

OPINION

Americans must address past and present geno-

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Talented actors crash into racially charged roles.

TEMPO

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SPORTS

How did the Aztecs fair in their final series before the MWC Tournament? PAGE 7

THE DAILY AZTEC

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2005



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Jessica Swartz / Assistant Photo Editor "Livestrong" bracelets triggered an effort for other organizations to popularize their causes.

Fashion with a cause forms wristband fad

Inexpensive bracelets are trendy and raise research money

BY ANNA CHRISTY

STAFF WRITER

People say it's what's on the inside that counts — but for many, personality alone isn't the easiest way to make a statement. Particularly in trendy Southern California, where fashion is on the minds of many.

Lance Armstrong had the right idea when he started promoting \$1 yellow rubwristbands imprinted "Livestrong," the motto for his foundation, which funds cancer research and provides support for individuals living with the disease. With public figures such as actor Matt Damon and last year's Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry sporting these bands, charitable sales have soared to 40 million bands and, in the process, have transformed charity into something "fashionable," according to the Lance Armstrong Founation Web site, www.laf.org.

But the success of the Live paign has triggered a surge in similar foundations' efforts to popularize their own organizations. Now knockoffs such as red "beat it" bands for heart disease and pink breast cancer bands dubbed "power of pink" scatter the rubber wristband scene. Even supporters of the Democratic Party have their own wristbands - imprinted with the bold question, "How Blue Are

Public administration senior Truong Diep has mixed feelings about the wristband rage.

"The original yellow Lance Armstrong one was cool, but now it seems like everyone is jumping on that bandwagon, so it doesn't have the same effect for me anymore," he said. "(Other organizations) should try to come up with their own unique way of fundraising, if possible."

Marcus O'Shea, head of fundraising at Breast Cancer Care, an organization that is publicizing its cause through the sale of wristbands, said in an interview with The Scotsman newspaper this month that wristbands play a significant part in the success of a charitable campaign.

"If we can manage to raise awareness at the same time as raising money by producing these bands, then we have hit the jackpot," he stated in the article.

While the splurge of philanthropic wristband propaganda may have raised some eyebrows, it's the mass sale of unauthentic wristbands — the proceeds of which aren't going to a philanthropic cause — that are causing

Since the booming popularity of the original Livestrong bands during their debut in October 2004 — which triggered an initial two- to three-week delay in stock shipment - a black market for wristbands catering to a largely fashion-minded population has taken

Look-alike wristbands have found their way into the San Diego State fashion community. At retail store Whatever on College Avenue, bands imprinted with such sayings as "peace" and "nature" are for sale, and an on-campus fraternity sports its own "transbrother" wristband.

Livestrong band look-alikes are neither affiliated with the original trademarked yellow wristbands nor related to any donations to charitable causes; thry are most prominantly visible in eBay's listings on the Internet and in some cases, are being sold for as much as \$20 each.

In response to eBay's user listings of illegitimate Livestrong bands, eBay spokesperson Hani Durzy said in an October 2004 CNET News article, shortly after the first Livestrong band unveiling, that "eBay is an open, transparent marketplace — people who own something legally and can legally sell it, certainly have the right to do so if they choose to."

However, political science freshman Alex Phillips said the recent wristband mania supports worthy causes.

What could be more necessary than a fad of pure positivity (that's) embodied by a simple wristband?" he said. "If the message is genuine and positive, then it's not only appropriate, but fantastic that there are knock-offs being made.

"It's the message that matters, and the

message is legitimate."

Administration feels strain of budget cuts

Students seeking assistance on campus may not receive the help they deserve due to lack of resources

BY TAWNEE PRAZAK

COPY EDITOR

There comes a time for many students when class alone isn't enough to fulfill their on-campus needs; they must seek out the help and advice of professionals. But with a tight education budget, the administration at San Diego State has thousands of students to aid, and not necessarily the adequate resources to do so.

California's budget allocation is sending many into an uproar, as the state has recently been inundated with protests from Sacramento to San Diego regarding the future of the state's education budget.

In the past four years, tuition for California State Universities has risen 60 percent, according The San Diego Union-Tribune. At SDSU, the general fund budget for both Academic Affairs and Student Affairs has already decreased since the 2003-04 school year, according to SDSU's Web site. However, some staff members still remain optimistic in working to provide the best possible service.

Gary Shelton, director of fiscal and administrative services for the California Department of Education, said there is particular concern about President Bush's proposed education budget, especially when put hand in hand with the proposed state budget, according to the UT.

Many services offered to students, such as the Office of Financial Aid, Educational Opportunity Program and Academic Advising, could face trouble in providing efficient assistance necessary for success.

"(The Office of Financial Aid) is always busy," biology freshman Armando Gonzalez said. "The office is really small for the thousands of students who need help, and there's only about two people working at a

Gonzalez said he wouldn't be at SDSU without the assistance of financial aid, but he said its help often becomes long overdue.

"I had to pay University Towers \$2,000 of my own money because

see BUDGET on page 2

Air quality a growing issue for San Diegans

Increase in student enrollment impacts environment BY JHEN KORDELA

ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Roughly 18 percent of students live on or within one mile of campus, which leaves more than 80 percent of students who commute to San Diego State to directly experience what many believe is the City of San Diego's No. 1 problem: Traffic.

In April, San Diego and Imperial Counties scored another "F" for air pollution, according to an annual American Lung Association's State of Air report. With traffic congestion a main catalyst for air pollution and population growth eminent in San Diego and on campus, if measures

see AIR QUALITY on page 2



Derrick Tuskan / Senior Staff Photographer The American Lung Association gave San Diego an "F" grade for air quality.

BUDGET: Academic and financial aid department counseling is in high demand

continued from page 1

financial aid hadn't given me money yet," Gonzalez said.

Child development junior Rashaun Gabourel said she often encounters long waits in the financial office and on its phone lines.

"They will direct you to use the computer," Gabourel said, "but that can't always answer direct questions."

Chris Collins, associate director for the Office of Financial Aid, said financial aid is a highly regulated department, and one of its most critical aspects is keeping professional staff to the highest amount possible.

"Our ongoing principle is to have enough counselors to advise students and parents,"

Another program highly sought after by students is Academic Advising. Advisors are usually the busiest at the beginning of each semester, which may result in a lack of efficient service.

Jane Vidal, assistant director of Academic Advising, said the advising office experiences varying ebbs and flows of students, especially during registration, which leads advising to change the number of counselors available with demand. She said she highly recommends students take advantage of SDSU's WebPortal.

