

Pretzel Logic

Unplugged & Uncensored

Student Body President, Vice President, et al. allegedly Censure Fellow Student

I am shocked and awed by the success of this column in creating a stunning vitriolic backlash from various factions. **Pretzel Logic** has succeeded in its mission to unveil corruption and expose nefarious conspiracies right here in our innocent and idyllic little campus.

In early April I submitted the latest installment of Pretzel Logic for editorial review, the response:

Pretzel Boy —

"Pretzel logic was amazing! However, I need to cut out the part about the Maximus Awards. I've got a lot of people breathing down my neck right now (the entire division of student affairs) and I think that they may come to blows if I run the Maximus stuff. I think it's totally hilarious and perfect, but I just can't run it." Please begin with "Many of you may have noticed..."

- The Editor, Channel Islands View

Now then, why should a segment of a satirical, 'tongue in cheek' opinion piece bring the staff of student affairs "to blows?"

...undeterred, I immediately withdrew the installment and chose to self publish and distribute an '**Unplugged & Uncensored Guerilla Edition**.'

Shortly after printing and distributing small stacks of the new **Guerilla Edition of Pretzel Logic** at convenient locations throughout campus... I returned to the Art Department, my first stop... and...

Dramatic pause...

There... huddled around a stack of the **Guerilla Edition** were the four members of the toga-clad Maximus nomination distribution committee, a group which included, most notably, **Becca Glazier, President and Sarah Toner, Vice President...** they were aghast, visibly disturbed as they read **the thinly veiled satirical rant of your favorite pretzilian hominid...**

Chattering in hushed tones they quickly departed the building with an air of **indignant determination...**

A short time later...Curious to see how the stocks of my previously distributed missive were holding up I took a walk around to my previous stops...

Lo and Behold! All of the copies of Pretzel logic Unplugged had vanished?

In a weak moment of self congratulatory megalomania I briefly entertained the notion that word of mouth had led my massive fan base to scoop up every available copy... !?!...

Unfortunately, I snapped back into reality and realized/imagined those same **toga-clad Little Ceasars spiriting through the halls scooping up the damning evidence of their misguided agenda and destroying them before they infected the general student population.**

Undeterred I printed another batch and restocked... these disappeared as well... this **Print—Stock—Destroy cycle** continued for a week before time and resource constraints forced me to cease my campaign.

I was stunned... amused... and angry... simultaneously. The thought that empowered fellow students felt justified in censoring a vocal constituent and fellow student for offering an alternative viewpoint seemed inherently heinous. I began to reflect on previous acts of Administrative Censure most notably **Stalin, The Third Reich, The Nixon Administration, The Bush Administration...**

Our seemingly innocent, quiet little campus has become a breeding ground for ethical and moral desensitizing, a training ground for oppressive manipulation and corruption... a finishing school for entering the real world of misguided political leadership...

Don't worry it gets worse... but first some history...

Shortly after the ASB elections last year... the Student Government proposed a Student Fee which was pitched as a method to provide events and services beneficial to the student body at large. The ballot initiative passed and the semester ended. The following semester another initiative was submitted to determine the amount per student for the fee, another vote and \$62.00 was added to each student's annual fees.

Conflict of Interest?

Over the winter break a board convened, staffed by members of the student government, administrative advisors and 'neutral' appointed student representatives... this panel determined the allocation of the student fee appropriations... In this meeting... meetings? **The panel decided that the Student Government President and Vice President would receive financial compensation for their services.**

To clarify, a panel which included the President and VP. decided to pay themselves... ?

Conflict of Interest? Also sitting on the panel a member of The Student Programming Board... This cozy little group, a panel which included members of both the Student Government and the SPB allocated their own budgets and in the case of The Student Government conferred themselves salaries. This happened in closed door sessions **during winter break, i.e. while the student population was markedly absent and subsequently no public disclosure was ever offered —**

I publicly and herein call for the prominent posting of the aforementioned budget in the lobby of the Bell Tower immediately — if you have nothing to hide, come clean.

But don't worry as promised it gets worse...

Let's revisit the Maximus Awards... these awards were the brainchild of this same cozy little group... They conceived the idea, publicized the event, solicited nominations, assembled and convened yet another group to select finalists and winners and finally, last Thursday night had the actual ceremony **...and...**

Dramatic Pause...

Becca Glazier, President and Sarah Toner, Vice President became the first students awarded the honorary title of **Maximus...** which I believe includes yet another **cash component**, yes dear readers, also requisitioned from the coffers of the student fee.

Masters of Pretzilian Logic

Congratulations to the members of The Student Government, you're education is complete! You are well prepared to enter real world politics, your machinations would hold up against any of the greats. I wish you well in your future endeavors and hereby convey upon you the **First Annual Honorary Tide, Masters of Pretzilian Logic— for your amoral and unethical behaviour.**

Unfortunately there will be no fancy trophies or cash awards as I spent my last dime on copies.

Farewell,

**Pretzel Boy
Graduating Senior**

Disclaimer: The facts herein are generally believed to be accurate though specific details i.e. exact timing, participants, logistics, etc. may vary slightly from reality but I stand firmly behind the spirit of the piece.

