

The View

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

CSU Chancellor White retiring

VYCTORYATHOMAS-VANZANT

This summer, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, who has held his position since 2012, will be retiring early this summer.

As chancellor, White has been “responsible for the overall management of the CSU, as well as for the operations of the Office of the Chancellor,” explained Public Affairs Manager Hazel Kelly through email. “The chancellor works in a collaborative manner with campus administrations and faculty to ensure the excellence of the instructional program, and to ensure that the educational opportunities provided meet the changing needs of the people of California.”

In his eight years working with The CSU System, Chancellor White has had a number of accomplishments. “When White was appointed, state support in the CSU had declined by nearly \$1 billion. Since that time, the university’s general fund allocation has (actually) increased from \$2.3 billion to \$3.6 billion,” wrote Kelly.

Part of the legacy that White will be passing on to the next chancellor includes working to address academic preparation, enrollment, student engagement, and student well-being. He also helped raise CSU graduation rates and reduce gaps in opportunity and achievement. As a result of his efforts thus far, system-wide graduation and retention rates have increased exponentially.

While there is not yet anyone in line to take Chancellor White’s position, the CSU Board of Trustees are actively searching for candidates. They hope to announce the new chancellor this spring. The office of the chancellor is aiming to have transition period between Chancellor White retiring and the successor who will take his place.

“We are hopeful that his legacy will live on as the CSU continues to grow and evolve to meet the needs of California,” wrote Kelly. “The Board of Trustees will select a new chancellor who will continue the spirit of collaborative leadership and shared governance with each CSU campus.”

CI goes to Sacramento

SERGIO MERCADO



From left to right: Alviana Johnson, Director of External Affairs for Student Government; Aurora Rugerio, freshman ESRM major; Taylor Curtis, senior political science major; Elyza Baltazar, senior political science and computer science major; Sophie Nguyen, junior sociology major; Sara Ruiz, President of Student Government and Evelyn Espinoza, junior sociology major. Photo Courtesy of SarinaDasha Galindo.



With the presidential elections coming this November, now is as important a time as any to become involved in your government. You may already know how to participate in government through voting, but there is yet another vital way to make sure politicians hear about what is important to you: lobbying. From March 7 to March 9, CI’s Student Government will be sending seven students to Sacramento as part of their Lobby Corps program to gain first-hand experience at this essential facet of policy making.

Lobbying may be a relatively unfamiliar concept to many students.

Oftentimes, mention of the word makes people think of large corporations and interest groups stuffing the pockets of representatives to bend them to their will. In reality, lobbying is a necessary step to democracy. In its base form, lobbying is seeking to persuade or influence politicians or public officials, such as senators or representatives.

Members of Congress are meant to represent their constituents, and lobbying allows them to hear first-hand what their constituents want.

Sometimes members have to choose between opposing views, and that’s where lobbying is most important. Without lobbying, senators and representatives would not know their constituents’ views and concerns about policy. Proper lobbying from both sides on different issues allows members of Congress to properly deliberate and make the best decisions on matters that affect their constituents.

At least, that’s how it works in theory. As it is, there is a large asymmetry in the lobbying process. Currently, large corporations

and interest groups do the most lobbying on the national level. That is where Lobby Corps comes in. Lobby Corps is a subset of Student Government at CI, dedicated to bringing student voices to the state capital and teaching students the skills necessary to participate in local and state government.

The students in Lobby Corps are not all political science majors, nor do they all intend on pursuing careers as politicians. Instead, the students are united by a desire to bring the voice of CI to the capitol. Members of Lobby Corps will be attending workshops to learn how

to properly communicate with politicians as well as having face-to-face meetings with members of Congress and their staffers. Alviana Johnson, senior communication major and director of external affairs for student government at CI said, “Everybody will bring their own strengths when they go to this conference.”

While in Sacramento, the students of Lobby Corps will be taking part in the California Higher Education Student Summit, an annual event organized by the California State Student Association. Students from all CSU campuses will have the opportunity to meet and discuss

the issues their campuses face before lobbying their representatives. “Everything you do there, even when you’re meeting other student leaders from the CSUs, is a great learning experience,” said Johnson. “Without me being in Lobby Corps, I wouldn’t have the confidence I have now being a student advocate and being a student leader on our campus.”

This year, the students of CSUs, UCs and California Community Colleges will focus on the Fix Financial Aid campaign. “This is the

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This is the first time that we three, as different organizations, have come together to lobby for the same initiative.

- Sara Ruiz, Student Government president

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What you need to know about the coronavirus

ANDREW DORAN

The beginning of the new decade has been plagued with a new super virus, COVID-19, also known as the coronavirus. With over 84,000 cases reported as of Feb. 28, this fast-spreading virus is causing panic among citizens and government officials.

According to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), this new virus is believed to have started in Wuhan City, China, a city just over 500 miles west of Shanghai, China. It started to spread during the month of December, but due to China's strict policy on secrecy, the disease did not make waves on an international level until the middle of January.