"WebPortal is the one constant students have," Vidal said. "A lot of people don't even realize you can get your degree evaluation, entire course history and much more to stay on

Gabourel said she's familiar with WebPortal and easily finds essential information; however, the advising office instructed her to wait for a major-specific counselor, she said.

"Sometimes I have a simple question that any counselor could most likely answer," Gabourel said.

Vidal said the advising office can become really crowded, and on the first day of classes counselors could encounter nearly 300 students. Advisors try to help funnel people, and often students are directed to their individual major advisors for more expertise.

According to an article in Inside Bay Area, 15,000 eligible students were turned away from CSU schools last year because of insufficient funding. The article also stated budget cuts to the 23-campus CSU system have resulted in the lowest enrollment of new students since 2001, despite a record number of applicants. Recent protests are addressing these issues, looking to improve future budget allocations.

"The state budget has a direct impact on the university," Collins said. "If funding is pulled, the university would decide which departments would be affected."

AIR QUALITY: Motor exhaust and traffic can impact a city's atmosphere with the emission of carbon monoxide

continued from page 1

aren't taken, the local reports may not have a prosperous future. It's the city's sixth "F" since ALA began issuing the

As a part of the Campus Master Plan, student enrollment at SDSU will increase to 35,000 during the next 20 years. In response to the expansion, an Environmental Impact Report was released in January and made available for comment last month. According to the EIR news release, the 35,000 full-time equivalent students would actually amount to 44,826 collegians on campus, when taking part-time students into account.

With the added student enrollment, the EIR predicts supplementary 779 faculty members and 630 staff persons. The amount of daily visitors would increase as well by an estimated 1,000 per day, according to the EIR. Altogether, the enlarged number of average daily vehicle trips to and from campus would be 19,874.

Motor exhaust can impact air quality by the emission of carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter, according to the EIR and the South Coast Air Quality Management District's 2003 Air Quality Management Plan. These chemicals can cause people to have health effects such as reduced tolerance to exercise, impairment of mental functions and death at high-level

Lauren Cooper, associate director for facilities planning at SDSU, said with the increased enrollment, population in San Diego and traffic, people need to change their way of looking at public transportation.

For some commuters, however, public transportation is not a viable option. Business management junior Matt

Deloach commutes from Rancho Bernardo and said having some sort of public transportation, such as a trolley that connects from North County to South County would be a good idea. There are a lot of people who commute from North County to this area, he said.

Deloach said the traffic isn't too bad, depending on the times of his classes; although sometimes he experiences a half-hour wait just to get out of the parking structure.

"I spend a lot of money on gas; the price of gas could probably amount to rent," he said. "In addition to gas, I also spend about 75 cents to get to school and \$1.50 coming home to take the FasTrak."

Deloach said he thinks SDSU should contribute to expanding the freeways if they're allowing increased enrollment.

However, Cooper said, the California State University system has a policy in which it's not allowed to use education funds to improve road quality, unless it's taking care of streets on campus.

"All of our studies were done from using (San Diego Association of Governments) studies as a basis — a regional planning agency — and SANDAG has projected a certain amount of population growth in the 20 years that our EIR and Master Plan is supposed to cover," Cooper said.

The predicted growth to campus is actually less than SANDAG planned for, she

Jack Beresford, assistant vice president of SDSU's marketing and communications, agrees.

"We're working closely (the California Department of Transportation and SANDAG) to make transportation improvements a priority," he said.

Interstate 8 was included in the EIR but Interstate 15, Interstate 805 and Interstate 5,

were not.

However, Prop. A, passed last year, approved the goahead for the 40-year extension of TRANSNET, a halfcent sales tax, which will generate \$14 billion divided mainly among highway, transit and local road projects, according to SANDAG's Web site, www.sandag.org. I-8, I-15 and I-805 are included in the expansion projects.

Aside from projected free-way growth, there are still high hopes for the trolley station at SDSU.

"The trolley opens July 10 and SANDAG predicts 20 percent of the student population will ride the trolley on a regular basis," Beresford said.

In addition to the trolley, the Master Plan hopes to increase the number of students living adjacent or within a mile of campus to 25 percent, Cooper said.

There are also ideas, although nothing has been worked out with the transit agency, to have student housing along the trolley routes and the potential for a universal transit pass, she said.

"The universal transit pass system has increased student ridership by up to 200 percent," Cooper said. "It would help people ride the trolley and that would significantly reduce the parking demand and traffic congestion."

Twenty-five major campuses are using this system, including CSU Fullerton, UCSD and UC Berkeley, she said.

There is still some work that has to be done to accommodate for the future.

The specifics aren't included in the EIR, Cooper said. There needs to be more environmental review when it gets down to project specifics and at this point, it's only at a programlevel environmental study, she

"When we try to plan for the future, we have to try to figure out how to accommodate everybody," Cooper said.

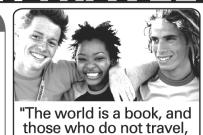
FOR THE RECORD

A City article headline ("Campus Crime: Fraternity members steal palm trees," May 5) implied a convicted theft by Sigma Chi fraternity. No members of Sigma Chi have been convicted of theft and the investigation is ongoing. *The Daily Aztec* regrets this error.

The City section is currently hiring staff writers for the Summer and Fall semesters. If you are interested, drop by The Daily Aztec offices in the basement of the Business Administration building, or call the city desk at (619) 594-7782.

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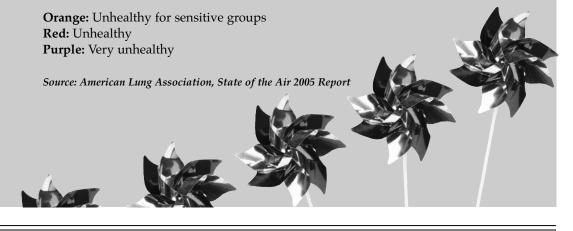
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Orange	F	14	1	0
Riverside	F	152	77	12
San Bernardino	F	143	89	39



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America continues to turn its back on world's genocides

By Veronica Rollin

STAFF WRITER

Inless you stopped by the Hillel table at the Free Speech Steps last Wednesday, you probably didn't notice it was Holocaust Memorial Day, honoring the 60th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust. A lot has happened in the six decades since allied armies threw open the gates of Nazi death camps and exposed their horrors to the world. It is high time we assess how far we've progressed since then.

