

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

By Molly Hess
A&E Editor



Photos by Melissa Pointer

For most, the holidays are all about working towards perfection, whether it is the perfect gift, the perfect meal or the perfect family gathering. Not to be excluded from this quest is the perfect winter wardrobe. But the question then boils down to what's hot and how much it's going to cost.

Pressed with these questions by the Courier, fashion design and merchandising students created a comprehensive brainstormed packet with the answers. A brief look into emerging winter trends with the versatility to create multiple looks for less. Working with clippings from the latest issue of In-Style Magazine and Internet fashion authorities, 10 students created looks taking the reader from casual to dress formal to an outfit worthy of flaunting New Year's Eve in the club.

According to the students, "This season's trends call for an edgy, flashy look. For both men and women, dark washed jeans are necessary with dark, vivid tops." With black being an ever-popular color of wintertime, fashion merchandising program coordinator Sharon Scalise predicted that black will be growing even more popular still. "Black is one of the best base colors to build on," explained Scalise, "things you'll see are good black clothing and good jeans and denim. Colors are very bright, shades like bright pink and accessories add color to the outfit as well, such as scarves and clutches."

Apart from the laidback appeal of dark washed jeans and simple cardigans, fashion student Mary Amari predicts a surge in popularity of the dress. "Dresses with empress lines, (under the bustline)," wrote Amari in an email to the Courier. "Paired with sleek high

Say goodbye to grandma's reindeer knit wool sweater and those dreadful burgundy corduroys. Despite the plight of an economic landslide, you can still create the bold and sophisticated look of your dreams. "In the midst of our economic recession, fashion has never been so fierce," says college fashion blogger Courtney Ann Luther. "From the latest coats to the hottest shoes, this winter can and will be the moral boost we've been waiting for!" With some helpful hints and trendspotting from our Fashion and Merchandising department, you'll be ready to grace the...

Fashion Trends

- Leather & Sequins
- Chunky jewelry
- Dark & vivid colors

HOLIDAY RUNWAY



Fashion majors Lauren Ware and Eric Collins, 20, model for an impromptu fashion show. In under two days, students of professor Sharon Scalise's merchandising class created three unique looks. Each was functional, elegant and most importantly, affordable with items from Target and TJ Maxx, costing roughly \$40 and under for each outfit.

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Photo by Melissa Pointer

Students battle to find the right answer...

The final ANSWER

By Molly Hess
A&E Editor

"Team Venture" celebrate a correct answer in round one.

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"Who was the first rockstar to be arrested on stage?" "Which book is the most shoplifted?" "Are people who drink coffee less likely to commit suicide than those that don't?" All these puzzlers and more were revealed at the Oasis Trivia Contest Wednesday. Ten teams of four competed for the chance to win up to \$400.

"The contest has been going for a while now," said program board member Joe Kryger. "So the template is already there, with the powerpoint and everything ready to throw together. The most difficult aspect, I would have to say, is advertising. We work really hard on that, getting the word out through flyers, Facebook, Twitter, MySpace and one or two weeks before, we put up a table outside the cafeteria."

Leafing through books and web sites dedicated to random trivia, five rounds of play were assembled. "We just look for silly little questions that will amuse the audience," explained Kryger. "Since we're close to the holiday season, we got a bunch of odd Christmas questions that students might not know. For example, Egg Nog originating in England."

The students becoming equally zealous with both their victories and defeats, the grand prize was awarded to a group christened "Multi-Cultural Diverse Team." "The questions were very entertaining," said group member Alex Ayala. "I was expecting it to be difficult book questions, not things like current trends!"

"The tournament ran better than we imagined," said Kryger. "The first one this year ran beautifully, everything just fell into place and the audience was very cooperative."

When the all-important question of how the team would spend their hard earned money was posed, fellow Multi-Cultural Diverse team member Ivan Gonzalez Gimenez revealed his plan. "It's going to go to tuition, definitely. I'm going to buy more of those overpriced books at the bookstore. It's all going back to COD in a cycle!" To keep up on future Student Activities Program Board events, look for them on Facebook or Twitter.

'Runway' from page 13

heels with ruffles for thin legs and a standard dark heel, no strap for wider ankles to create a longer, lean look."