The primary cause of infection is human-to-human transmission, which generally occurs from infected individuals when they sneeze, cough or exhale. The virus has an incubation period of generally between two and 14 days, with a mean of three days, although cases have been reported with as long as 24 days of incubation.

The coronavirus has caused concern among world leaders due to its ease of being passed from person to person as well as there currently being no cure for the disease. If someone comes down with the virus, it will feel like a massive cold with flu-like symptoms. But, according to the CDC,

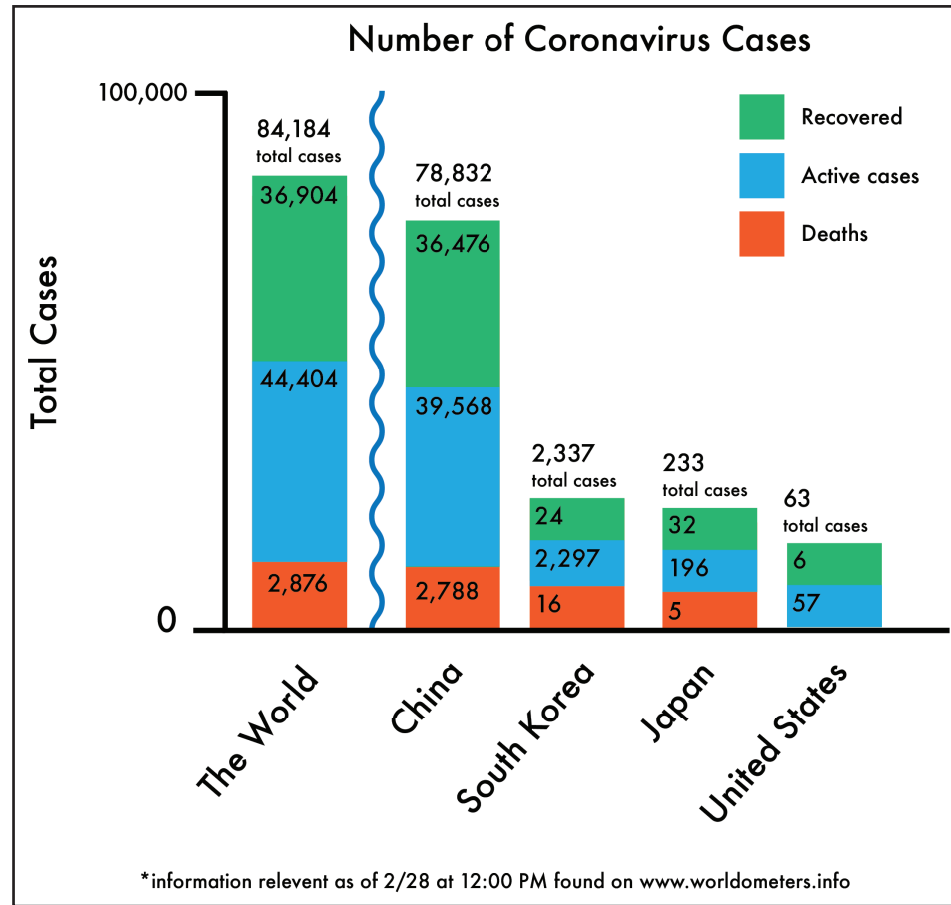
the coronavirus can be deadly because it can get into people's major organs and shut them down. While only approximately 3.4%

of people are dying from the coronavirus, it is still a massive issue that is making leaders question their next steps.

There have been confirmed cases of the coronavirus in California, however none have been confirmed in Ventura County. If there was a confirmed case in Ventura County, Michael Gravagne, CI's Director of Campus Recreation and Student Wellness, writes that CI would notify students right away. "CSUCI has comprehensive planning in place specifically for communicable diseases that have concise protocols in accordance with the CDC and Public Health that would go into effect when applicable."

According to Gravagne, CI will be continuously monitoring the virus and the wellbeing of the community. "In Ventura County, as in counties across the US, the threat to the general public for contracting the coronavirus remains low, but common-sense precautions should be followed to prevent the spread of all infectious diseases," wrote Gravagne.

These common-sense precautions include always washing your hands with soap and water, avoiding touching your face with unwashed hands, avoiding hanging out with people who are sick and, if you do become sick, staying home in order to stop spreading the illness around.



Perspective is key to love not hate

ANNIE KUZMANOVIC

On Feb. 18, the Student Programming Board gave CI students the opportunity to attend "Love Not Hate" in the Student Union Dining Room. The event featured a motivational speech by Roderick Sewell Jackson, the first bilateral above-the-knee amputee to finish the Ironman World Championship on prosthetic legs.

Sewell Jackson began by telling audience members about the circumstances surrounding the loss of half of his legs. He was born without a tibia, the large bone in the calf, in both his legs. The doctors gave his then-single mother a choice: to amputate his legs above the knee or to leave him in need of a wheelchair for the rest of his life. She made the difficult decision to amputate when he was one and a half years old. She then filed for unemployment because her insurance wouldn't cover prosthetic legs for him. Being unemployed would ensure that her son received prosthetic legs.

