Drinking, smoking down among CSUS students

Once again, a survey of students at CSUS reveals a campus with much lower alcohol abuse rates and far fewer smokers than at campuses nationwide.

The preliminary findings from a spring survey of 1,400 CSUS students shows 39 percent hadn’t used alcohol in the prior month, compared to 20 percent nationally. Overall, 22 percent of CSUS students said they had never used alcohol and 70 percent had never smoked, compared to 17 percent and 37 percent nationally.

The survey was created by the American College Health Association, and conducted at CSUS by students and staff.

It bolsters findings from last year’s Core Alcohol and Drug Survey, which showed 29 percent of CSUS students had “binged” (drank five drinks at a sitting) in the prior two weeks, compared to 42 percent nationwide. That survey showed CSUS students drink, on average, just half the number of drinks as their counterparts each week. Also in that survey, 67 percent of CSUS students agreed that the campus social atmosphere does not promote alcohol use.

The new survey from spring showed the already low binge drinking rate has declined another 1.3 percent. And 64 percent of CSUS students had never used marijuana, while 85 percent hadn’t used marijuana in the past month.

Another promising finding for campus officials working to promote responsible alcohol use was that 95 percent of CSUS students had used “protective behaviors” — including alternating alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, setting a drink limit, using a designated driver, having a friend tell them when they’ve had enough, tracking how much they drank, drinking one or fewer drinks each hour, avoiding drinking games, and drinking non-alcoholic “look-alikes.”

Details: Student activities at 278-6395 or the University’s alcohol, tobacco and other drug education program at 278-5422.

Recall debate puts campus in spotlight

Plans are still underway for CSUS to host the statewide gubernatorial recall candidate debate on campus Wednesday, Sept. 24.

A recent court ruling has thrown the Oct. 7 election date into limbo and a final decision is pending. Should the election date be moved to March, it is likely that the recall debate on campus would be moved to the spring as well.

At this time, the five top candidates, including Cruz Bustamante and Assembly Speaker Nancy Pelosi, are scheduled to meet face-to-face for a live televised debate in the University Union.

The debate’s events will begin with a series of briefings for students and the media provided by faculty members beginning at 2 p.m. in Library 1. The topics will be:

• Recall 101: A briefing from 2 to 2:45 p.m. that will include
•debates, viewing questions on elections; and what to watch for in the debate.

• Debate Questions 101: A briefing from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m. on the subjects of the debate questions, including the basics of each issue and what to look for in candidate answers.

For the debate, viewing areas will be provided throughout the Union, in the Riverfront Center and in some prescheduled classroom rooms on campus. All campus televisions will be able to receive the live debate through the campus closed circuit system on channels 7 and 11.

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The gubernatorial recall campaign has meant CSUS professors with expertise in California politics and public policy have been in demand by reporters from across the country. Here’s a sampling of where CSUS experts have been quoted:

**July**

TIM HODSON, public policy and administration, was quoted in: a July 22 KCRA Channel 3 story about the process of recalling a governor; a July 29 San Francisco Chronicle article that also appeared in the July 30 Los Angeles Daily News on the impact of Proposition 54 on the recall; and a July 27 Oakland Tribune article on Davis’ potential strategies in a recall election.

JEFFREY LUSTIG, government, was quoted in a July 24 San Jose Mercury News article that also appeared in the July 25 issues of the Contra Costa Times about the long-range impact of the recall election on the political process.

BARBARA O’CONNOR, communication studies, was quoted in: a July 7 Associated Press article that appeared in various newspapers on Davis’ anti-recall tactics; a July 13 San Jose Mercury News article on possible recall scenarios; a July 17 San Francisco Chronicle article on Davis’ response to the recall efforts; a July 25 San Jose Mercury News article profiling Cruz Bustamante; a July 25 Los Angeles Times article on reaction to the recall election certification; a July 26 Los Angeles Times article about public attitudes toward the recall; a July 26 San Diego Union-Tribune article on factors that could influence the recall election; a July 29 Orange County Register article on the odds of Schwarzenegger running in the recall election; and a July 29 San Francisco Chronicle article that also appeared in the Los Angeles Daily News on the impact of Proposition 54 on the recall election.

**August**

TIMODOSON, public policy and administration, was quoted in: an Aug. 4 KJZZ story about how the accounts of recall candidates Huffington and Schwarzenegger might affect the election.

BARBARA O’CONNOR, communication studies, was quoted in: an Aug. 15 Sacramento Bee article on how the accounts of recall candidates Huffington and Schwarzenegger might affect the election.

**September**

KEN DEBOW, government, was quoted in: a Sept. 8 Sacramento Bee article about the recall and college political science classes; and Sept. 16 Sacramento Bee and Fresno Bee articles about the Schwarzenegger candidacy.

TIM HODSON, public policy and administration, was quoted in: a Reuters news service story about Schwarzenegger’s campaign.