As for dressier occasions, merchandising students suggested elegance in simplicity. "Our group chose a basic, slim fitting suit for our main outfit, the type of suit we purchase at a H&M or Express," wrote merchandising student Mario Sanchez. "We figured that this would give us the most for our money and be appropriate for most occasions." On the feminine side, the group decided that best look was a classic cut black dress with simply black leather heels for an evening of semi-formal occasion. "This outfit would be quite affordable and suit the occasion perfectly."

Casual is easily adapted to a flashier club look for both men and women: emphasis being on modern silhouettes and fitting for men and

high-waisted skirts and more daring accessories for women.

On the list of where to shop, popular stores such as Express, Forever 21, Bebe and Armani Exchange appeared frequently on the lists. However, for the fashionista on a budget, the students included a list of stores to find designer quality for bargain prices. "T.J. Maxx and Marshall's have name brands for less and Kohl's has its own Vera Wang line (dresses normally priced around \$200 and up for as low as \$35). Forever 21 will keep you in the mix while keeping your money in your wallet...H&M and JC Pennys if you are a first time shopper and are not sure where to go. The employees are knowledgeable about the latest fashion trends!" Adding to the list, Amari recommended the junior department of the local Target and Walmart for those hunting for hot jewelry. "The label may not be popular, but the look and price are a lot more pocket-book pleasing to gals on a budget!"

Muslim Student Association hosts evening of open mic poetry

**By Molly Hess
A&E Editor**

Walking into the Muslim Student Association Poetry Slam last Thursday was truly like walking into a beat café. Tables adorned with floating candles and plates of pita and humus invited the audience to settle in and enjoy readings on every facet of life.

With numerous original compositions, presentations ranged from ar-

dent declarations to comical raps, beatboxing included.

Planning began two to three weeks in advance and began as small talk amongst the guys. "We just started talking about raps and lyrics," said president Umer Siddiqui. "Basically, I enjoy the lyrical part of those songs, and working in a punch line or two, and that's really where the idea came

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Photos by Melissa Pointer

Students perform to "Soul Bossa Nova" by Quincy Jones.

'Flip-Flops' from page 1

from a variety of interests and represented almost every style of dance, featuring everything from the soul stirring longing of "Excerpts from Sea Songs" to the closing thriller-fest homage to Michael Jackson.

Washed in a rich, sinister red light was the hip-hop "acro-dance" of "CarnEvil," choreographed by 23-year-old Psychology major Lisa Della-

Treza. Featuring the talents of seasoned dancers and gymnasts, the number featured complicated walk-overs, flips, and lifts set to Linkin Park's "Cure For The Itch." "I love just everything about hip-hop dancing," commented DellaTerza. "I started doing it when I was 18, and I don't know, it's just something about the passion involved."

"The idea started off as a duet concept," said DellaTerza, "and then came

the idea for a sort of puppet dance, and from there the inspiration of something like Cirque de Soule."

"My favorite part was seeing the dancers really bring out their emotions," reflected Skleba. "The students really brought with them this amazing sort of freshness of movement in rehearsals and the performance. It was amazing to see the emotion and passion they put forth on the stage."

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from." The council worked solidly to get everything from the room reservation to refreshments and décor. "The council really took on the effort as a group," said sisters president Alia Amat. "It was really wonderful to see it all come together so well." "It was really good to hear everyone and what they thought about life," added Siddiqui.

Diligently planning the next idea, the MSA tries to organize an event every month with four so far this year: a barbeque, basketball game and a fast-breaking dinner, to name a few. "We're working to take away this vision people have of Islam from the media," explained Siddiqui.

"We're active parts of the community and we really want to reach out to the campus at large to be involved in MSA events and feel comfortable."

According to Siddiqui and Amat, the next big event in the works will be Islam Awareness Week. "We'll be having a lecture series as well," said Amat. "We're trying to educate the campus on topics that they may find misleading. We are also always looking for suggestions for service projects and volunteer projects from students."

For more information on upcoming events, contact the MSA at dupagemsa@gmail.com.

smART Dates—

Today-Jan. 16
McAninch Arts Center
Gahlberg Gallery
Adjunct Faculty Art Exhibit



Photo by faculty member Russell Phillips

Today-Tomorrow
SRC 1480
4-7 p.m. & 3-7 p.m.
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For questions and comments, contact Carlos Lopez at (630) 942-2598 or vistalopezc@cod.edu.