Pretzel Logic

Unplugged and Uncensored

Gluteus Maximus

I recently became aware that by inadvertently omitting a byline in my first installment of **Pretzel Logic** I created something of a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma.' I'm tickled... how appropriate that the writer of this incendiary column should be an unknown anonymous enigma. I was and am still hoping that perhaps someone in a fit of brilliance nominated **Pretzel Boy** for the upcoming **Maximus Award**. Then perhaps there could be a grand unveiling akin to that of the other great **Maximus... Maximus Desimus Meridius**:

Comodus:
Why doesn't the hero reveal himself and tell us all your real name? You do have a name?

Maximus:
My name is Gladiator, (turns away)

Comodus:
How dare you show your back to me? Slave! You will remove your helmet and tell me your name.

Maximus:
My name is Maximus Desimus Meridius. Commander of the armies of the North. General of the Felix Legions. Loyal servant to the true Emperor, Marcus Aurelius. Father to a murdered son, husband to a murdered wife. And I will have my vengeance... in this life or the next.

For those that are sleeping through the 21st century, the above passage is from Ridley Scott's *Gladiator*, one of the truly great films of the modern era, which illustrates perhaps the only appropriate use for the name **Maximus**, other than its more common usage: *to denote the human posterior*. I question our **Student Government's** choice of this novel title for their

upcoming merit awards... **are** the recipients to be considered **modern academic gladiators** battling to success? ...perhaps it is an elaborate senior prank, played out in full public view and we, are indeed, *the Butt of the joke*.

Why name an award **Maximus**? What does it mean? And what significance does the name have to the **Channel Islands Student Body**?

I am also suspicious of the selection process... given the previous fiasco with the mascot name...

Viva Chester!

Once again the candidates are being selected from nominations made by students like you and I... But... who chooses the actual candidates from amongst these nominations... is it... ? ...as it should be, a process whereby the nominees receiving the most nominations make the ballot **or** are the ballot candidates selected by **the Student Government and their advisors** using some arbitrary, self serving criteria, as was the case with the mascot nickname.

Why should we care? **Because it S O U R m o n e y** that's being awarded as cash prizes, trophies, plaques, etc. ... **remember the student fee?** Which was pitched on the basis of supporting the following "the fitness center, intramural sports, clubs and organizations, tutoring, childcare, campus safety, events, activities, concerts, student government, and commencement."

I wonder where the Maximus award fits in? ...and... ?...

Is this the most appropriate use of the Student Fee?

Speaking of The Student Government...

Many of you may have noticed that our student government recently published and distributed a rather attractive, well laid-out newsletter highlighting their activities. Though I commend their initiative, I question their motivation. Why would the student government ignore, "**The Voice of The CSUCI Student Body**," and choose instead to publish an independent offering? Is it that they do not want to be associated with **The Channel Islands View**?

By choosing to publish their own, independent newsletter they are perhaps hinting that they are above being associated with the student population as a whole and are opposed to submitting their important transmissions to editorial review.

I did notice a glaring omission in their initial offerings; nowhere within the pages of their newsletter did they offer a rebuttal to the charges that they were complicit in the sandbagging of the **rightful mascot name: Chester!** They have yet to offer any explanation, perhaps hoping that it will be swept under the carpet through ignorance.

Not on My Watch!

Pretzel Boy and S.E.M A.N.T.I.C. (Student Electorate for a Mascot Alias/Nickname that at least tries To make Implicit sense Campaign) **will never stop pursuing absolution!**

Speaking of Mascots...

It is my understanding that the initial selection of the **Dolphin** as the Mascot for CSUCI, was chosen not by Channel Islands students but by the Northridge students attending Channel Islands before the first purely Channel Islands students even arrived, i.e. we inherited the dolphin. Now if we were some

cutesy local Junior or senior high school the dolphin might be appropriate, but we're college students! Maybe it was payback, a cruel legacy bestowed upon the incoming students of Channel Islands by the soon to be exiled Northridge students? (CSUCI will cease to be an annexation of the CSUN credential program after next year).

We need a mascot that reflects our unique independence and differentiates us from all others! Considering our unique name, i.e. **CSU Channel Islands**, perhaps a mascot which is equally unique might be appropriate. Some suggestions:

The Pygmy Woolly Mammoths

Fossils of dwarf Elephants — known as the Exiled Mammoth, Mammuthus Exilis have been found on San Miguel, Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa Islands. Descendants of the larger Indian Elephants (ironically), *Elephas Maximus*, no I'm not kidding! They are believed to have swum the 4.5 nautical miles to the islands, become stranded and evolved into a unique species. Or maybe,

The Sea Cucumbers or The Island Foxes or The Brittle Stars...

but not, the dolphins...

and definitely not tsunami...

Chester:

The Pygmy Woolly Mammoth,

Now that would be something to be proud of!

Until next time,

Pretzel Boy

Faithfully in search of the truth... and remember, I'm watching!

REJECTED By The View!?