive Project" began last year and includes the entire paper documentation of a concept on violence against women created by Lacy and Labowitz in 1978-80.

The archive is built around different themes in contemporary art, for example, the value of women's artwork.

The exhibition also involves 12 young women artists from Los Angeles. The artists spent one day going through the archives and choosing up to 10 items that interested them.

Also in the exhibit are TV screens so we can hear them talk about their choices, what they think about them and why. It's a good way to get the visitors to reflect their own thoughts about the items.

One of the visitors from an older generation made a point about the big difference for women today, "We made all these great strikes for women, burning the bras and such."

"It's very different today, kids have it so easy," she said.

One of the walls in the exhibition room is completely covered by a photomural from 1979 by Labowitz.

The photomontage draws attention with placards in the pictures, such as "I wish the media wouldn't insult, demean and dehumanize me by their images."

There are also record album covers and front pages from newspapers. Together

they're pointing out the use of victimized images of women.

The montage documents two media performances in Los Angeles during 1977-78 by Lucy and Lebowitz, and successfully focuses on the relationship between the entertainment industry and news media.

"The Performing Archive - Restricted Access" wants you to reflect and discuss feminism, and it's very probable that you will.

"By looking at the past we can get an idea of the future," said Leslie Labowitz, "And there is a future for feminism."

You can visit the exhibition at the 18th Street Art Center in Santa Monica on Saturdays and Sundays through March 25, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

UPCOMING ASSOCIATED STUDENTS ACTIVITIES

Interested In Student Government For 2007-08

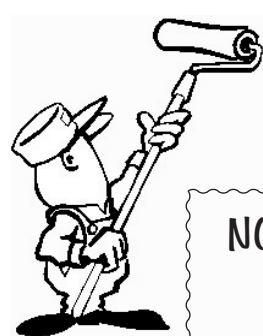
Potential candidates must attend one of two Mandatory Candidates

to be held at the following times:

Tuesday, March 20th • 11:15am - 12:30pm

Thursday, March 22nd • 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Cayton Center Conference Room



NO proxy or substitutes will be allowed to represent you during the Mandatory Candidates meeting. Student ID with current A.S. sticker required

Limited tickets buy early!

Discount Movie Tickets

Laemmle	\$6.50	AMC	\$6.00
Mann's	\$7.50	now available in the Events Box Office	

Cash Only!

OFF-CAMPUS THEME PARK TICKETS

While They Last . . .

Universal Studios	\$36.00
Magic Mountain	\$28.00

You must be an SMC Student with current A.S. Sticker. Tickets available in the Events Box Office

JOIN A CLUB

Twilight Tuesday

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS EVENING CONCERT SERIES

INTRODUCING
FOLK MUSICIAN

RED BENSON

TUESDAY • MAR. 13TH
5:30PM - 6:30PM
STUDENT CAFETERIA
FREE ADMISSION

Movie Night

Tuesday • Mar. 20th

Babel

Starring
Brad Pitt • Cate Blanchett
Gael Garcia Bernal

Running Time: 2 hr. 22 min.

Video Series Night

Tuesday

Start Time
4:00pm

Free Munchies

Cayton Center Lounge

Santa Monica College Health Awareness Fair

Get more information on health, nutrition, fitness and wellness from health organizations in the Los Angeles area.

- American Red Cross
- Santa Monica Bay Physicians
- SOJOURN
- UCLA/NPI Research and more...

Free Giveaways!

March 13th • 10:00am-2:00pm
Library Walkway

Sponsored by the Associated Students & Health Services
More Examples of Your Associated Students Serving you!

Concept and Design for the Associated Student Ads . . . Monica Serratos - A.S. Staff

Visit us at: www.smc.edu/associated_students

OPINION

Life Veteran Shares Experiences With Others

By Teresa A. Pitts
Corsair Contributor

Being in college can be a really interesting experience.

Take my word for it; I have been in college three times already.