Sewell Jackson then shared his lifelong experience in sports, his specialty being swimming. "When I tell people that I swim, they think I'm making it up or I'm joking," he said. "There's a stereotype that black people don't swim, and a black person swimming with no legs just sounds made up, apparently. So when I tell people that that's my sport, this is what I do, their instant thought is, 'You're lying, you can't be telling the truth.'"

Despite the discouragement, Sewell Jackson did have a rich source of inspiration. Alluding to the Dahomey Amazons, an all-female warrior regiment that existed in the time of the Dahomey kingdom (present-day Republic of Benin), Sewell Jackson

said that the strong black women in his life were the reasons he always kept going. "My mom ... she didn't have the support or the will to keep pushing me," he said. "And (she was) going through her own issues, going through her own depression, going through not knowing what is next for her son, but still giving me everything that I need."

His celebratory moments in his athletic career do not belong to him alone. "(Finishing the race) is the moment for me, yes, but I like to think about it from my mom's point of view," said Sewell Jackson. "She had no idea. Every choice she made, she didn't know what was going to come of it ... Because of her, because of her support, I have learned to appreciate myself."

Sewell Jackson's speech encouraged students to be motivated by love and not hate. While the hate was difficult to ignore, Sewell Jackson maintained his focus on his passion for the sport and his love for the people in his life who gave him the support he needed to accomplish incredible things.

One main transformational takeaway Sewell Jackson has had in his career is the importance of perspective. "One thing that people always say to me is, 'It could be worse.' ... Of course it could be worse; but that's not to say that my situation is bad ... The amount of people that think I should have taken my own life just because of the way I live is phenomenal. But that's where perspective comes into play ... If you want to be more than you are now, what are you going to do about it?"

CI goes to Sacramento

SERGIO MERCADO

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first time that we three, as different organizations, have come together to lobby for the same initiative," said Sara Ruiz, senior political science and theater major and president of student government. "It's something that affects all of us, the Cal Grant system. Even like the UCs, CSUs and community colleges all get the Cal Grant so it's kind of like this one unifying thing."

The Fix Financial Aid campaign is a movement for reform for the Cal Grant system. Issues such as calculations based on only tuition and barriers for students are some targets of change. As it is, the amount Cal Grant awards is based solely on the price of tuition. Fix Financial Aid intends to change this "so it reflects total cost of attendance," Ruiz explained. "So it takes into account things like cost of living (and) things like cost of transportation." On top of all of this, Fix Financial Aid hopes to make Cal Grant more accessible to all students. This includes students who have been out of school for some time.

Financial aid is an issue most students can relate to. Every student has their own unique experience paying for college, and that is exactly what our legislators need to know. "The legislators and staffers want to hear your stories and how it's affected you" Ruiz said.

The students of Lobby Corps will be the voice of CI in the capitol. Issues specific not only to college as a whole, but CI specifically will be heard. As a Hispanic-serving institution, CI includes populations of students that are often marginalized in the legislative process. "CSUCI lives close to communities like Oxnard that are very underrepresented, low-income families," said junior sociology major and Lobby Corps member, Evelyn Espinoza. "That's why it's so important to have community members such as yourself and I to be present and share our voice because that's really where the power is."

While applications for the 2020 Lobby Corps are closed, you can still lobby for matters important to you. Learn who your representatives are and find interest groups that advocate issues you care about. "Those people make decisions that dictate our lives," Espinoza said. "I want to bring my story and my community's story, so they understand that these bills are important. They mean something, and they will help out a community even if they do not see it."

Officer Kushigemachi hopes to create an impact

NAOMI SANTANA

While CI has many empowering women on campus, one of the newest, Officer Jenna Kushigemachi, is now able to add her name to the list. “There have been two (female police officers) in the past that I know of, but within the last few years, we have not had a female officer since the last one left,” said Kushigemachi.

Before Kushigemachi started her career as a police officer, she got her associate degree in art at Ventura College. After finishing there, she transferred to CI to get her bachelor’s degree in art with an emphasis in digital media. She later added a minor in political science. While Kushigemachi was a student at CI, she was the only student chosen to represent the University at the Panetta Institute for Public Policy, held at CSU Monterey Bay.

During this internship, she had the opportunity to work on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. for three months. After completing her internship there, Kushigemachi decided to add a minor in political science to her degree. “I spent an entire semester studying political science with that internship, so I only needed two more classes to make a minor,” said Kushigemachi.

Once she graduated from CI in the spring of 2017, she began to ponder what she wanted to do with her life. The Panetta internship created a turning point for Kushigemachi because it helped her discover that she wanted to do something related to public service. “I wanted to do something that gave me a little bit of a bigger purpose, where I was helping people (and) I wasn’t just working a job or a career for myself. I have always had a passion for law enforcement, I just never thought of doing it,” she stated.

Through her job search, she encountered a few advertisements for police officer jobs and decided to fill out some applications. Kushigemachi worked at the Oxnard Police Department, but after working there for some time, she realized that it was not the right fit for her.