Unfortunately, it seems humanity hasn't come very far at all. During World War II, the death camps went largely ignored, especially by the mainstream media. According to Newseum, a museum dedicated to the history of American news media, reports about the Nazi's genocide rarely ever made front-page news. The Southern Poverty Law Center reports likewise; stories about the Holocaust were buried in the back pages of The New York Times, one of the most influential newspapers in America.

Simultaneously, the U.S. government did little to help Jews who attempted to flee the Nazis. Few European Jews were granted visas, leaving them unable to escape the Nazi onslaught spreading throughout the continent. Worse, is the tragic story of the Hamburg ship, S.S. St. Louis.

The passenger ship carried 937 German-born Jews to Cuba, but a change in government left the ship with nowhere to go. The St. Louis tried to find sanctuary in the United States, but the passengers had no such luck. After bouncing from harbor to harbor in North America, the ship returned to Hamburg, and its passengers were forced to return home. Unsurprisingly, the majority of the would-be refugees perished in the gas chambers of Auschwitz. The United States had the opportunity to spare 900 people, but instead looked the other way.

America's priorities have hardly changed. The genocide in Sudan is only occasionally in the news, even though some 400,000 people have already died, according to *The Washington Post*. Not only have mainstream media barely covered the massacre, the international community has hardly done anything about the slaughter as well.

Few countries have given aid to the region, the least coming from the United States. Other than a few superficial state visits, we haven't budged an inch to alleviate suffering in Sudan.

The death toll in Sudan is about half the final death toll of another African genocide the world didn't acknowledge — Rwanda. In 1994, the international community left the central African state and sat idle as Hutus hacked 800,000 Tutsis — the Hutus' rival tribe — to pieces. According to the PBS documentary Ghosts of Rwanda, nation after nation withdrew their people from Rwanda, leaving no one except a small U.N. contingent with no mandate to do anything but watch thousands of innocent people die.

The world's indifference to the Rwanda and Sudan genocides would be horrific, regardless of the history that preceded them. However, with the Holocaust's shadow looming over humanity, this kind of apathy is downright inexcusable.

Knowing that better news coverage of the death camps might have saved lives, how could we barely spare five minutes of news for Sudan? Knowing that we missed golden opportunities to rescue European Jews, how could we simply walk away from the bloodbath in Rwanda?

The answer is depressingly simple. After all that has occurred in the past 60 years, most of the world still doesn't care. Actions that could have lowered death tolls or increased awareness of these atrocities are so small, such as moving a news article to the front page, using a small portion of our wealth to ease refugees' pain or evacuating those in the most danger. It was never out of our hands. There was never a case in which there was absolutely nothing we could do. America would rather ignore the tragic situations. Like last week's day of remembrance, we let the tragedies slip by us unheard and unseen.

—Veronica Rollin is a political science sophomore.

—This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Daily Aztec. Send e-mail to letters@thedailyaztec.com. Anonymous letters will not be printed — include your full name, major and year in school.

New, unstable Iraqi government taking a back seat to violence

BY BETH BENSON

STAFF WRITER

This is a critical time for the future of Iraq — a battle raging for the very soul of the country. The new Iraqi government desperately needs to show its stability and capability to deliver what the people of Iraq need. If the new government does not do this, then the insurgency will only grow stronger and gain more legitimacy in the eyes of Iraqis.

The new cabinet was sworn in last Tuesday with the conspicuous lack of seven key posts: two deputy prime ministers, a defense minister, an electricity minister, a human rights minister, an industry and minerals minister and an oil minister. A majority of these unfilled posts are to go to Sunni Muslims, who once dominated politics under Saddam Hussein's regime and are now frustrated in their roles as a mere minority.

It has been three months since January's much lauded elections and the new government is way behind schedule. In-fighting amongst Shiites — who united under Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani to gain a majority in the elections — slowed down the process of selecting a cabinet.

Also, the Shiites' refusal to let former Baathists into the new government has upset Sunnis, who feel they are not properly represented. The inability to fill vacant cabinet posts with selected Sunnis calls into question the ability of the new government, headed by Shiite Islamist Ibrahim al-Jaafari, to work with the Sunnis.

The naming of the new gov-

ernment has spurred a new intensity in insurgent attacks. The attacks began merely hours after the new cabinet was named, and launched the bloodiest three days in two months, according to *The New York Times*.

The day after the swearing in, a suicide bomber killed at least 46 Iraqi police recruits and wounded more than 100 others. These attacks are obviously designed to undermine the legitimacy of the new government.

The reality of Iraq for most Iraqis is one of insecurity and violence. For example, the country's 229 water treatment plants are old and need repairs, according to *USA Today*. A lack of clean water has led to water-borne diseases. Iraqis are forced to illegally siphon water from distribution pipes. Though the United States pledged to give \$3.65 billion to fix the public works, the insurgency has caused most of that money to be diverted to security.

Iraqis must also deal with daily blackouts because of a lack of electricity.

Furthermore, the frequent violence makes it difficult to retain staff for the infrastructure. Iraqis cannot count on clean water, but they can count on at least 50 attacks to occur every day.

"Because we have a war taking place in our cities, any uncertainty plays into the hands of the insurgents," said al-Jaafari spokesman Laith Kubba, according to *The Kansas City Star*.

The insurgency, which is made up of mostly disaffected Sunnis, will only grow stronger if its voice is not heard in this new government.

The inability of the new government to even select a cabinet shows an instability that creates distrust among the Iraqi people. If their government cannot even give them electricity, how can they expect the same government to uphold their civil rights? With people dying every day, how can the Iraqi people believe they are being protected?

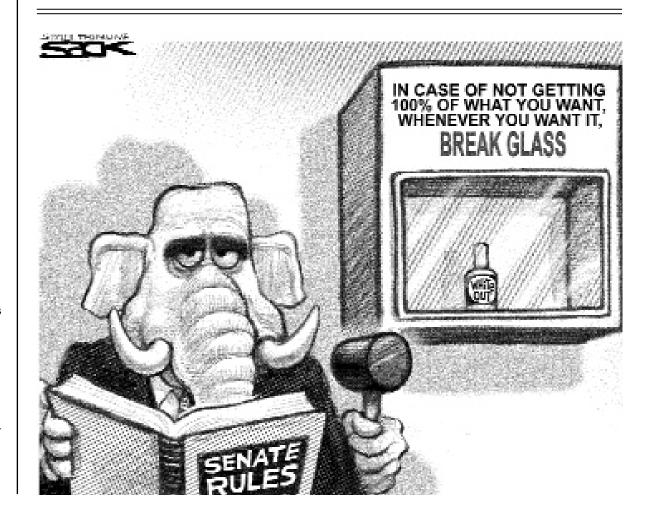
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The answer is they can't. This is the very reason the insurgency is growing more violent and is still able to coordinate attacks across the country, despite the efforts of the strongest military force in the world.