The first time I was in my 20s and I was glad to be away from home.

It was like a big party and I was invited, finally.

I found the time to squeeze in some studying, not nearly as much as my parents would have liked.

I had a lot of other things in my life to take care of: like making sure I was there for my friends, making sure I had time for my boyfriend, trying to keep my emotions in line and stepping over those periods of depression or confusion (both of which came more frequently than I wanted them to).

I also had to figure my life out and hope that I made the right decisions.

It seemed like a lot to do in addition to the task of studying. The first time I went to college, I didn't finish. I was there two years and then I was gone.

I moved to California and started a new life. I tried college again, but it wasn't the right time because I wasn't really ready.

That has changed now. I am focused on my goal and I will get my degree this time because I really want it.

I want to be in college now and I want my degree more than anything. When I walk on campus, I can't help but to smile.

I look up at the sky and I am thankful to be here. I look at the students talking,

walking and being a part of the busy campus and I am glad to be here. When I take a quiz, take a test or write a paper, I am going for platinum (the A).

I am the oldest person in most of my classes and sometimes I am older than the professor, but I don't mind at all. I am grateful for the students in the class who are younger than I am because I can give them advice and I learn some things from them too.

After all, I have been there, done that. I figure if I can help someone avoid what I have already been through, I should do it.

Take for instance; there was one class I was in where a girl spent the entire class drawing love letters to her boyfriend. I wish I had someone to tell me what I told her that day.

Smiled at her and said, "That's really pretty, but you are going to kick yourself when you get your grade."

She laughed and we started to talk about paying attention in class and how a good boyfriend would want the best for his girlfriend including her grades.

I made sure not to sound like a nagging parent and more like a friend.

When I walk the campus, I see students from my past classes. They look excited to see me and that makes me feel good. They tell me how they are doing and I tell them they can do it.

I also tell them I am proud of them... because I am. It is not easy to have a life and go to college. I had one person

tell me they had failed a class because of problems at home.

We stood there in the middle of class and talked about it.

I suggested they talk to someone so they could vent a little and I also told them a little about something I was going through that was similar to their challenge (just to let them know we all go through tough times).

I told them "you have to put yourself and your goals first and not let anyone stand in your way because people will try to trip you up, if you let them."

I also told her not to beat herself up over the class she failed because she had to focus on doing better, which I knew she could do. That is probably the biggest thing and the hardest thing to do, let failure go, but learn from it before you put it away.

I tell students that it will never get any easier than it is right now. I work a full time job and go to classes in the morning.

After class, I race to work for eight hours and then I come home in the evenings and study and pray I have enough time to sleep more than six hours (which does not happen at mid-term and finals time).

It is at times like this that I remember when my parents paid for school and all I had to do was go to class and study (wow). I didn't appreciate it then, but I do now because I am paying for it.

I even called my dad to thank him

for putting me through school the first time. It was a big deal and I didn't even appreciate it. My last speech in my Speech 1 class was about staying in school.

I told the class that the challenges they face while going to school now may always be there, in one form or another, even when they get older.

"Look at me," I told them, "I am still trying to fit in, to take care of myself and my family, to be there for my friends, to understand my crazy boyfriend."

I still wonder about the future and if I am doing the right things and if life will get any easier and what happens if I don't get it right.

I still have the same questions now that I had then. There is one difference though—I have most of the answers and that is only because I have had a chance to live my life and try college again.

If I had any closing advice, I would say don't give up, even when it feels really bad because when you get on the other side of the challenge, you will be amazed to find that you did the thing you thought you couldn't do.

My favorite quote comes from a poem by Marianne Williamson that was quoted by Nelson Mandela in his inauguration speech:

"Our greatest fear is not that we are inadequate, but that we are powerful beyond measure."

You are powerful. You can do it. You are brilliant. You can overcome your problems. You have someone off in the distance cheering for you to succeed, even if you don't see them, so make it happen!