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SRC 1750
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Oasis Entertainment Series
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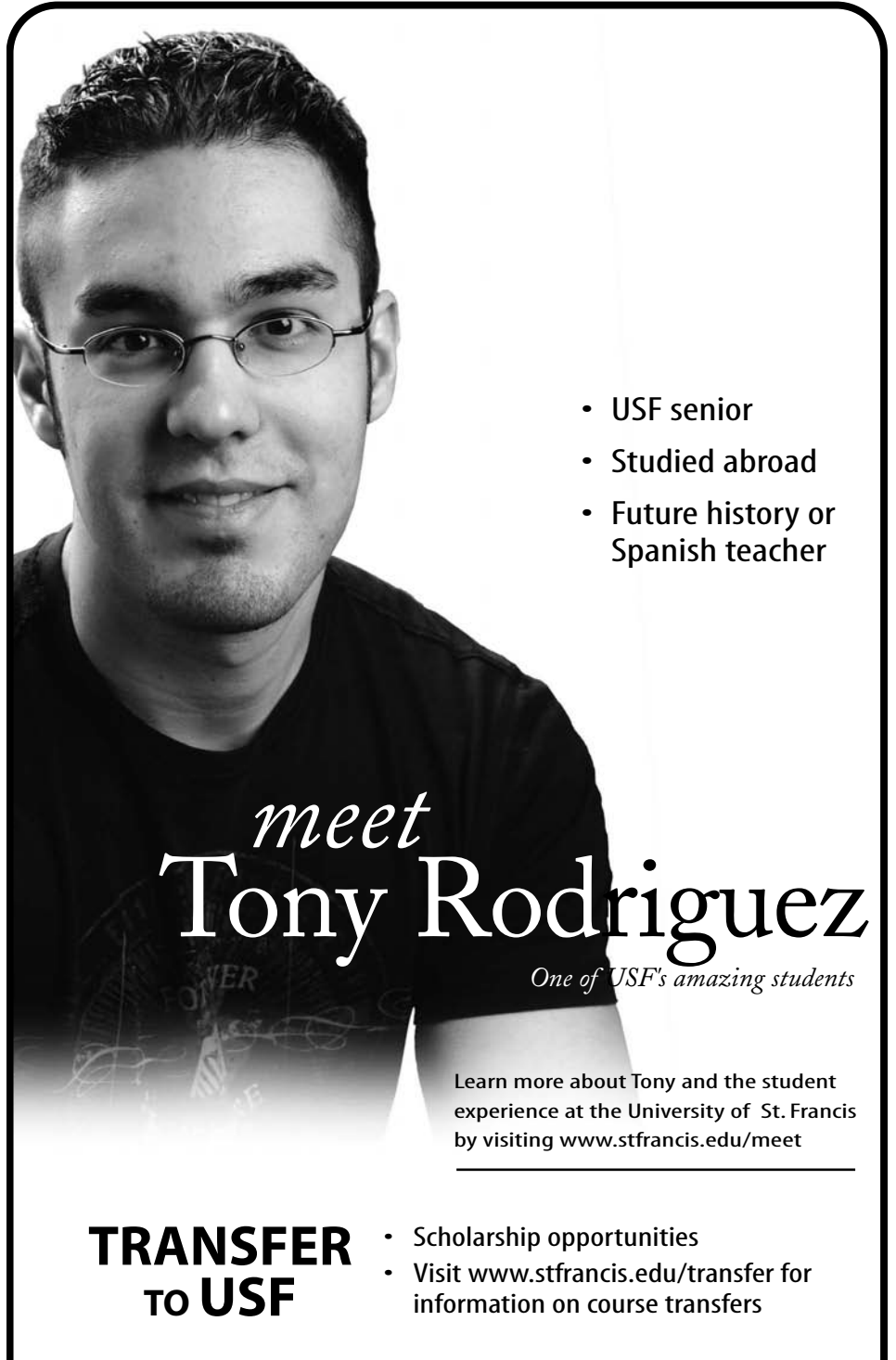
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