The United States cannot take the "hands-off" role it has taken in the formation of the new Iraqi government since the elections; it has been kneedeep in this conflict from the beginning. We cannot just sit back and let the most important part of the process of rebuilding the country we destroyed play out without our help. We are, after all, the largest democracy in the world and have one of the most diverse societies. Therefore, the U.S. government has the obligation to work toward stabilizing Iraq before the effort is lost through violence and destruc-

—Beth Benson is a political science and journalism junior.

—This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Daily Aztec. Send e-mail to letters@thedailyaztec.com. Anonymous letters will not be printed — include your full name, major and year in school.



Education fosters open-mindedness

My five years at San Diego
State are almost over, and
like most college graduates, I
find myself reflecting on my educational experience and advancement of thought. Probably most
influential is my altered worldview — I've gone from a registered Republican to a card-carrying liberal. It's precisely because
college has made me more progressive that I'm particularly
offended when Republicans —
nay, rabid conservatives — call
universities "indoctrination centers."

There are Web sites, such as www.studentsforacademicfreedom.or g, that are devoted to talking about and "monitoring" the liberal bias in education. These sites insist there is a leftist political agenda to universities and bitter liberal academics are manipulating young adults so that there are more of "their kind" in the world.

These Web sites are dismissive to the notion that there might be something in the nature of education that is inherently liberal. They find the idea foreign that somebody might go into college to learn, instead of simply having his or her beliefs reinforced.

Let's get a couple things straight first: Most people at SDSU are majoring in business or the sciences. Whether you have a raging communist or a goosestepping fascist for a physics professor, projectile motion isn't going to change. This "liberal bias" complaint only applies to a portion of academics, mainly



political science and history.

Subjects such as sociology and ethnic studies sometimes get flack from the right as well, but they operate on assumptions that are somewhat liberal (and most likely correct). You have to acknowledge present and past exploitation by governments and businesses to study these subjects properly, and many conservatives deny these basic principles. If you don't assume racism still exists, you can't have a successful Africana studies or minority group relations class.

Yet conservatives will complain that "their side" needs to be heard in almost every situation. In fact, at studentsforacademicfreedom.org it states, "You can't get a good education if they're only telling you half the story" across the top of its site. First off, not all stories have two sides, many have several, and others simply have one. But more importantly, some opinions are far better formed than others — and time shouldn't be wasted talking about the merits of ignorant views, liberal or conservative.

We cannot walk around pretending all views are created equal; the only way this could be true is if they are all equally false. And quite frankly, in a serious discussion about political science — one which factors out jingoism and myths — liberal views tend to dominate. There are some good conservative views, which probably should be talked about more, but they are not suppressed by a "liberal conspiracy." Lots of great ideas haven't been discussed, or even thought of yet.

But let's suspend reality for a minute and pretend there really is a league of bitter academics bent on multiplying themselves though their posts as college professors. Isn't it still belittling to college students to paint

them as prey, as children unable to form their own opinions?

Also, if university coursework should be considered indoctrination, is there any hope for

education at all? Wouldn't high school be brainwashing too? What about Sunday school?

At its core, this attack on higher education should be seen as nothing more than a way to undermine an institution that doesn't always agree with national policy. Conservatives like to use character assassination against dissidents (such as Richard

Clarke), but they also use it against institutions as well. The "liberal media" is a parallel example of unfair criticism, designed to incapacitate news the right-wing doesn't want to be heard.

As a university, we need to continue to promote an atmosphere in which growth, debate and openness are possible, but shouldn't get intimidated by vicious and baseless attacks. A liberal education is the best kind, if it is held to the truest meaning of the word. Even though its common usage has been stigmatized, liberal means "not limited to, or by, traditional, orthodox or

Whether you have a

raging communist or a

goose-stepping fascist for

a physics professor, pro-

jectile motion isn't going

to change.

authoritarian views" and "free from bigotry; broadminded."

It's not the liberal professors I worry about — it's the narrowminded ones.

—Joe Zarro is an English and philosophy senior and editor in chief of The Daily Aztec.

—This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Daily Aztec. Send e-mail to letters@thedailyaztec.com.

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CORRECTION:

The column containing an interview with former PLO Walid Shoebat ("Reformed terrorist talks," May 9) was conducted by Senior Opinion Columnist Paul A. Escajadillo, whose byline was omitted. The Daily Aztec regrets this error.

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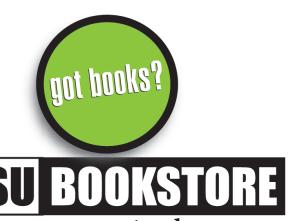
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MOVIE REVIEW



Don Cheadle portrays a homicide detective bearing the burden of his family's troubles.

When cultures collide

Crash offers the perfect vehicle for its cast's acting talents

By Eric von Metzke

STAFF WRITER

This past weekend, Lions Gate Films released a stunning, unique and unyielding social commentary on racism in a post 9-11 America. Directed by Paul Haggis, Crash follows the lives of various Los Angeles residents who are each dealing with their own inner-struggles with racism. Within 36 hours, all these characters crash into one another, leaving behind the debris of hate and intolerance.

The story constantly dabbles in the grey areas of tension between blacks and whites, as well as victims and antagonists. Through this exploration, Haggis reveals urban Los Angeles for what it is, and depicts how racial tolerance is constantly tested because of negative stereotypes and mass propagandists who promote differences among races.