Student Reflects on Being Stranded by SMC Shuttle

By Krystal Peak
Corsair Staff Writer

10:05 p.m. came and went one Tuesday while 12 students waited intently on Pearl Street for the last shuttle to arrive and return them to the Bundy campus.

The bus should have arrived at 10 p.m. sharp — that's what the schedule at the bus stop clearly said. Many students' lives revolve around this crucial piece of green paper.

Between late study hours, L.A. traffic and impossible parking, the constant that they depend on is that schools will be accurate and dependable — that it will always be there (even if we don't want it to be).

So what happens when students are stranded thanks to the school's mistake?

By 10:07, two men discussed the possibility that the shuttle wasn't coming. Their tone was whimsical and the option of walking came up but was quickly abandoned — for the moment.

As two patrol cars passed I wondered if the police were concerned about the group of us waiting in the dark with no bus in sight. This usually punctual transportation system was being put into question as a result of a few very tense minutes.

Approximately 1,700 students ride the school transportation system daily from either the Bundy facility or the beach parking lot. This necessary system helps students get to and from classes for an affordable \$0.

However, when the bus doesn't arrive, especially at 10 p.m., that system becomes anything but convenient and dependable.

After 23 minutes, my faith was dwindling. Did that holy green paper have a number to call in case of an emergency? No numbers, no nothing.

The two young men discussed walking again and, to my surprise, headed out on their bitter journey. I silently wished them good luck.

After a few more people walked away, seven of us remained.

A police SUV pulled up and four women piled in. At 10:28 the second police car arrived. The remaining three of us got in.

This was my first ride in a police car — at least that's my story and I'm sticking to it. The officer explained that the bus driver scheduled to pick up the unlucky dozen of us went home early and neglected to inform anyone of this early retreat.

Dave Ross, a fellow passenger, exclaimed that at least he felt "safer in here than in the shuttle," and made remarks about how much more comfortable the squad car was and how much friendlier a driver we had than usual.

As we pulled up to the Bundy campus another police vehicle pulled up and an

officer remarked that he hadn't passed the two men walking but, had he not known about them or us, he would have contained our vehicles by locking the gates.

What a slap in the face would it have been if those men arrived to locked gates after such a trek!

Granted, this was quite the nighttime adventure but it is one that I wish not to repeat or have happen to any student. Upon some phone research, it was apparent that none of the various officials I was referred to (and there were five) knew anything of this event or any hiccups in the entire shuttle system other than the occasional noise

complaint made by neighbors near the beach parking lot pick-up.

It seemed highly unlikely to me that they were completely oblivious to any errors made on

the part of the shuttle. It took me only moments to find another student and Corsair reporter who experienced a similar event one Thursday morning.

"I was at the bus stop 9 a.m. to 9:30 and there was no bus... and I was soaking wet from the rain," said Kathryn Ernst.

Two runs were scheduled to arrive in that time window, but when none arrived she had to rush to the main campus, dampened, and pray to find parking for her 9:30 class.

I would like to suggest a few things for the various transportation and planning officers to discuss during their next meeting.

First and foremost: POST EMERGENCY NUMBERS. But not just an office number where you get a recording — I called, it was useless. Give us a number that will contact a real person for the whole time the buses should be running.

Also, keep a log of any missed or late stops so that someone can see the accuracy of the line and, I don't know, maybe improve on things. Just because this is a free system doesn't mean that it needs to be adequate or that students should just be thankful that there is something — it should always strive to be better.

It also would be advisable to tell the campus police that at 10:15 p.m. if there are any waiting passengers they need to call for the status of the shuttle.

I hope in the future that students will contact the school with any problems or irregularities that occur and that those in charge will do everything they can to make sure that they are kept informed on what happens day to day with a system that carries thousands of students every week.

Don't students deserve to have a safe and dependable form of transportation?

