BABY BLUES

Why do some women feel it’s necessary to sterilize themselves to preserve the environment?

FOOD & DRINK

College students move past box wine to learn how to

TODAY'S SURF

ATTENTION

For more of today’s headlines, visit:

THE DAILY AZTEC
San Diego State University’s Independent Student Newspaper since 1913

SPORTS

STATE OF MIND

VINO TIME

Today, several San Diego State student groups, in association with the Office of Intercultural Relations/Cross-Cultural Center, will observe World AIDS Day in various demonstrations across campus, including an AIDS Quilt Project, tabling, speeches, demonstrations and a candlelight vigil.

A spokesperson for the Cross-Cultural Center said the events are part of an awareness campaign to get students involved in what they can do to clear misconceptions about the disease.

"Observing World AIDS Day is important because everyone is affected by HIV/AIDS in some way," said Ben Cartwright, director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender resource center.

The American Medical Student Association’s San Diego State chapter, Peer Advocates for Total College Health will each be tabling at 10 a.m. in Aztec Center.

"The reason behind it all is to promote awareness and education to and to mitigate action," Chris Mullin, AMSA chapter treasurer, said. Mullin said it’s one of the biggest involvement levels he has seen for World AIDS Day events at SDSU, with four student organizations working together to promote awareness and education.

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CAMPUS CRIME

A fire broke out at about 2:40 p.m. Friday on the south side of Interstate 8 between Watting Road and Fairmount Avenue, according to University Police.

University Police Lt. Lamme Secka said police are not exactly sure what caused the fire. He said what often happens is that a car will break down on the freeway and overheat, causing the brush on the side of the freeway to ignite.

The fire was quickly contained with no injuries and no reported structural damage. After 24 minutes, the fire was put out, Secka said.

Police ask suspicious persons to leave library

University Police confronted two different suspicious persons Saturday at the Malcolm A. Love Library.

The first person was described as a man, about 5 feet, 5 inches tall with a slim build. He was wearing all red clothing and carrying a notebook and a backpack. According to the person who reported the suspicious activity, the man was coming behind trash cans and then jumping out at people, Secka said.

The man was not a San Diego State student and was advised by police officers to leave campus immediately.

The second incident occurred when a female student reported to police that a suspicious man approached her inside the library. She reported that the man invaded her personal space and then touched her on her back, according to police.

The man was described as being an adult Asian in his mid-30s. He was about 5 feet, 3 inches tall and weighed approximately 130-140 lbs. According to Secka, he had black hair, brown eyes and wore a striped gray sweater and jeans. He was carrying papers but no backpack.

The man was spotted on the third floor of the library in the "D" section of the stacks, according to police reports.

"There’s no legal way to restrict or limit people from coming here to SDSU," Secka said. "However, once a person begins to disturb students or the academic process, then they may be asked to leave.

Because the man was disrupting others, he was asked by police to leave.

According to police, the victim reported that she had previously encountered the same suspicious individual on Nov. 21 in the same area of the library.

Secka said this was the second time the suspect had been contacted by police officers. According to the victim, Secka said the woman had previously encountered the same suspicious individual on Nov. 21 in the same area of the library.

"We’re trying to get it as best we can," Secka said.

Police arrest five non-SDSU students on alcohol-related charges

SDSU police officers arrested five people, all non-SDSU students, for alcohol-related charges during separate incidents that occurred Saturday and Sunday near campus.

The individuals were arrested on a suspicion of driving under the influence, public intoxication and having a blood alcohol level of .08 or above.

These type of crimes are a weekly battle," Secka said. "We try to target as best we can."

Secka said campus activities such as concerts can cause an increase in the amount of alcohol-related incidents.

"Concerts do bring a lot more non-affiliated people in the campus and a lot of these people don’t know that you are not allowed to drink on campus," Secka said. "The majority of these people don’t wind up in any trouble, but the people who go to excess do wind up in trouble.

--Compiled by Staff Writer Wendy Fery
The diploma you can wear

Class Rings
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SDSU BOOKSTORE

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Sterilization endangers the purpose of life

The State of Mind section of The Daily Aztec is currently accepting applications for columnists. If you enjoy voicing your opinion about politics and social issues and have prior writing experience, apply today.

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Wanted to complete a General Education or Business Transfer class in just 13 days & pay only $20.00 per unit? (Non-Residents pay additional fees)

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| #0577 offered via Internet | Students MUST email instructor by 1/21 at domma@ucccd.edu |
| No Equiv      | HED 120                   | 0875   | Personal Health & Lifestyle | Web | Web |
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| SOC 101       | SOC 120                  | 1702   | Introductory Sociology | 8am-11:15 | F508 |

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CUYAMACA COLLEGE

Menstrual Cramps?