To make this film emotionally poignant and appealing to audiences, Haggis cast a multiethnic ensemble of terrific unknown actors and placed them among more established actors. Don Cheadle brilliantly portrays a hardened homicide detective dealing with his drugged-out mother, criminal brother and the vast racial differences that exist in the society that surrounds him. His subtle facial expressions are both honest and shocking as he continues to cope with the various conflicts in his life. Sandra Bullock plays a Brentwood wife who is married to the district attorney of Los Angeles (Brendan Fraser). After being carjacked by two black people, Bullock gives perhaps the most powerful performance of the film. She blatantly exposes her character's lack of racial tolerance toward a Mexican locksmith (Michael Peña) who she assumes is a gang member because of his race and visible tattoos. It is soon discovered that this same locksmith is a husband and a father, simply trying to make enough money to keep his family in a safe home. The movie juxtaposes the roles of these two characters, revealing the common humanity in each of them despite their ethnic and social dif-

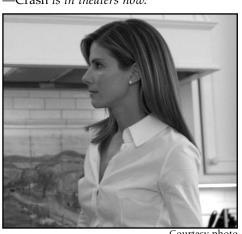
Another star-quality performance is delivered by Matt Dillon in his portrayal of a racist police officer who develops an intolerance for affirmative action. He too crashes into the lives of these other characters and learns that his hate is only harmful. Meanwhile, his partner (Ryan Phillipe) openly detests Dillon's actions only to learn of his own bigotry when he picks up a black hitchhiker and immediately assumes he's a criminal.

The film is teeming with symbolism and messages of racial acceptance. For example, Bullock's character falls down the stairs and has no assistance except the Mexican housekeeper, Maria (Yomi Perra). This is metaphorical of her gradual transformation from intolerance to acceptance. In a touching and heartfelt moment, she eventually embraces Maria, whom she verbally abused earlier in the film, and reveals that Maria is her only true friend.

Haggis also uses humor to translate his message, especially in the scenes between the two carjackers (Chris "Ludacris" Bridges and Larenz Tate). Bridges and Tate portray their characters with a provocative, yet hilarious nature as they steal cars and argue about the taboos of social injustice.

Throughout the film, Crash maintains its momentum and forces the audience to analyze its daily encounters with prejudice. Its many unpredictable twists and turns are quite symbolic of real life as it grabs the audience and force it — regardless of how uncomfortable it may feel to thoroughly examine and understand the true dangers of racial anger.

—Crash is in theaters now.



IN FOCUS

Art as a piece of shirt

L.A. artist Audrey Roberts adds flair to fashion online

BY ANDREW GOOD

ASSISTANT TEMPO EDITOR

Editor's note: For the complete version of this story, visit our Web site at www.thedailyaztec.com.

It isn't mere coincidence that the words "fashion" and "fascism" sound so similar. The vanguards of vogue have an eerie habit of all striking the same prefabricated pose, and thus authorizing the new 'it" thing for the masses. After trickling down through apparel stores across the country, they ultimately reach the same

depressing end: Settling in the stagnant ponds Target and Wal-Mart.

Not content with these handm e downs of taste, artist Audrey Roberts decided to put her fine arts degree to practical use. After teasing the

idea of graduate school, she moved out to Los Angeles at the urging of her boyfriend and began working on pieces for exhibition. For a while, teaching sculpture classes provided her with some additional income, but to her surprise, her most successful endeavor turned out to be her "T-shirt thing."

"I'm not really a fashion person,

per se," Roberts said. "I'm not terribly interested in fashion. I came out (to L.A.) to do art, mostly sculpture, and started making T-shirts for fun. But I started getting calls from people asking, where can I get this, I saw it on so-and-so, and they said to go to vour Web

"So I just started making them, and eventually it got to the point where I could quit my

job." The originality of her designs appealed to every sense of style from AberGap Republic to thrift store kitsch. The biggest draw of Roberts' early models, however, was that they provided vehicles for her quirky humor. On one, a tyrannosaur with a rooster's head stands over the caption "Cockasaurus Rex." Another portrays a girl blowing apart a dandelion over the phrase

Often, phrases such as those capture Roberts' imagination and draw her back to the silkscreen. "They're just things people say all

the time, and I hear and think, 'That

would be so funny as a T-shirt,""

new season, I'll sit down and think about what annoys me, what would be funny and toss ideas around." Her work took a more serious slant in 2004, when the presidential

Roberts said. "But if it's crunch time and I need to design things for a

election provided Roberts with her most widely exposed design. Roberts was commissioned by "Concerts for Kerry" to design a T-shirt for Jack Black, who wanted to wear the shirt to the MTV Movie Awards. Unknown to the political group, Roberts and Black are good

When Black visited her at 2 a.m., he was surprised to find Roberts in the middle of making his shirt. He hadn't realized that the shirt already made, but took the opportunity to tailor it to his own specifica-

The design they settled on was a blue shirt with John Kerry's face printed on it. Underneath it were the words "Vote Kerry."

"He wanted it plain and simple, but it did well," Roberts said. "Well ... not well enough, because he isn't president."

Though her shirts were selling,

Roberts was growing jaded with designs. After touring clothing trade show in San Diego to drum up business, she was disappointed find the work of independent T-shirt creators growing frustratingly homogenous. One-color prints with vintage-lookimages ing and clever phrases simply wouldn't cut it anymore.



In a creative fit, Roberts began experimenting with embroidery, combining it with both her old and new designs. Her line of clothes for Fall '05 includes origami cranes hiding behind sewn-on sushi grass, and a group of moths fluttering around laser-cut holes.

Though sculpture is Roberts' first love, screenprinting offers her a practical artistic outlet.

"I really just don't like having to work for someone else," Roberts said. "And as long as I can keep making money and being able to live making art by the T-shirts, I'll keep doing it."

—For more information, www.audmatic.com.



MOVIE REVIEW

The monster behind the botox

Jane Fonda returns to the big screen in the formulaic romantic comedy Monster-in-Law

By Michelle Nguyen

STAFF WRITER

Even though Mother's Day has just passed, you might want to send your mom another bouquet of flowers out of gratitude for not being anything like the temper-tantrum throwing, over-protective and liquor-obsessed mother-in-law Jane Fonda plays in Monster-in-

The film begins like a typical romantic comedy. After years of looking for Mr. Right, dog walker/waitress/receptionist Charlie

(Jennifer Lopez) finally finds the man of her dreams in Kevin Fields (Michael Vartan). Like in any new relationship, he appears to be the complete package — a romantic, mildmannered doctor who promises he isn't like most other guys. But with every seemingly perfect man, comes a flaw that inevitably exposes itself. That flaw reveals itself when Kevin's mother, Viola (Jane Fonda), hears the news of her son's engagement to Charlie. A recently fired talk show host and anchor, Viola is determined to keep her son to herself by scaring Charlie out of the impending nuptials. She

> in with the recently betrothed couple and from there, u t s Charlie in predicaments that would drive most w o m e n away. However, Charlie bites her tongue and remains polite for the sake of her relationship with Kevin until she discovers Viola has faked an illness and has hired a private investigator to dig up dirt on her. After the discovery, Viola b e c o m e s Charlie's

lies her way

into moving

archenemy and the two battle for control throughout the rest of the movie, leading to a non-climatic and all too predictable ending.