HOPE worldwide Club

Is looking for members that want to help make a difference in the lives of HIV + children in Africa.

Contact Emmanuelle at: manuelle1020

The United States Constitution Bill of Rights — Amendment I

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Letter to the Editor

Dear Santa Monica Corsair,

I was misrepresented in the article on textbooks published February 28.

In it I am stated as saying that the margins on used books are not capped by any regulations.

While this is true, what I said was that the publisher price of new books was not capped by any regulation.

Textbooks are a monopoly, since once the professor assigns the book there is no choice in the product.

This monopoly affects the public interest. In my opinion it should be regulated to protect the public interest.

Markup margins are taken care of by competition fostered by the free market; the base cost by the publisher is not.

The driving cost for textbook prices is the publisher. Let's use as an example the statistics book quoted in your article (Issue 2, Feb. 28). The student paid \$132. Looking at the price I believe the person bought a new hardback book bundle at the campus bookstore.

The price in the campus bookstore was \$122.50. The \$10 difference in price was the sales tax. Using her average margin for new textbooks the bookstore received \$.22 times \$122.5, or \$26.95.

The publisher received the balance of \$95.55. Clearly the major savings are to be had from reducing the publisher price.

Some years ago I noticed that there were two versions of a book used for film classes here at Santa Monica College. The first was the textbook, called "A Short History of the Movies" 6th edition, copyright 1996. It retailed for \$52.95, of which \$42 went to the publisher.

There was another version that was page for page the same, but a different color, called "The Movies-A Short History" Revised Edition, also copyright 1996.

It was not marketed as a textbook. It retailed for \$22.95 of which \$9.95 went to the publisher. Same book, page for page the same.

The first version was marketed to the public in competition with other books on the subject. I strongly feel that regulation should be used to address textbook pricing and that regulation should be focused on textbook publishers.

Sincerely,
Arthur A. Turney
Owner, A&R Textbooks



Victoria Cornelious

"I do still think that there are inequalities in today's culture. There are examples that women experience everyday. Some of those double standards are in the benefit of the woman but some prejudices still exist. Guys always think they do things better than women from sports to homework."

By Jason Arkin

Do You Think There is Inequality Amongst Men and Women?

Yuki Furamoto

"I think there is still inequality but it is definitely getting better. In my home, Japan, it is getting better for women as well."



Natalie Gonzalez

"I personally don't feel that there is much inequality in today's society. Fundamentally we are different and our bodies function differently but in the business world and society I think women are generally treated the same."



Letters to the editor are encouraged and appreciated. Was there an article that you would like to respond to?

Please email the Opinion desk at: corsairsmcopin@yahoo.com

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE WEEKLY

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Casino Connoisseur Shows Me the Ropes of Hold 'Em

By Muhammed Latif
Corsair Staff Writer

The gaming industry has been taken aback.

Once an obscure card game that barely anyone knew about just a short five years ago, Texas Hold 'Em poker has become a household fixture.

Nowadays, it isn't surprising to walk into anyone's home to find poker chips on the table and the television playing ESPN's World Series of Poker.

Although the game has been around for many years, the recent surge of Internet poker players has vastly increased the game's popularity.

There are several television networks — including ESPN, Travel Channel, Fox Sports Net, BRAVO and Game Show Network — that televise different tournaments and events.

Casinos have obviously cashed in by sponsoring major tournaments and 24/7 no limit games.

One would be shocked at the number of people who go to these casinos daily.

One such casino is Pechanga Casino and Resort, located right here in Southern California.

While surveying the different tables in the poker room, an elder gentleman caught my attention.

His name was Jonathan Canteo, and he had an enormous amount of chips in front of him, totaling more than \$2,000.

After a short while, when he had cashed out all of his chips, I asked him where he learned the skill of the trade.