What they’ve said:

“Is it an earthquake. But you can’t tell where the boulders will fall.”

Jeff Lustig, government, in the July 28 Contra Costa Times

“This is a rather unique event. We don’t have a roadmap. There are so many variations and options and ifs about this, anybody who says they know exactly the right strategy is lying to you!”

Tim Hodson, public policy and administration, in the July 27 Oakland Tribune

“European accents are more accepted than other accents. If it was a person with a strong Chinese accent or Filipino accent, I think you would get a lot more negative sentiment by the public.”

Timmy Fong, ethnic studies, in an Aug. 15 Sacramento Bee article about Schwarzenegger’s and Huffman’s accents.

“If you’d told me a year ago that Feinstein would be playing such a prominent role in the Davis recall campaign, I would have been very surprised. I didn’t think there was any love lost between them.”

Ted Lascher, public policy and administration, in a Sept. 3 Associated Press story about Sen. Feinstein appearing in an anti-recall ad

“The Schwarzenegger campaign appears to be based on the assumption that they should not allow Mr. Schwarzenegger to talk in anything other than very controlled environments … The idea of this hermetically sealed celebrity in my judgment is not working. If he simply stays behind the bubble of celebrity status, he is going to lose.”

Barbara O’Connor, communications studies, in a Sept. 5 New York Times article about Davis’ chances of heading off a recall election

“‘How can you not teach the recall if you’re into state politics? Things are changing day to day. It’s fun, and it’s making me teach differently.’”

Ken DeBow, government, in the Sept. 8 Sacramento Bee

“This time nobody is going to wait around for eight months for a new governor to produce a full cabinet. The electorate doesn’t sound like they are in the mood for any long-term transition.”


“Should either McClintock or Schwarzenegger prevail, the Democratic leaders are fearful they’ll never get another Democratic bill signed. So, they need to get legislation to the governor’s office.”

John Syer, government, in the Sept. 14 San Jose Mercury News, talking about the recall’s effect on current legislation

“It could not have gone better if his mother were producing the show. I would be surprised if there isn’t a woman who was watching that show who didn’t want to clone Arnold as a husband.”

Barbara O’Connor, communication studies, in the Sept. 10 San Jose Mercury-News, talking about Schwarzenegger’s appearance on Oprah
This week, the eyes of the state and even the nation may be on the University Union Ballroom as the venue for the debate among the leading candidates for the upcoming gubernatorial recall election. While the debate, which is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 24, is keeping the Union staff on their toes, in some ways it’s business as usual for one of the hubs of campus activity.

On any given day during the academic year, the number of visitors to the University Union could fill Arco Arena for a sold-out Kings game. The average school day sees 7,000 students, staff, faculty and others walk through the doors at the Union. Some are looking for a quick meal, a place to study or an ATM machine. Others might be attending a gala dinner, free concert or educational lecture. But all visitors will find the same thing: a place that has something for everyone.

“We try to keep up with what students want,” says Don Taylor, assistant director of operations for the Union. “We have a large student body, and we can’t please all of our customers, but our board of directors and staff as well,” Taylor says.

As would be expected on a college campus, the energy in the Union is contagious. The constant stream of visitors and students gathered at tables, sipping coffee and studying, creates a buzz on the first floor that dissipates only slightly on the second and third floors, where visitors can find quiet study areas, computer labs and TV lounges.

The number of visitors and events held each day at the Union provides a constant challenge for staff. In fact, during a three-day period in the spring, when the Union fed dinner to and entertained more than 1,500 people, a few staff members spent the night at a nearby hotel so they could be available.

Day one included a sit-down dinner for 600 in the University Ballroom to honor local businessman Angelo Tsikous-poulos’ donation of Greek artifacts and books to the CSUS Library. On the same evening students were gathered until nearly midnight in the Union to monitor the results of the ASI elections. Meanwhile, Round Table Pizza was packed with students watching the Kings beat the Jazz to win the second round of the NBA playoffs.

On day two the political satire theater group Capitol Steps staged a sold-out performance for 1,000 people in the University Ballroom. On day three the University Ballroom was once again the setting as then-CSUS President Donald Gerth was hearing after his years of service to the CSI system. The set-up called only for dinner tables for all 900 guests, but a stage and dance floor as well.

In addition to the steady stream of large events that take place at the Union, it’s also a place for student groups to get together to study, have a meeting, or form a club. “Every night of the week from Sunday to Thursday is filled with student groups,” Taylor says.

Union staff is constantly looking at ways to improve services to its visitors, and recently made plans to provide cover for two outside dining patios, giving students more sheltered space to eat, visit with friends, or study for a big exam. In addition, Taylor says that, after 30 years of use, the billboard tables in the game room have been replaced. Leasing changes, although just as important, include a new roof and projector in the movie theater.