Monster-inmarks Law Fonda's return to the big screen after a 14-year absence and there is no question that this is her film. Lopez and Vartan, who barely have an ounce of on-screen chemistry, are written in to highlight Fonda's comedy.

Her irreverent personal assistant, Ruby (Wanda Sykes), also contributes some much-needed laughs with her quirky one-liners that tone down Fonda's flamboyant and outrageous performance. She transforms her typical wisecracking sidekick role and uses it to steal the scenes from Lopez and Fonda, though does not get nearly enough screen time to salvage the plot of the film as a whole. Without the comedic duo of Fonda and Sykes, the film has nothing but boring and repetitious performances by Lopez and Vartan.

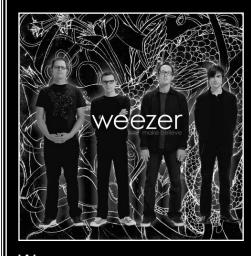
In recent film history, Lopez has taken similar roles. She engaged in some more physical comedy this time around, but her role as Charlie is easily comparable to her roles in *Maid* in Manhattan and The Wedding Planner; however, Lopez fans will still find her charming onscreen presence worth seeing. Her love interest Vartan is completely oblivious to the happenings inside the film. He shows up every few scenes to be handsome and charming and then quickly disappears again. Sadly, the two are victims of a formulaic screenplay present in almost every other romantic comedy.



pletely hopeless, however. Fans of this popular genre, and those looking for some lighthearted content, will likely forgive its flaws. For those who enjoyed director Robert Luketic's past films (Legally Blonde and Win a Date with Tad Hamilton!) and have been fans of Lopez's past romantic comedies (excluding Gigli), you won't be disappointed by Monster-in-Law's weak character development and unlikely, over-the-top situations. For those not typically fans of romantic comedies, good news: The script keeps the overly cheesy 0 moments to a bearable minimum and you may be pleasantly surprised by the comedy of Fonda and Sykes. Just beware: Monster-in-Law is anything but innovative.

—Monster-in-Law opens in theaters Friday.

ALBUM REVIEW



Weezer Make Believe

Eleven years ago today, a nerdy rock preppy girls haven't been able to get self-involved and a better person. foursome from Los Angeles released its first self-titled album, which quickly became known as *The Blue Album*. Since then, Weezer has come from being an underground college-rock favorite to the definitive mainstream "emo" band. Along the way, the group has had four different base payers (I still miss Matt Sharp), released four albums and created a loyal legion of fans in the process. The band's latest album, *Make Believe*, is full of catchy pop-rock infused with some keyboards, and whining guitar solos in

trademark Weezer-style.

"Beverly Hills," the first single off the album, is about frontman Rivers Cuomo growing up in small-town Connecticut, feeling like a four-eyed freak and wanting to move to Los Angeles to become a rock star. "I didn't go to boarding schools | Preppy girls never looked at me," he complains. Maybe that was then, but now he seems to be living the life he always wanted. He's ing the life he always wanted. He's been a student at Harvard, had his picture on the cover of *Rolling Stone*, and

enough of him ever since he

being a geek fashion-forward.

"This Is Such A Pity" stands out from the rest of the album with '80ssounding synthesizer keyboards and guitar, a catchy beat and chorus lamenting, "We should give all our love to each other | Not this hate that destroys us." Another standout, "Hold Me," starts off with Rivers crooning to '50sstyle guitar that would have made old Buddy Holly proud. Despite the timid beginning, the chorus rocks out as he desperately wails, "Take me with you cause I'm lonely."

One of the lesser tracks on the album, "We Are All On Drugs," plays like an attempt to rehash Weezer's former hit "Hash Pipe" with its ominous guitar riff, talk-singing and Cuomo's "uhh" grunt. However, it doesn't come close to the original and, although catchy, it's not a song you want to get stuck in your head.

While the first half of the album is more about Cuomo's personal angst, the later songs are an attempt to be less

"Pardon Me," his personal act of contrition, is a great example: In the chorus he apologizes to anyone he might have hurt and admits, "I may not be a perfect soul | But I can learn self-control." Perhaps this spurt of conscience can be attributed to his ongoing appreciation of eastern culture — not Japanese girls, but Buddhist meditation. His new inner-peace may have inspired him to spread the love through his lyrics; however, at times this doesn't work too effectively.

One could call this album corny pop-rock, but it's not because Weezer "sold out" when it achieved "rock star" status. Cheese aside, the music comes from a sincere place. Cuomo has said he's not always able to express his feelings clearly and does so best through his music. From his latest public expression, I would guess he's found a little more peace of mind and as a Weezer fan of many years, I can appreciate that.

—Contributor Kim Swain

SOFTBALL

Like old times once again

Before MWC Tournament, SDSU sweeps CSU to end regular season

BY WILLIE BANS

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The San Diego State softball team's two victories against Colorado State Sunday at the SDSU Softball Stadium had head coach Kathy Van Wyk scratching her head afterward — especially after the second game's 7-5 come-from-behind victory.

"I don't remember the last time we came back from behind," Van Wyk said. "I don't remember the last time I saw more than six runs on the scoreboard."

To refresh her memory: it last happened on March 18 and March 19.

The Aztecs (26-28, 4-16) swept the Mountain West Conference regular season finale against the Rams, winning 1-0 in game one, in addition to the latter game's offensive eruption.

In game two, Colorado State (29-20, 8-8) scored first off a bloop single in the first inning. But in the third inning, SDSU found what it has been lacking most of the season — a rally

Senior Lacey Craft came through on senior day, blasting a two-run double that careened around the left-field fence long enough for freshmen Megan McDonald and Allison Smith to score, giving the Aztecs a 2-1 lead.

"We've been putting runners on but haven't been able to score them," Craft said. "It was nice to put an actual rally together, get consecutive hits and score runs."



Jessica Swartz / Assistant Photo Editor Senior Lacey Craft triggered a rally with a two-run double Sunday.

Added Van Wyk: "We've been getting hits, but it's that clutch hit that we've been lacking."

SDSU strung together five straight hits for the eventual four-run rally that included senior Erin Mahoney's RBIsingle, giving the Aztecs a 4-1 advantage when the third inning was over.

After SDSU scored three additional runs in the fourth inning to give it a 7-1 lead, things got interesting when the Rams tallied four runs in the sixth inning, including a three-run homer off senior pitcher Cori Janelli to make the score 7-5.