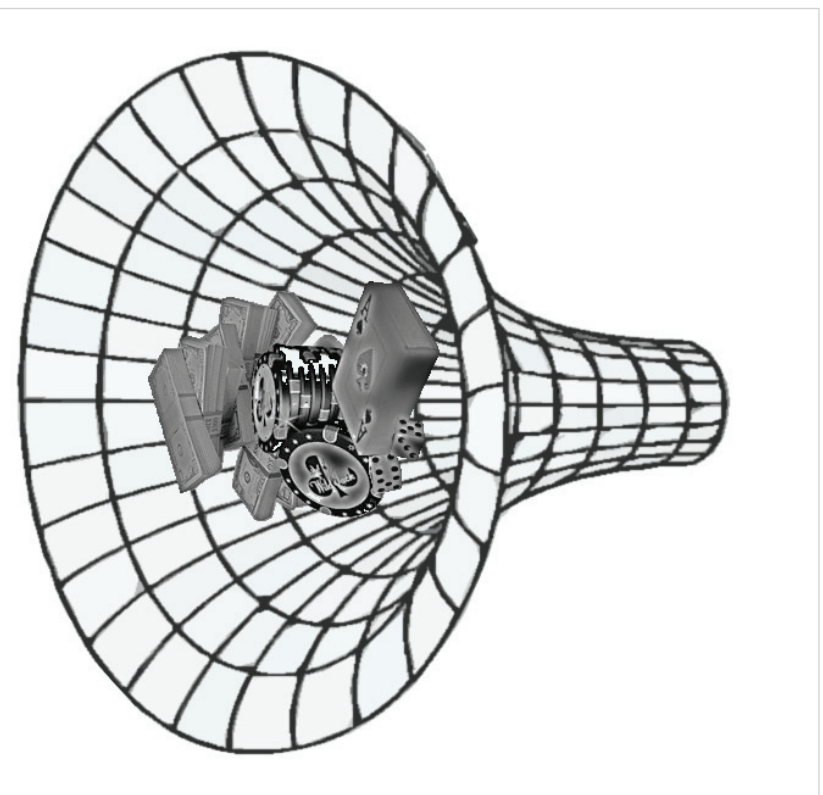
"When we used to play dealer-call, I'd call Texas Hold 'Em, but everyone else would call their wild-card games. Now everybody just plays Texas Hold 'Em," he said.

He paused for a moment, counting his money and smiled.

"I don't even have to work. Man, I've been playing poker for over 20 years. All these young cats come here and get their money basically stolen. I know what you're going to do before you do it. Even if you have a good hand, I'll bet you off it. I barely lose," he said.

With that, Canteo walked back into the room with more money than people make in a month's time of work.

There was a sudden commotion at one of the tables that Canteo sat down at.



Jhosef A. Hern Corsair

Two players have called "all in" meaning they bet their entire chip stack.

Canteo has two kings, known as a "pocket pair."

The other player was seemingly beat, making the call with a 9 and 10 of spades.

As the flop came out (the first three cards), the player holding 9-10 became very nervous.

The cards were 9-10-King, which

seemed like a win for the player with the pocket pair on deck.

The last two cards, known as the turn and the river, came out.

The first was an 8, a dead card. The last card however, was another 10.

The player holding 9-10 has made his full house with three 10's and a pair of 9's, winning the hand. Canteo angrily slapped the table.

Someone forgot to tell him that all the skill in the world won't beat luck.

SPORTS

Dramatic Win Revives Lady Corsairs

The Corsairs won their first softball game of the season in a home game against Oxnard College last Thursday at Cloverfield Park.

By **Josefine Frej**
Corsair Staff Writer

This was their 11th game this spring semester and according to coach Marty Kreman, 41, being able to put the ball in play salvaged the game. "We're learning how to take care of the ball and they're working hard in batting practice," Kreman said. Since the softball season was cancelled last semester, some of the players have not played a game for over a year, which is a reason why the team looks a bit rusty. "They've been hearing the 'Keep at it' speech, the 'Your day will come' speech, and as a little joke, I started that same speech today, and said, 'Today is your day.'"