A clinical research trial using a natural product to treat menstrual cramps is being conducted by Women’s Health Care at Frost Street.

To qualify for this study, you must be:

- Female, 18-45 years
- Have regular menstrual periods for the last 6 months
- Have cramps for the last 2 menstrual cycles

Participants will receive confidential study-related medical evaluations, study medication at no cost and reimbursement up to $400.00 for time and travel.

858-505-8672
www.womenwellness.net
Heaven in a wrapper but not in your wallet

Alexandra Garcia
CONTRIBUTOR

On your way to the local Rite Aid where you’re used to paying $0.99 cents for an ice cream cone, you pass a new trendy business that offers what are supposed to be the most amazing cupcakes. They’re so amazing that even Oprah mentioned this dessert in her latest show. Maybe it’s time for a change from cheap ice cream to a simple cupcake, but the line to purchase the little treats outdoors is quite long. As you wait outside, you try to decide which flavor you’ll choose. When it’s finally your turn to order, you notice the price that rang up on the cash register could have paid for a whole meal at McDonald’s.

The trend for high-priced foods and desserts has become an obsession in everyday life. People crave highly priced goods and food is no exception. Marketers and businesses exploit anything from a piece of meat to a cupcake.

The cupcake craze is one of the most recent and popular trends to arise in the dessert industry. Sprinkles Cupcakes is a bakery that only sells cupcakes. It began as a small business in Beverly Hills, and today it has five locations, the nearest location to San Diego in Newport Beach.

There have been many contributions to the success of these tiny creations, one of which is the media. "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and "Good Morning America" rave about these desserts. Celebrities such as Marcia Cross and Ben Gyllenhaal don’t mind purchasing a single cupcake for $3.25 or paying $36 for a dozen.

Two-buck Chuck and Franzia are usually the only wines college students have a nose for. However, the difference is that celebrities can afford a $2 piece of chocolate or a $3.25 cupcake, even though this could take a toll on the average person’s wallet.

But the craze for these high-priced desserts has become standard for those who live in the neighborhood of one of the cupcake bakeries. People crave chocolate, ice cream and now miniature cakes. Cupcake lovers argue that the price is inexpensive for the delicious taste of this small luxury.

Quickly becoming a popular trend of the rich and famous, gourmet cupcakes take childhood treats and transform them into a luxury. Combining a mixture of delicate decorations and expensive ingredients, these cupcakes make taste buds water, but at a hefty price.

Wine tasting can be a valuable experience

Brau Russell
STAFF WRITER

Two-buck Chuck and Franzia are usually the only wines college students have a nose for. Instead of asking about the legs of the wine, most wonder how drunk they can get by fin-ishing a whole box.

Having a well-centered knowledge of wine is not a necessity for the average college student. It’s like a good golf game: something that is nice to have for the real world or for business, but not that applicable to college life.

However, gaining that knowledge is not difficult or expensive. The only way to gain an appreciation for wine is to get out there and taste. And the fastest way to accomplish this at an affordable rate is to hit up the various wine bars around San Diego.

"The only way to gain an appreciation for wine is to get out there and taste. And the fastest way to accomplish this at an affordable rate is to hit up the various wine bars around San Diego."
MEN'S BASKETBALL
SDSU ready to rebound

In a grueling 30-game season, losses are inevitable. Still, they're neither easy to cope with nor simple to forget. While the San Diego State men's basketball team won't get a chance to average its Saturday afternoon loss against Cal, a defeat that ruined its previously perfect 5-0 record, it will get a shot at the next best thing.

SDSU faces two familiar opponents this week in Loyola Marymount and Western Michigan, and it will likely engage in entertaining battles with both teams.

At 7:05 tonight at Gersten Pavilion in Los Angeles, the Aztecs will take on the Lions, whom SDSU has defeated three of the previous four times the teams have met. However, the trio of victories all came within the comfort of Cox Arena. The Aztecs lost the last time they visited Los Angeles.

Both teams play an up-tempo style — the Lions (2-4) and SDSU (5-1) average 76.7 and 73.8 points, respectively — and the game will be statistically, combining for 27.9 points and 8.3 rebounds per night, but SDSU's defense will be the deciding factor in this week's games.

