

COMMUNITY

An Outbreak of Peace

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SPORTS

CHULA VISTA'S SUPER BOWL STAR

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ICE leaves South Bay in the cold



SEEKING INFORMATION— A number of students told the governing board that the college needs to share ICE strategies with students.

Hyper-aggressive activity at local K-12 schools has region's Latino college students on edge

BY ARIANNA ANTILLON

ICE has not yet set foot on any of the four Southwestern College academic campuses, but its aggressive activities at other South Bay schools has the community on edge, according to students and staff. Its Otay Mesa Detention Center is one of the largest and most populated in the nation. It is visible from three SWC campuses and a short drive to each.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel dressed in military combat gear have arrested parents in the streets bordering two Chula Vista elementary schools. In both cases children were left behind. ICE also set up a roadblock alongside Bonita Vista Middle School on Otay Lakes Road—less than a mile from Southwestern—but made no arrests.

Messages from campus officials

indicate that they have met with ICE and border patrol representatives and asked them to stay off Southwestern College campuses in Chula Vista, San Ysidro, Otay Mesa and National City. Campus Police Chief Marco Bareno said the college is trying to be proactive.

“Our department maintains established lines of communication with regional and federal law enforcement

ICE / PG 2



THE ICE MAN COMETH—ICE personnel moved protestors away from the Otay Detention Center as Homeland Security Director Kristi Noem approached. JOSH WHITEHEAD / THE SWC SUN PHOTOS

Campus security report indicates college is safe

New chief is first in years to complete Clery Report

BY CHRISTIAN ARCE

When Campus Police Chief Marco Bareno issued the 2025 Annual Security Report few people seemed to notice. It was a fairly routine summary that indicated Southwestern College had few serious crimes to report and was a safe campus.

What is unique is that the report was issued at all. Southwestern College law enforcement officials – prior to the arrival of Bareno – had repeatedly failed to compile the federally mandated report or issued reports that failed to report violent crimes and sexual assaults.

Under the federal Jeanne Clery Act publicly funded colleges and universities

are required to issue transparent, honest summaries of criminal activity on their campuses. Signed in 1990 by President George H. W. Bush, the legislation was named for Jeannie Clery, a 19-year-old Lehigh University student who was raped and murdered on her campus in 1986. Her parents won a seminal lawsuit against the university for not truthfully reporting criminal activity on the campus.

Southwestern College crime reports from 2014 until the hiring of Bareno in September 2023 were either incomplete or intentionally misleading, according to student testimony and corroborating documents from the

SECURITY / PG 3



YANELLI ZAVINA ROBLES / THE SWC SUN

Rats follow pied piper to new locale in the music area

BY JOSH WHITEHEAD

Southwestern College's wandering rats have appeared in the television studio and theater. Now they have been spotted in the recording studio and music rehearsal rooms.

Students and faculty confirmed reports that rats have moved into Southwestern's highly-regarded recording arts building. A facility that has hosted superstar Stevie Wonder, South African

human rights legend Miriam Makeba, Beyonce, the Ramones, San Diego Music Award recipient (and SWC alum) Jessie Lark, Kamau Kenyatta and Brandy Melville recording artist Ella Aldridge is the fourth known campus building to battle rats.

Nakul Tiruvilumala, assistant professor of commercial music, has worked in the recording studio for four years. He said he has

RATS / PG 3



THE MIGHTY HAS FALLEN

Campus work crews began removing the name Cesar Chavez from buildings and signs the same day news of sexual abuse by the UFW icon broke in the New York Times. SWC President Dr. Mark Sanchez said he would form an ad hoc committee to consider a new name for the student services building. JOSH WHITEHEAD / THE SWC SUN

Chavez name removed across campus

Student services building will be renamed after sexual abuse revelations

BY ARIANNA ANTILLON

As a Latino legend fell from grace, all signs of the once-venerated Cesar Chavez literally fell to the ground at Southwestern College.

Just hours after a devastating New York Times investigation reported shocking sexual misconduct allegations against the revered farm workers rights leader, college crews scrambled to remove Chavez's name from the Student Services Building, the center-of-campus edifice that houses admissions, counseling, financial aid and other essential student-related departments. By morning, the letters that once spelled out pride and achievement for American Latinos were piled unceremoniously on the ground like a pile of dusty *basura*, piled with crowbars from their place of honor gracing the entrance.

Chavez's name was also hastily deleted from an annual scholarship breakfast and taped over on campus maps. Within 24 hours all evidence of the man held up for generations as an American icon had essentially vanished.

College President Dr. Mark Sanchez, a one-time admirer of Chavez, was quick to condemn him as allegations of rape by union co-founder Dolores Huerta and sexual abuse of minors came to light following an exhaus-

SIGNAGE / PG 3



DOLORES HUERTA