The Corsairs are in a competitive league, and after losing the first 10 games this spring, Kreman and the team were proud to finally win one. "I wouldn't have been shocked if we didn't win one all year. We're playing a lot of catch-up, and to win this early

in the season is actually very exciting," Kreman said. SMC's division is comprised of teams where many of the players play club ball all year around. The softball team at Santa Monica College has other priorities. As league underdogs, The Corsairs focus on a dynamic that emphasizes committed players and a consistent program. Kreman said that the hopes are high. The team continues cheering and helping each other out regardless if they are winning or losing. "Any team can cheer when they're winning, but it takes character to cheer when you're losing and that will bring you out of losses," Kreman said.

Corsairs 13

Condors 12



SMC's Crystal Gonzalez gets under the tag against Oxnard's Alana Bentz.

Mia Dahlin Corsair

Swim Team Loses Meet, But Shows Improvement

By **Javier Bagliani**
Corsair Staff Writer

The Corsairs competed at Mount San Antonio's Annual Invitational last weekend. It wasn't much about the placing but more about individual improvement. For the men's Daniel Ying swam a lifetime best in the 200-meter freestyle with a time of 1:56.

"It was a meet to see where we are," said coach Steve Contarsy. It resulted to be a pretty successful meet in where people dropped times.

"Most of our swimmers swam best times for the season which is good," Contarsy said.

For the women's team there was not a very good turn out but there were some improvements.

Assistant coach Erik Matheson said Carly Christiansen broke her personal best time from last year. With the season just barely starting, SMC is shaping up to be a good team.

"We are getting faster and we are still in the slower part of the season," coach Matheson said.

Contarsy added, "People are starting to swim at a higher level."

Santa Monica College will be surely battling for third place against Citrus and L.A. Valley colleges.

With the way things are headed, Contarsy thinks it is going to be a good season.

The next games will be held March 16 and 17 at Cuesta Community College.

Cuesta will host a two-day Invitational, where SMC will compete with conference rivals Cuesta and Citrus.

Did you know....

Cincinnati Bengal wideout Chad Johnson and Carolina Panther wideout Steve Smith played along side each other at Santa Monica College before heading off to Division I schools.

Women's Tennis Team Drops Two After Impressive 4-0 Start

By **Matt Haggard**
Corsair Staff Writer

The Santa Monica College women's tennis team dropped their second consecutive conference match on Thursday, losing to Ventura College 2-7, (2-4, 1-2).

SMC coach Richard Goldenson called the score misleading.

After starting the year with four straight victories, the Corsairs now drop to 4-2 overall, but more importantly fall to 2-2 in the Western State Conference.

They try to rebound this upcoming week with matches at home vs. Glendale, and a tough road test against El Camino.

Santa Monica appeared to be slightly overwhelmed with the Ventura squad, as the Corsairs' top two players lost their singles matches.

No. 1 singles player for SMC, Masami Hashimoto, a transfer from Japan who skipped the 2006 season, fell to Ventura's No. 1 Ally Limon 2-6, 2-6.

Ventura City College's No. 2 seeded singles player, Michelle Gray, used pure power and a fierce forehand to overcome Santa Monica's Jourdan Munster 6-2, 6-2.

Gray has been practicing to be patient, and then attack when she felt the vulnerability of her opponent.

"I've been practicing on attacking aggressively, and I was able to jam her after my serve," said Gray.

A bright spot for the Corsairs was No. 4 Anastasia Sonkina's 6-3, 6-1 victory over Ventura's Carly Van Riper.

"I haven't lost yet this year," said Jonkina. "I was motivated to stay undefeated, and that really helped me."

Jonkina won her fifth straight singles match, solidifying the fourth spot in the Santa Monica rotation.