“At that point, Channel Islands was hiring police officers and I thought that it would be a great fit because I grew up here in Camarillo, I was a student here, I always loved it here and it is just so beautiful,” she said.

Kushigemachi was hired to work for the CI Police Department in May 2019. She felt excited about coming back because she could reminisce about her student days, but at the same time, she knew that it wasn’t going to be the same because she was coming back to fill a different role. “Interacting with the students is different because I am not one of them anymore, but I was excited to come back because coming back felt like home,” said Kushigemachi. She hopes to inspire others through her interactions with students and overall, just be a good role model for everyone on campus.




Officer Jenna Kushigemachi.
Photo courtesy of Tyler Nguyen.

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Fad diets: The advantages and disadvantages

COURTNEY DOUCETTE

Whether it be on billboards, a sponsored post on social media, or a magazine spread, trending diets are demanding the general public's attention. These diets can range from avoiding carbs to skipping a full meal, and today many people are taking part in them. Here are just a few popular diet fads that seem to be all the rage right now.

The Keto Diet

According to Everyday Health, this is a low-carb, high-fat and moderate-protein-intake diet. When the body experiences this decrease of carbs, it goes into a metabolic state called ketosis. This causes the body to become highly active in burning fat for energy. This diet can also help decrease blood sugar and insulin levels and, of course, weight loss. Some other benefits include better sleep, a more positive mood and an increase in energy. Most commonly, people lose up to ten pounds on this diet in the first few weeks.

A drawback of this diet is that it can lead to high cholesterol and an increased risk of heart disease. Small studies suggest that muscle loss can occur during this diet. This happens because proteins do help build muscle, but is not as effective as carbs.

The Alkaline Diet

This diet is based on the idea that replacing acid-forming foods with alkaline foods can improve your health, according to Healthline. When the body burns calories, the burn of those calories turn into "ash", also known as metabolic ash. This metabolic ash can either be alkaline, acidic or neutral. The acidic ash is thought to make the body more prone to sickness and disease whereas alkaline ash is defensive of this. Meat, poultry, dairy, fish, alcohol and grains are a few examples of acidic foods. Alkaline foods include vegetables, nuts, fruits and legumes. The advantages of this diet can include building a better immune system, an increase in energy and the ability to fight cancer.

On the downside, there are claims that the positive effects of the diet are not backed by a variety of reliable scientific evidence. Acid is essential to the building blocks of life, and limiting the body from meats, eggs and grains can decrease health, a fact that is also supported by Healthline.

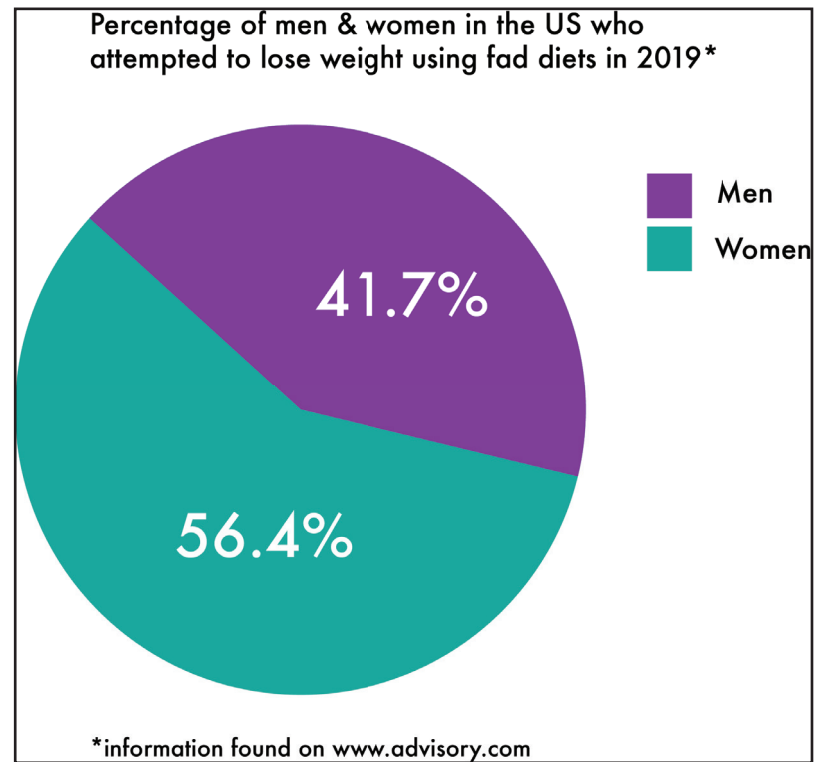
Intermittent Fasting

According to the Diet Doctor, intermittent fasting is skipping a meal each day and changing which meal that person skips. This diet may be popular now, but out of the trending diets, it is one that has been around the longest.

The good thing that comes along with this diet is that it causes excessive weight loss and helps treat Type 2 diabetes. Additionally, this diet can improve concentration and a healthier blood cholesterol profile. Lastly, it can be time and cost effective.