But junior Celena Velasquez came in with one out and a runner on base to close the sixth inning and tossed a perfect seventh inning, earning her a MWC-leading sixth save.

In game one, Velasquez was nearly perfect, tossing a two-hit shutout with four strike-outs, improving her record to 13-13.

The Aztecs scored their lone run off an RBI-double by junior Megan Hartung in the first inning. Hartung finished 3-for-3 for the day, but SDSU left seven runners on base to give Velasquez very little room for error.

Next for the Aztecs is the MWC Tournament to be played on their home turf starting Thursday. The feeling around SDSU is things are starting to go its way just at the right time.

"It seemed like the softball gods were out to get us, but I think things are shifting," Van Wyk said. "There are times when you just don't get the calls, or the ball doesn't fall in or it's a line drive right at someone. We've had an extended period of that time. Now it's our turn to be on the other side of those things. What a better time to be doing it than this now."

The opponent Thursday? Colorado State — and this time it shouldn't be as hard for the Aztecs to reach back in their memories for a repeat of past successes.



TRACK AND FIELD

Nicole Carmier doesn't compete in the hurdles, but this season she's had a tall one to leap over.

In recent consecutive weeks, the junior middle-distance runner has come up just short in her attempt to finish the 800-meter run under the NCAA Regionals qualifying time of 2 minutes, 9.80 seconds. She was so close she could smell it.

Carmier finally cleared that hurdle in convincing fashion Saturday, running a time of 2:08.50 at the Oxy Invitational in Los Angeles. It was also the first time in her career she has broken the 2:10 barrier, a psychological problem that had made it much more difficult to qualify.

Before Saturday, Carmier experienced a string of near misses in her quest to qualify. She ran 2:10.40 at the Mt. SAC Relays April 15, 2:10.20 at the Triton Invitational April 23 and 2:10.14 at the Steve Scott Invitational last week. To shatter the 2:10 barrier is a big sigh of relief.

"It was just a matter of her getting the first one under her belt," assistant coach Jennifer Nanista said. "Once you break 2:10, it's easy to execute it again. She wanted so badly to qualify."

After repeatedly failing to execute the proper race, Carmier finally changed her old ways Saturday. She got up to the front of the pack for most of the race, before putting on the after burners down the final 200 meters.

k n e w w h a t s h e needed to do a n d w a s able to go out there a n d

"She



there NICOLE CARMIER

finally execute it," Nanista said.

Carmier wasn't the only one to break a barrier over the weekend, as a few other Aztecs set personal-best marks. Sophomore Lisa Naucler ran 2:10.32 in the 800, while sophomore Nicole Rothert improved her personal record to 2:19.89. Sophomore Alison Baker dropped 10 seconds off her personal-best in the 1,500 with a time of 4:52.23, and sophomore Sarah Cates finished with a personalbest 18:36.80 in the 5,000.

BASEBALL

Once again nine innings were not enough for the San Diego State baseball team. In its fourth extrainning contest in its past five outings, SDSU defeated Utah 11-8 Sunday afternoon at Franklin Covey Field in Salt Lake City to complete the three-game sweep.

With the win, SDSU is now 21-28 overall and 15-9 in the Mountain West Conference.

In a game that saw five lead changes, it was freshman Grant Desme's twoout, two-run double in the 10th inning that gave the Aztecs the win. SDSU

wasted no time in getting some runs on the eboard early, as it scored five times



GRANT DESME

on just three hits in the opening frame. The big blow of the first inning was a three-run homer off the bat of junior Curt Mendoza. It was Mendoza's second home run of the weekend and his fifth of the season.

After Utah (17-28, 9-15) took the lead, the Aztecs took it right back in the fifth inning thanks to a two-run double from sophomore Lance Zawadzki that scored sophomore Brock Ungricht and senior Jake McLintock.

Junior James Guerrero, who tripled in the game, was one of five Aztecs to have a multi-hit game. Zawadzki, McLintock and Mendoza each had two hits on the afternoon, while sophomore Quintin Berry had three hits.

Starting pitcher junior Ben Coon had a bit of a tough outing, going three and two-thirds innings and allowing five earned runs on six hits.

SDSU's bullpen, however, had a stellar performance. Freshman Joel Matthews threw three and a third innings, giving up just one earned run on four hits. Junior Will Miller finished the game throwing three shutout innings.

SDSU returns home tonight to square off against No. 22 USC. Game time is set for 7 p.m. tonight at Tony Gwynn Stadium.

—Compiled by Assistant Sports Editor Simon Samano and Senior Staff Writer Tim Miguel



Jessica Swartz / Assistant Photo Editor

Junior Celena Velasquez served as a starter and closer vs. the Rams.

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- 16 Attack verbally
- 17 Hasten
- 18 Stravinsky or Sikorsky
- 19 Ultimatum
- alternative 20 Invigorate
- 22 Two squared 23 Required
- 24 Pseudonyms 28 Passion
- 29 Go wrong 30 Special delivery
- bird 31 Alphabet units
- 34 No sweat 35 Perform
- 38 Enunciation 40 Driving gadget 41 Gorcey and
- McKern 43 Peeped 45 Bread ingredient
- 47 Election victors 48 Jerry and Mae 52 Skilled in many
- ways 54 Point the finger
- at 55 Hollow tooth
- 56 Lowered oneself 57 Deli meat
- 60 Minute particle 61 Sch. grp.

- 62 Intl. assistance grp. for kids 63 Solitary 64 D-Day craft 65 Dinestroom
- lunchroom 66 Washstand item 67 Wide shoe width
- DOWN
- Greek goddess of wisdom
- 2 Black eye
- Trembled in fear

- 3 Pared 36 Prison quarters 37 Implement
- 5 Carried on 6 Stratford's river Recent arrival 42 Outermost
- 7 For each
- 22 Alternatives to www.thedailyaztec.com. bridges 24 Feign 25 Castle protector 26 Scottish

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Score of zero 12 Golfer Ernie

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- 53 Bring together
- 56 Pack away compactly

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- 57 Instigate litigation
- 58 Santa _ winds

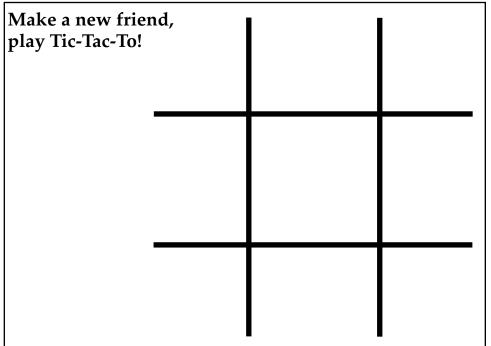
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Looking for a great job beginning Fall 2005? Interview now for a position as an Elementary After School Program Leader in DASH (sports and recreation) or STRETCH (literacy-based). Must have minimum of 60 units of college and 2 years related work experience. Applications and job descriptions available at www.chulavistaca.gov.