Despite the two recent setbacks, the



Morgan Genser Corsair Contributor

Masami Hashimoto of SMC returns the ball in Thursday's match as the women's tennis team hosted Ventura College in a conference match. Hashimoto is the number one-seeded player on the team.

team is determined to get back in the win column.

The next home match for Santa Monica is Tuesday, March 13, at 2 p.m. vs. Cuesta College.

All women's tennis home matches are played at Reed Park, located on Wilshire and Lincoln Boulevards in Santa Monica.

To the right, Jourdan Munster of the Santa Monica College women's tennis team prepares to use her backhand to return the ball back to her opponent at Reed Park in Santa Monica on Thursday, March 1. Santa Monica College hosted Ventura College in a conference match. Munster is the number two-seeded player on the SMC team.



Photo by Morgan Genser Corsair Contributor

SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

- March 8 1 p.m. @ Canyons*
- March 13 2:30 p.m. @ Bakersfield
- March 15 1 p.m. LA Mission @ Cloverfield Park 2:30
- March 20 p.m. Glendale @ Cloverfield Park
- March 22 1 p.m. LA Valley *
- March 27 2:30 p.m. Citrus @ Cloverfield Park
- April 3 2:30 p.m. Canyons @ Cloverfield Park

* - denotes double headers

SMC to Host Men's Volleyball Annual State Tournament

By **Joseph P. Ramirez**
Corsair Staff Writer

Starting off the season at an even 4-4 was not what the Corsairs had in mind going in to the spring semester. Expectations were high after last year's last late-season surge into the playoffs, that ended with a loss to would-be champion Long Beach City College in the semi-finals.

Especially in the year that SMC is scheduled to host the Men's Volleyball State Community College State Tournament.

However so far the unit has been little more than average, even with a number of returning starters on the team. Early

losses to Irvine, Orange Coast College, Grossmont and Moorpark have left the Corsairs a bit short of stellar, having already played eight matches, and losing half of them, including an early league loss to Moorpark.

Key players returning to action include outside hitters Russell Burns and Nick Schrippa, middle blocker Tyson Crandell and setter, J.R. Perez. (Perez has not yet started a match at the setter position this season.)

Still the Corsairs seem to be struggling with a sense of continuity on the team, as they are not able to stave off long offensive runs.

"We seem to be getting better every game, but we just give up too many runs

defensively," said Russell Burns about recent struggles.

According to the coaching staff unforced errors seem to be another problem for the SMC squad. "We get into a funk where we can't hit a serve in, and before you know it we're down two games," said SMC Assistant Coach George Davison about the Corsairs' recent struggles.

The hopes are that the team can turn things around before league play begins later this month.

"It would be a shame if we didn't make the tourney and we're hosting the thing," said SMC Athletic Director Rhonda Hyatt.

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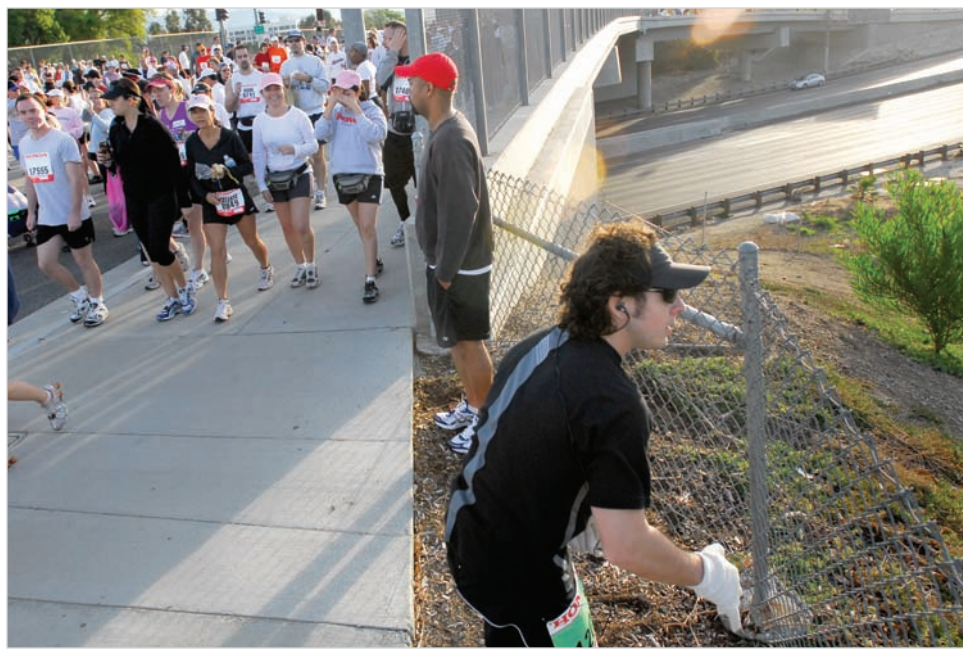
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12:40 p.m., 13-year-old Niguel Middle School student Alan Reeve, from Laguna Niguel, makes his way to mile #26 marker while crowd cheers him on.