"(Defensively) I'm always concerned," Fisher said. "(In) lay-ups, free throws, (Cad) was 27-9 on us in the second half. You can't expect a guy to miss a lay-up and you can't expect a guy to miss a free throw."

News and notes:

• Freshman forward Tim Shelton, originally expected to miss three weeks of playing time because of arthroscopic knee injury, will miss the remainder of the season because of cartilage damage, according to Fisher.

AT A GLANCE

WHO: The San Diego State men's basketball team
WHERE: 7:05 p.m. tonight and 7:30 p.m. Saturday
WHEN: Gersten Pavilion in Los Angeles and Cox Arena
WHAT: SDSU's opportunity to rebound from its first loss of the season

SDSU MALE ATHLETE OF THE SEMESTER

Senior quarterback Kevin O'Connell has been San Diego State's premier male athlete this season. He's helped lead SDSU through an often difficult 2007 season.

O'Connell's been thrown through a gamut of coaching changes, injuries — to himself and defenses. The 6-6-foot running threat has nine rushing touchdowns and has passed for 2,775 yards with a 127.4 efficiency rating. His speed and size alone make him at least a blip on NFL scouting radar screens.

"That's definitely one of those things you start to think about," O'Connell said. "But you don't think about a season to finish, but you know the opportunities are going to come." Added Long, who was the 12th overall pick in the 1986 NFL Draft. "The last few games he has really thrown the ball well. He's been showing the type of stuff that will catch the eye of the NFL scouts." But it's just not the numbers that show how much O'Connell has added to his game. It's his poise. It's the way the younger man handles the ball and how he's dealt with a part of the program — not like a little, too-often-beat-up younger brother.

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CURIOSITY HAPPENINGS OF A HOPELESS OPTIMIST

A bottle of airport hassle

Melissa Johnson  Staff Writer

A irports have a knack for creating fantastic stories. Something about the congregation of people from all walks of life who are forced to mingle in extreme conditions of annoyance seems to breed interesting accounts of the interaction. I, too, have my very own tale about the turbulence and tempest of travel.

In my opinion, people who work at the airport have way too much power. Security can put you down and even force you to strip to make sure you don’t have a makeshift tape in your inner thigh. (I have to admit, I might abuse this power if the right person came along.) Even the pilot gets in on the action by telling me to do something. (I have to admit, I might abuse this power if the right person came along.) Even the pilot gets in on the action by telling me to do something.

Today is an 8. May I please speak to your supervisor? It was my “Mommy, Wow! I’m a-big-kid-now” moment of a lifetime. That morning I put on my Pull-Ups, and I was ready to take names and try to her supervisor. It was a great breakthrough in sticking up for myself.

I open my big mouth, ”I don’t know your policy, but...” I proceed to tell her my apparent dumb plan of wine wrap-page. Suddenly, she drops my bag back onto the platform and snaps me a big smile. (I have to admit, I might abuse this power if the right person came along.) Even the pilot gets in on the action by telling me to do something.

“What’s your wine in here? You’re full of ideas, but not all of them are good.” She tells me, “I don’t know your policy, but...” Then I open my big mouth, ”I don’t know your policy, but...” I proceed to tell her my apparent dumb plan of wine wrap-page. Suddenly, she drops my bag back onto the platform and snaps me a big smile. (I have to admit, I might abuse this power if the right person came along.) Even the pilot gets in on the action by telling me to do something.

“You have wine in here? You’re full of ideas, but not all of them are good.” She tells me, “I don’t know your policy, but...” Then I open my big mouth, ”I don’t know your policy, but...” I proceed to tell her my apparent dumb plan of wine wrap-page. Suddenly, she drops my bag back onto the platform and snaps me a big smile. (I have to admit, I might abuse this power if the right person came along.) Even the pilot gets in on the action by telling me to do something.

It was a giant breakthrough in sticking up for myself. It was my “Mommy, Wow! I’m a-big-kid-now” moment of a lifetime. That morning I put on my Pull-Ups, and I was ready to take names and try to her supervisor. It was a great breakthrough in sticking up for myself.

OK, so I might have cried and mumbled something about her being a meanie, but it was a breakthrough nonetheless.

In the end, I had to take out all of my clothes anyway and buy bubble wrap that cost as much as all of my clothes anyway and buy clothes. (I have to admit, I might abuse this power if the right person came along.) Even the pilot gets in on the action by telling me to do something.

Looking through our lens

Golden Gate Bridge

Assistant Photo Editor David J. Olenick captured this calm and serene moment in San Francisco Bay just as the sun was about to set over the iconic Golden Gate Bridge.