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continued on page 11

AZTEC REGREATION CENTER

DAILY HOROSCOPE • Tuesday, May 10th

By Linda C. Black **Tribune Media Services**

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (05-10-05). You're too busy, yet you do such a good job, you'll also be making big bucks. You'll beat out the competition, and gain popularity along

with wealth. To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)-Today is a 6-The more you learn, the more you see how important you can be in making the world better place. Don't be a bystander. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)-Today is a

6-You do good work, and by all

rights you should get top dollar. If you don't where you are now, it's a good time to go to where you can. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21)-Today is a 7-You're getting a secret boost from a person who understands you completely. Trust your friend and

be confident. You're getting cuter,

CANCER (June 22-July 22)-Today is a 7-Paperwork you've been avoiding \(\triangle{1} \) is demanding more attention. Somebody important needs this, soon. Stop procrastinating

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)-Today is a 6-The pressure is easing, and there'll be more time for meetings and consultations. Define the problem and soon you'll see the obvious way to solve it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)-Today is a 7-Creative work pays very well for the next couple of days. If you have a project in mind, suggest it to a curious benefactor. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)-Today is a

7-You'd like to get out of your rut for a while, but there's too much work to b done. Shoot for tomorrow instead; the odds are better

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)-Today is a 7-You've been working for the taxman, and for the family. Now, put a little away for yourself. It'll improve your temperament. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)-Today

is a 7-You're not sure whom to ask

to do a delicate task. Ask for rec-

ommendations from loved ones and get the perfect person. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)-Today is an 8-There will be setbacks and new information requiring changes in plans. Knowing this ahead of time, you won't be dismayed when it happens.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)-Today is a 6-Continue to fix up your place, so you can entertain your favorite people. What you need is a place where conversation flows easily. This, you can do.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)-Today is a 7-You'll soon have the opportunity to use what you've learned at home. Don't be nervous; it's OK if you're not perfect yet.

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2 bedroom, 1 bathroom \$875/mo. Garage \$50/Deposit \$500. Close to bus line, shopping & entertainment. Minutes to SDSU. Call 619-265-8090.

2BD/2BA, bright & airy. 5540 Lindo Paseo. 1/2block to campus, underground parking included. 619-255-7234, ask about move-in special.

3BD 2 1/2 BA Townhouse Casa de Alvarado. Pool, Jacuzzi, Fireplace, Parking. Available June 15. \$1000 Deposit. \$1600/MO Call 619-533-2449

3Bd. 2.5 Bth. LARGE TOWNHOUSE, near SDSU 1,450 sq. ft. Amenities. Parking. \$1800. Avail August. 619-287-7110.

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3BR/2.5Ba Condo. W/D, Fridge, near SDSU. \$1650. 619-718-9909

4 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse. Near SDSU. Garage, pool, tennis. Available June 1. \$2300/month. 858-573-2963.

4bd/2ba Large house. Walk to SDSU. 2 car garage. Available August. \$2500mo. 619-287-7110.

5/BR 3/BA remodeled home for rent. 5 Blocks from SDSU. 2 Master BR/BA. \$2750/mo. Or \$650/room. 6114 Madeline St. Available 5/1. 619-985-9739.

6BR/3BA Home. 1 Block from Campus on quiet street. Plenty of off street parking. New paint, new carpet. \$3000/mo. Available 6/15. 619-583-8993

9BD House for rent. Great for sorority or sports team, totally remodeled, big-screen included. No Neighbors. 4-block walk to campus. 619-961-6316

Close to college. 1800 sq.ft. condo. 3bed/2.5 bath. 2 car garage. Available June. \$2,700/mo. 714-731-1423.

GREAT 6BD/2BA HOUSE. 2 MIN WALK FROM CAMPUS NEW CARPET AND TILE. FIREPLACE, NICE LIVING ROOM, AND POOL!!. HUGE ROOMS! AMPLE PARKING AVAILABLE JUNE 1! CALL 619-504-8200.

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One's \$850-870, Two's \$1275, pool, laundry. http://corinthianapartments.net, Warren 619-286-0441. Near College, Shopping, Public Transportation.

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1 room in 7 bedroom house. One block from campus. \$640+1/7 of utilities. Available 7/15. 619-757-3410.

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Female Roomate Wanted. In 2Bd/1Ba \$445/mo +1/2utilities. No pets. Near SDSU Available 6/1. 619-583-2762. Large room with own bathroom/ walkin clos-

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HELP WANTED

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HELP WANTED

The Daily Aztec is looking for Account Executives for Fall 2005 and beyond. Are you a motivated self-starter? Do you want to get real-world working experience in the advertising industry? Do you like making your own paycheck? If you answered "YES" to the questions above, then we want to hear from you. Call Lindsey at (619) 594-6818 for more information and/or to schedule an interview.

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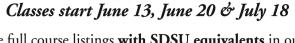
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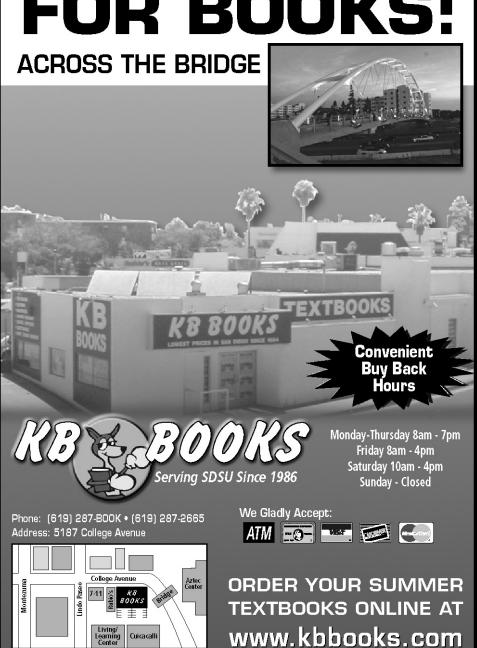


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