The downside to this diet is the increase in hunger, constipation and headaches during the first few times of fasting. Other side effects may include dizziness, muscle cramps and heartburn. To help the stomach with pain, mineral water is said to be a good resolution. The most serious but less common side effect of this diet is refeeding syndrome. This is a metabolic disturbance that occurs when a person is badly malnourished or starved.

Although this diet may seem easy and beneficial, it isn't for everyone. Those who are pregnant, are breastfeeding, have eating disorders or are under the age of 18 should not take part in this diet, unless told otherwise by a professional.



Trending diets are not always objectively beneficial because everyone's body is different. One person may be able to handle not eating carbs while another person may get sick from the decrease in carbs. Before jumping into a diet, research the pros and cons, and make sure to look at what type of people have had success with this diet so that you know it is right for your body. Also, students should meet with their doctor or health professional before they start a new diet in order to go over health concerns.



GRAD FEST

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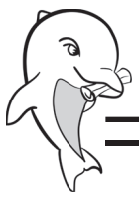
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Growing under the spotlight

ELISE BECHTEL



CI alum AJ Herrera and friends Gage Burgi and Liam Cochrane play at Open Mic night in fall 2019.

Photo courtesy of Andreyra Martinez.

If students are looking to join a club that celebrates drama and theatre, the CI Performing Arts Club is one that will assuage their interest.

“It was founded in 2017 as an open mic club and is still known for their Open Mic Nights,” wrote Andreyra Martinez, the club’s president, in an email. Since then it has expanded into the Performing Arts Club, and Open Mic Night has evolved into Evenings of Expression, a regular club event for students to hold performances.

Everyone is welcome to participate and get on stage regardless of their major. The club is a place for students to feel comfortable and try something new at the same time. Martinez explained that they have “built an environment and community of very supportive people, so we hope to make it a little less scary for first-time performers and make them feel safe and confident.”

Along with Evenings of Expression, the club hosts Musical Theatre Nights. They gather to watch musical theatre movies such as “Rocky Horror Picture Show” and “RENT”. The club also hosted a Dance Night last semester where members taught their peers original choreography.

“The club is a place for students to feel comfortable and try something new at the same time.”

When asked what her favorite part of the CI Performing Arts Club is, Martinez wrote that she is able to regularly take part in something she is passionate about. She also gets to find genuine, like-minded people who share the same interests.

There are some exciting changes that might be in the club’s future. Martinez wrote that they “are wanting to branch out beyond the well-known Evenings of Expression. The club is looking for feedback from students, asking what they would like to see happen and be a part of.”

They will be meeting every other Monday from 6-8 p.m. in the Student Union Dining Room for Evenings of Expression. All are welcome and encouraged to perform music, poetry, the spoken word and more. For more information you can visit their Instagram @ciperformingartsclub.

A winter wonderland graces CI

ELISE BECHTEL

The Student Programming Board held the Winter Wonderland event at South Quad on Thursday, Feb. 6. This event was open to all students and the general public. As classes came to an end, students began to gather for the event.

There were many activities that students could participate in, one of these activities being ice skating! A portable rink was brought to the campus and set up on the basketball court. People let loose with friends and allowed themselves to just enjoy having fun.

The main attraction for the event, however, was the field of snow. Since Southern California does not get snow often, it was a treat for everyone to play in it. Children brought sleds and groups of people threw the snow in the air and at each other.

A train wound about the perimeter of the event and could be seen carrying people throughout the night. Everyone from young children to older adults could be seen enjoying the relaxing trip around the quad.

The rock-climbing wall and trampolines were also very popular. People raced their friends to the top of the rock wall

and had fun flipping on the trampolines. Tyler Ratzlaff, sophomore studio art major, expressed their appreciation for the event. “At the beginning of the semester it is good that we are able to relax and forget about the worries of schoolwork.”

Next to the rock wall was a giant, inflatable slide. Throughout the night, people could be seen returning to it to have another go, because who can say no to a giant slide? This was clearly one of the most revisited locations of the night.

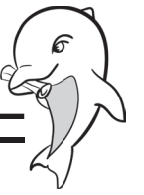
Along the side of the quad was a tent for the silent disco. Everyone wore headphones and danced to whatever music they found most enjoyable. There were heating lamps and chairs to sit in when you got tired or just wanted to sit and talk with friends.

The Winter Wonderland event was all around enjoyable and fun to experience. This was a special treat that was well appreciated by both students and guests, and it will be remembered for quite a while.



Students enjoying the field of snow at Winter Wonderland. From left to right: Maryanne Quispe, freshman early childhood studies major; Debbie, junior psychology major; Daomary Rodriguez, junior global studies and Spanish major; Trang Le, junior health science major; Derrick Vargas, junior organizational communication major and Lyric Ellis, junior art major.

Photo courtesy of SarinaDasha Galindo.