As the building changes so have the interests of the stu-
dents, Taylor says. “Students are a lot more serious now than when I started 17 years ago,” he says. He points to a room on the second floor to illustrate his point. According to Taylor, the room served as a “meditation” room in the 1970s, but was converted to a TV lounge in the 1980s. A few years ago, it was turned into a study group room.

And today? It’s a computer room.

**Recall**

*Continued from page 1*

Strategies that appeared across the country: a Sept. 17 San Jose Mercury-News article about Gov. Davis’ standing in the polls, and a Sept. 12 Associated Press piece about legislation being seen as influenced by the recall that appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, Oakland Tribune and others; and a Sept. 14 New York Times article about the difficulties facing a new governor if Davis is recalled; and a Sept. 16 Sacramento Bee story about the court challenge to the recall election.

**TED LASCHER**

Public policy and administration, was quoted in a Sept. 3 Associated Press article about U.S. Sen. Feinstein opposing the recall that appeared in the Providence Journal; a Sept. 6 Tribune article about Davis surviving the recall; a Sept. 2 Associated Press story about unions and the recall that appeared in number of other publications including the Australian, a Sept. 4 Sacramento Bee story about the first recall debate; a Sept. 3 and 5 and 11 New York Times articles about the recall; a Sept. 7 Oakland Tribune article about Davis surviving the recall; a Sept. 14 Associated Press piece about the recall and splits within the GOP that appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, San Jose Mercury-News and others; and Sept. 16 articles in the Arizona Republic, the San Jose Mercury-News and others about Schwarzenegger’s appearance on Oprah.

O’Connor was described as “perched on the summit of California political punditry” in a Sept. 15 San Francisco Chronicle column.

**John Syer,** government, was quoted in a Sept. 4 San Jose Mercury-News article about how the recall is affecting the Legislature. **Bob Warte, public policy and administration, was quoted in a Sept. 14 New York Times article about difficulties facing a new governor if Davis is recalled.**
ongoing
“Treasured Images from Memorable Journeys,” photo exhibit by Jana Shofer, CSUS staff member, 8 a.m. - 9 p.m., Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Friday, University Union, Java Cor. Coffee House. (916) 685-2547. Continues to Sept. 30.
Exhibit, “California Society of Printmakers: Radius Sacramento,” 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, 5 - 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, University Union Gallery. (916) 278-6979. Continues to Sept. 26.
“The Spirit of Contemporary Asian Art,” works by artists from China, Japan and Thailand, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday, University Library Gallery. (916) 278-2368. Continues to Nov. 15.
Photo exhibit, “Home is Everything,” images by Sacramento Bee photojournalist Jose Luis Villegas, National Hispanic Heritage Month, University Library. (916) 278-7241. Continues to Oct. 15.
Art Graduate Students exhibition, works by Sergio Saenz and Richard Haley, noon - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, Else Gallery, Kadema Hall. (916) 278-6166. Continues to Sept. 26.

Debate
Continued from page 1

channels 7 and 11. Students and faculty can also join the government department for a debate viewing session at 6 p.m. in Mariposa 1000, followed by post-debate analysis and open discussion. For more information, call government professor Kimberly Nalder at 278-6695. The televised broadcast begins at 6 p.m. and will be carried on various local stations. However, those attending the debate will need to clear security and be seated before 5:30 p.m. Tickets to the debate have been distributed and are non-transferable. The tickets were divided among the California Broadcasters Association, the campaigns and the University. Most of the University’s tickets were distributed to students. Because of the nature of the event, there will be a high level of security on campus that day. Those attending will have to provide a photo ID and ticket for entrance to the University Ballroom, where the main event will be held. The area surrounding the Ballroom will be closed to the public, but the building will remain open.
In the nearby Redwood Room more than 150 media representatives from around the world are expected. Many will be producing live shots during the day from Serna Plaza. Parking lot 6 will be dedicated to media and satellite trucks all day Wednesday.

Rainforests
Continued from page 1

is the first step.” Brazil is more than 70 percent urban so there is no feeling of isolation here. It is in and of itself transform Brazil, Wright says. But it does address the needs of the poorest of the poor who are mostly rural. “It’s a grassroots model for agrarian reform,” Wright says. “It’s a way to get land and preserve rural life.”
The book tells stories of how people are transformed by the movement. “That’s a process that is very hard to turn backwards,” Wright says. “Some may lose their land, but that won’t turn back the transformation. Education, health and nutrition have vastly improved in the settlements.” Wright says the degree to which the movement succeeds in encouraging people to settle on land that is more suitable for agriculture instead of chopping down the rainforest has the potential to slow environmental degradation. “To the extent that it can reduce the pressure on the Amazon the movement is enormously important environmentally,” he says.
Wright, who earned his doctorate in Brazilian history, came in contact with the movement in the early 1990s. He works with Food First/Institute for Food and Policy Development, which has an initiative on the land reform process supported by the Ford and Kaplan Foundations.
— Laurie Hall