5:19 a.m., Timmy G. Ledford and Jesus Fernandez have a good laugh on the Red Line Metro going to Universal City, the starting point of the 22nd annual L.A. Marathon, March 4, 2007.



7:14 a.m., Stuart Brodlieb stretches as thousands of marathoners cross over an empty 101 Freeway headed for the starting line on Ventura Boulevard in Universal City.



8:21 a.m., Willy Belizquez, from Nebraska, inches forward to the starting line with thousands of other eager runners.



12:35 p.m., Wheelchair Marathoners inspired the crowd with their true fighting spirit while heading north on 7th Street.



9:18 a.m., Clean-up crews bulldoze their way through what was the starting line on Ventura Boulevard in Universal City.

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

Photos and text by Mark Bennington

The incubus of the marathon was inspired by a messenger who dropped dead after shouting "Rejoice, we conquer!" Tough break, but then again, messengers aren't known to have the best of luck. However, if you missed the 22nd annual L.A. Marathon this year, this messenger is here to tell you, "Rejoice, it's over!" A whopping 320 intersections were closed this year, compared to 212 intersections that were closed for the last marathon. This year's route began at Universal Studios, trucking through the Caluenga Pass, serenading the Hollywood Bowl, zigging down through Hollywood and Vine and zagging down to Martin Luther King Blvd. before bouncing over to the Memorial Coliseum and Staples Center, then finally closing the chapter in front of the downtown Central



10:46 a.m., Tanya and Tina happily cross mile #8 in the 22nd Los Angeles Marathon on Sunday, March 4.



10:19 a.m., Proud parents Billa & Bami cheer on their daughter Jasleen, running down 3rd Street in her first L.A. Marathon.

Library. Both start and finish lines are served by the Red Line Metro this year.... (our Subway), which transported runners and volunteers for free on race day. This vivifying new 26.2-mile route was approved as part of an effort to avoid traffic disruptions near churches on race day. The previous semi-circular route was changed for the eighth time in the marathon's 22-year history to appease ministers, who pleaded that it be held on any day except a Sunday, because street closures would keep would-be church-goers away. So, marathon officials, the mayor's office and One L.A., a countywide network of religious and community groups, hammered out a profitable compromise. This year some 25,000 runners made the Los Angeles Marathon the fourth-largest in the country and seventh-largest in the world and raked in more than \$60 million. For those of you who ran it, yes, "Rejoice!"



11:31, Kenyan Fred Mogaka took first place this year crossing the finish line in 2 hours, 17 minutes, 14 seconds and earned a \$100,000 bonus as part of "The Challenge," which allows the top women to start nearly 20 minutes ahead of the men.



3:01 p.m., Josh Eisohn (center) on Red Line Metro going home after cheering on friends Woody Schulz (left, 1st year) and Tony Gammariello (right, 16th year).