Enriching CI with traditional Mexican folk dance

ELISE BECHTEL



Practicing in South Quad. From left to right: Adriana Díaz, freshman sociology major; Monivas Rivas, advisor; Sahira Aguilar, junior chemistry major; Betty Ortiz, advisor; Luz Martínez, junior biology major and Lesly Arcelia Amaya, junior health science major. Photo courtesy of CI Ballet Folklórico Club.

Ballet Folklórico is a recently reestablished club here at CI that celebrates diversity and Mexican culture through traditional folk dances.

Before the creation of the new Ballet Folklórico Club, there was another club that went by a very similar name, Ballet Folklórico de CI. It began when CI alumna, Betty Ortiz, had the idea. Ortiz wanted to spread Mexican culture and heritage by means of Mexico's rich traditional folk dances. The club strives to raise awareness and interest in both ballet folklórico and Mexican cultural heritage through performances, instruction, workshops and other educational activities.

"This club has been reestablished at CI and continues to grow," wrote Sahira Aguilar, the club's president. Ballet Folklórico is open to all students whether they have experience in it or not.

In the spring of 2017, Ballet Folklórico was cancelled due to many of the officers and members graduating. It was not too long after this that student leaders stepped up to bring

back Ballet Folklórico. Over the years, the club has been very active and popular, performing at several events at CI, such as Noche de Familia and Día de los Muertos, in addition to dance competitions in the area.

When asked what the best part of Ballet Folklórico is, Aguilar wrote that "it's the people she meets along the way. Every member has a different path that they are following and are all at different stages."

Aguilar also said that the unity formed between all the members is amazing. "To me, Folklórico is a beautiful diverse club, and I welcome everyone to join the Familia."

Ballet Folklórico meets every Monday from noon to 1:30 p.m. and Friday at 3 p.m. Both meetings will take place at South Quad basketball court. For more information, you can find them on Instagram @ciballetfolklórico.

An elegy for the American political system

ROBERT MCDONALD

There are few moments in a generation where the future will be dependent upon the decisions we make in the next few months. Anxiety, fear and anger permeate through our society like a dagger hanging above the necks of your future. This dagger is a man who would become king, a man who calls himself the chief law enforcement officer and commander in chief of our armed forces. He is a man who can commit a crime without consequence, a man with no oversight, who hails from a party that was once a believer in small responsible government but is now capitulating its very principles to a man who is the antithesis of their basic beliefs.

This party sees disagreement as a cause to throw you out. Congressman Justin Amash, representing the 3rd district of Michigan, is a man whose conservative principles are unquestionable. But he was exiled due to disagreeing with the president. Senator Mitt Romney of Utah,

was no longer allowed to speak at the Conservative Political Action Conference, because he voted for what was best for the country. Rather than applauding his patriotism, Republicans openly call for the party to throw the former Republican

nominee for president out of the party. These acts and examples are Stalinism, loyalty to President Donald J. Trump who has become the party, and any opposition needs to be purged.

President Trump is purging anyone who stood up to him in defense of our Constitution when they testified in Congress.

I write this as a plea to Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians, Green Partiers and most importantly to the individual who reads this.

Look around. See what is going on in the world, your country, your state and your

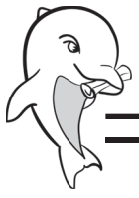
community. We are bleeding out. Apathy is becoming a norm due to exhaustion from a man who does not care about your wellbeing. He only cares about his power. You have the ability to change the world, to care, to fight for your country in the way our founders envisioned: the voting booth.

Stop caring about the (D) or (R) behind someone's name and realize that your country is falling into an abyss that it may not recover from because you thought there was nothing you could do.

Democracy gives the voter, you, a unique opportunity. The ability to vote, to volunteer for a campaign and to run for office. On Tuesday, March 3, the Democratic Party will get closer to picking its nominee. Although I do not agree with Bernie Sanders, if he is chosen, I will vote for him. Voting for what is best for the country is more important than party, power or my personal beliefs, and I urge you to do the same.

As John Adams once said, "Democracy... while it lasts, is more bloody than either aristocracy or monarchy. Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There is never a democracy that did not commit suicide."

“ You have the ability to change the world, to care, to fight for your country in the way our founders envisioned: the voting booth. ”



TikTok: Trendy or terrible?

ANDREYA MARTINEZ

Baby boomers and old people in general would like you to believe that anything that gives millennials and later generations joy is somehow “ruining society”, and if you can believe it, TikTok has not escaped that scrutiny.

ByteDance, based in Beijing, China, is the company that developed TikTok. In 2017, they invested \$1 billion into acquiring musical.ly, the app’s predecessor. Since then, TikTok has gained massive traction, not only absorbing the teen-based musical.ly audience, but growing a base of millennial users as well and taking the social media world by storm. The topic has been found by mainstream media and is currently being criticized.

Before the acquisition, musical.ly’s user base was “predominantly females between the ages of 13-24 years old,” according to Mediakix, an influencer marketing agency founded in 2011. ByteDance took musical.ly’s approximate 60 million active monthly users and has grown that audience to 500 million active monthly users. That surpasses those of Reddit, Twitter and Snapchat, according to Datareportal.

So, to what do we owe this success? I think it all comes down to the obvious right place and right time. One of the things that it seems people are concerned with is the information and data that is garnered from the users (i.e. age, location, etc.), and ByteDance’s ties with the Chinese government and how that information is used.

“All you have to do is watch, engage with what you like, skip what you don’t,” reads the Apple App Store description, “and you’ll find an endless stream of short videos that feel personalized just for you.” In short, the algorithm tailors what you automatically see on the home screen, or the #foryoupage and gives you similar content so you scroll longer. Personally, I am guilty of spending many hours scrolling just because my feed is never dry.

The TikTok algorithm finds trends in your age, demographic and likes to tailor the experience to you, which is all well and good when you want to spend three straight hours enjoying sometimes mindless content; but aside from the user experience, where is the information going and how is it used?

On one hand, the issue of national privacy and the utilization of user data has been coming into question. “U.S. lawmakers have been calling in recent weeks for a national security probe into TikTok,” read an article by CNBC. “(They are) concerned the Chinese company may be censoring politically sensitive content and raising questions about how it stores personal data.”

Rep. Jim Banks, R-Ind., and other members of Congress, believe Americans should be immediately concerned with this issue, calling on the Committee on Foreign Investment to investigate its potential threat to national security.

On the other hand, censorship has come into question as well. ByteDance and TikTok have been found guilty of censorship in the past. In November 2019, there was a scandal in which TikTok banned 17-year-old Feroza Aziz from her account after she posted

a criticism of the Chinese government’s treatment of the Uighur ethnic minority disguised as a make-up video. TikTok went on to claim that the censorship was due to another video she uploaded where an image of Osama Bin Laden was used as a comedic take on the type of guy she used to find attractive (mostly white men) and how her tastes have evolved (men of middle eastern descent). The video in question was clearly a joke and seems like an excuse to justify the censorship.

Before that incident, however, TikTok had released its first transparency report. According to Business Insider, “China made zero censorship or information requests in the first half of 2019, while the US made 85.”

On one hand, I love living in America and being able to say whatever I want and not worry about the consequences. I can run through Central Mall with a fecal-flinging chimpanzee on my back and yell, “This monkey could run a better country than Trump,” and not get shot down or arrested for what I was saying, and that is truly what makes America great; but let us not forget all the shady things that are digitally going on in this country as well.

I think the difference between the boomers and Karens (Generation X) and the younger generations (millennials and Generation Z) is that although we all value our rights and privileges, we have a very different outlook of the world. In my opinion and through my own observation, boomers and Karen’s are too quick to get upset, file sanctions and go to war. They feel like their rights to privacy and their privilege to verbally assault a barista for getting their order wrong are going to be somehow stripped because China is infiltrating us through our phones.

There is a clear generational divide between boomers and Karen’s (Generation X) and millennials and Gen Z (zoomers). Millennials and zoomers are from the age of instant access of information. Anything we want to know is one Google search away. That gives us an edge up when learning about things and forming opinions.

On the subject of TikTok, boomers and Karen’s don’t understand our infatuation with it because it is something unknown, and unknown things are scary. Aside from their resentment of the younger generations’ choices and priorities, the culture shift from their generation to this one is a huge change that I don’t think they know how to deal with.

I feel that millennials and zoomers are less likely to care. They are likely to be more informed about something they use daily, know the risks, consider the consequences and say, “Who cares? We have known the government is tracking our information anyway,” and scroll TikTok while making a meme about the FBI agent watching us through our laptop camera.

I don’t think China stealing my personal information is going to make a big difference on whether or not the US is going to turn into a communist state. It’s not that deep. I just want to watch my funny internet videos and enjoy all the things that make me happy, national security and boomer uproar be damned.

The Nook restaurant review



ANNIE KUZMANOVIC



The Nook located in Newbury Park, California. Photo courtesy of Annie Kuzmanovic.

While the outside of The Nook’s Newbury Park location is quite simple, stepping through its doors takes you to a clean, cozy café type of setting, with many places to sit and an entire wall devoted to a tree mural. To set the mood, great hits from the 1980s to the early 2000s played lightly in the background.

The menu held a plethora of breakfast choices, including creative forms of pancakes, crepes, waffles, French toast and egg-based breakfast meals. Not a breakfast person? The Nook also serves lunch during their daily hours. The menu listed ample alternatives in the form of salads, burgers, sandwiches, wraps and pasta dishes. The beverage menu contained several kinds of coffees and teas, served iced or hot, as well as fruit smoothies, juice and soft drinks.

To get a more complete breakfast experience at The Nook, I ordered the Huevos Rancheros and, for something sweeter, The Razzy Crepe, or crepes with raspberry sauce and cream cheese topped with whipped cream.

The crepes were deliciously tart with the right amount of cream to balance it out. I only wish the cream cheese could have been sweeter and fluffier.

The Huevos Rancheros, or over easy eggs on tortillas topped with cheese, sour cream, ranchero sauce and avocado slices, were cooked perfectly and plated with my preferred side, a generous heap of hash browns. When sliced into, the eggs broke with the most satisfying crunch. The ranchero sauce was perfectly seasoned. It wasn’t too spicy for anyone with sensitive taste buds, however if you prefer more spice, each table is set with three kinds of hot sauces, including Tapatio, Cholula and Tabasco sauce. The hash browns were not at all too salty, nor were they too bland.

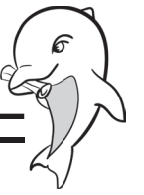
For my beverage, I ordered a cappuccino. It had a little too much foam at the top for my taste, but was otherwise satisfying and served at the perfect temperature.

Overall, it was a lovely dining experience. The service was friendly and mindful to match the quiet morning ambience, while also quick without leaving one feeling rushed. The prices were slightly higher than other chain breakfast diners, but The Nook’s quality of the food far surpassed that of such other restaurants.

If you wish to visit The Nook, note that its weekday hours are from 7 a.m.-3 p.m., while its weekend hours are from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. For additional information about the establishment, visit their website at www.breakfastatthenook.com.



Food ordered at The Nook. Photo courtesy of Annie Kuzmanovic.



Movie Reviews

Parasite

PETRE MOTIU

“Parasite” has been the talk of the town, or world, so to speak, in recent memory. A tragedy, comedy and thriller rolled into one, the film was directed by Bong Joon-ho and co-written with Han Jin-won.

The film, has been lauded internationally by receiving the highest award at the Cannes Film Festival, the Palme d’Or, and it became the first Korean foreign film to win the Best Foreign Language Film award from the Golden Globes. Most impressive of all is that it won four Academy Awards for Best Picture, Original Screenplay, Best Director and International Feature Film in one night. To put the cherry on top, Parasite is the first foreign language film to earn the Best Picture award in the Academy’s 92-year history.

The themes of the film are a smorgasbord of hard-hitting topics, from class conflict to social inequality. The Kim family represents the harsh reality of how difficult it is to live in South Korea, and so the movie speaks to the discourse that is prevalent on making ends meet.

Meanwhile, the Park family have it all when it comes to amenities and opportunity. Both the environs of each family home



“To put the cherry on top, Parasite is the first foreign language film to earn the Best Picture award in the Academy’s 92-year history.

really show the disconnect that they share as well as the demeanor each family member exhibits. Another important example is the Kim family being opportunistic to the point of being scoundrels. At the same time, the Park family have the world at their own feet but come across as myopic in some cases.

This brings me to a few personal gripes that I have with the film and it is, thankfully, only contained within the Park family. The parents of the Park family really come across as more of plot devices rather than characters themselves. I would have a better time believing that they are real people in such a way as being more vigilant in

keeping their own house affairs in order and not being so trusting. At the same time, it seems to reinforce the rich-in-the-wallet-yet-poor-in-the-mind stereotype that the affluent all too easily embody. The Park family parents would not have made it this far without ambition and attentiveness to the responsibilities of their own success.

With that out of the way, this is still an impressive feat of a film. It adheres so close to reality, that the twist seems so logical and inevitable. A refreshing and sobering piece of art that serves as a welcome break to a movie environment dominated by superhero movies.

1917

ROBERT MCDONALD

Inspired by the stories of his grandfather, the director of “1917”, Sam Mendes, tells the story of two young British soldiers as they embark on a dangerous mission during World War I to save the lives of 1,600 British troops.

Roger Deakins, the cinematographer, gives the film the feeling of all scenes happening in one shot. The opening shot begins with the main characters and will not leave their presence till the end of the film. This adds to the tension of each scene, as events happen quickly and don’t allow the audience to break away from the eerie setting of the war.

Dean-Charles Chapman and George MacKay star as Lance Corporal Blake and Lance Corporal Schofield. The chemistry of both young actors effectively conveys the difference between the cynicism of Schofield who survived the battle of the Somme and Blake who has not fought a battle yet. Colin Firth (“The King’s Speech”), Benedict Cumberbatch (“Sherlock”) and

Richard Madden (“Game of Thrones”) play important but brief roles. However, in casting relatively unknown actors as the main stars, Mendes makes the main characters feel less important to the overall war, that they are expendable, which is how soldiers were seen during World War I.

“However, in casting relatively unknown actors as the main stars, Mendes makes the main characters feel less important to the overall war ...

The movie paints the picture of a war with no purpose and no heroes while a generation was left scarred. The hellscape of No Man’s Land was filled with the bodies and limbs from young men killed days, weeks, months or years beforehand. A peaceful French

countryside awaited the two armies that move between them. An ancient town in ruin with the only light being the fires that burned amongst its ruined buildings. A field full of soldiers singing about how they dreamed of seeing their families again, their faces full of hopelessness as the killing fields laid ahead.

This was 1917.

Purpose

The purpose of The CI View is to provide the student body of CI with precise and accurate news about what is happening on their campus and in their community. It is run by students, for students, and provides a platform for the student voice. The CI View aims to be student-centered by giving students opportunities to become involved and learn about the dynamic field of journalism.

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