Feds crack down on California pot dispensaries

By VERONICA NATAL
Staff Writer

The federal Government is targeting some of California’s medical marijuana dispensaries by claiming that some operations are “frons for illegal drug dealing,” which does not comply with state law, according to USA Today.

USA Today states that federal prosecutors at the news conference revealed they would crack down on the commercial marijuana industry would, particularly by athletic schools, fields, and parks.

Mrozek, public affairs officer at the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

According to CDCA’s Oct. 7 press release, a lot of the places targeted in this district have been because local officials have been coming to the U.S. Attorney’s Office asking for help.

The press release goes on to share a story of how a store under investigation had “23 and half pounds of marijuana,” and two 16-year-old boys were also targeted in this district.

Continued on Pg. 4

Immigrant “Dreams” approved

By LENA TORRES
Staff Writer

The California Dream Act has officially passed.

Governor Jerry Brown has signed AB-131, the second part of the California Dream Act, officially making the bill a law.

The first part of the bill was signed earlier this year in July.

The Act makes illegal immigrants “eligible to apply for and participate in all financial aid programs administered by the State of California to the full extent permitted by federal law,” according to the bill itself.

Beginning next July, illegal immigrants will be eligible for state scholarships and financial aid, if they meet certain qualifications.

California is the third state to pass the legislation following New Mexico and Texas.

This legislation gives hope and opportunity to immigrants in California, looking to expand their education.

Brown said he believes it is a way to help immigrants give back to a country that has given them so much.

“Going to college is a dream that promises intellectual excitement and creative thinking. The Dream Act benefits us all by giving top students a chance to improve their lives and the lives of all of us,” said Brown in a press release.

For immigrants to be eligible for state funding under the Dream Act they must meet certain qualifications.

They must have entered the United States prior to age 16, have lived in the United States for five consecutive years prior to the enactment of the bill; must have graduated high school or obtained a GED as well as be accepted to a college/university or some type of institution of higher education.

The requirements also include that the individual must be between the ages of 12-35 and be of good moral character.

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Education at CSUSB top-ranked

By STEPHANIE BARRERA
Staff Writer

CSUSB is ranked as one of the best schools in the nation, according to the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) and is ranked in the top four percent nationally out of hundreds of participating schools.

CLA tested students in their freshman year, and then again when they were seniors to see if their scores have improved.

As a national nonprofit organization, CLA was created by the Council of Aid to Education, and it states on their web site that the approach focuses on the faculty as central actors. They think of it as a more authentic approach used toward the improvement of teaching and learning in higher education.

The assessment consists of three components which are sections on critical thinking, learning in higher education, and the improvement of teaching and learning for colleges.

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Local Catalytic converter theft strikes CSUSB

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Parolees helping the community

Late nights preferred at Pfau

Working man to marathon man

CSUSB Out Fest

Coming Out Day

Outlet Music

Soccer siblings lead the pack

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Scan this code with your mobile device to visit our site. Download the free app Scan Life for the iPhone, Android & Blackberry to get reading.
Catalytic converter theft strikes campus

By MONICA GALLEGOS
Staff Writer

As catalytic converter theft rises in the state, the crime is also affecting students in the CSUSB parking lots.

Arnold Briseno, a CSUSB student, parked his ‘94 Toyota 4Runner in front of University Hall on Sept. 20 and returned to find his catalytic converter had been stolen.

“I came to go to work at 4 p.m. and got back to my car at 8 p.m., turned on my car and something sounded bad,” said Briseno. “Luckily I had AAA so I was able to get a tow truck home, but the part had to be replaced.”

A catalytic converter changes the smog-filled emissions from the automobile’s engine in to cleaner emissions. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, all cars manufactured after 1975 are required to have a catalytic converter.

A catalytic converter can contain expensive metals such as platinum, palladium and rhodium, and that makes it a valuable piece to sell illegally.

According to Briseno, he was just another victim of a common crime that has been drastically increasing in recent years.

“The AAA guy told me that people will literally go to parking lots to steal these (catalytic converters) and they most likely target late model Toyotas,” said Briseno, adding, “They use drill bits to take out the part and then sell it for a good price.”

Right after the incident, Briseno reported the theft to campus police, but they were unable to do much because of blocked cameras.

“Campus police tried their best. They couldn’t do much,” said Briseno.

According to Ron Profeta, director of parking services at CSUSB, he says that anytime someone parks their car, it is at risk for having items stolen.

“In any public area: malls, stores, schools, there is that risk,” said Profeta.

“We do have that advantage of having police on campus, but unfortunately it hasn’t worked,” continued Profeta.

Profeta explained that it is not the first time he has heard of a catalytic converter being stolen, but he hasn’t heard of it occurring in the campus parking lot.

“It’s a well sought out item because of what’s in it. I’ve had it taken myself before in front of my house,” said Profeta.

“If you have a lifted car it is easy to steal and costs over $500 to replace,” he continued.

Parking services encourages students with lifted cars and late model Toyotas to be aware of the crime and make sure their cars are secured.

However, for students like Briseno, parking out in front of University Hall isn’t worth the risk again.

“I’m just going to park in the structure from now on, and hopefully it won’t happen again,” said Briseno.

Dream becomes law in California

Continued from Pg. 1

Current law also requires Cal Grant recipients to have a GPA of 2.0 according to csac.ca.gov.

California students have mixed opinions in regards to the passing of the bill.

Some believe our state simply cannot afford it at this time.

“I don’t feel our state budget is in the condition to issue out more financial aid,” said UCR student Stephanie Ike.

“I am a natural born citizen who is struggling with my college financial aid,” said UCR student Maury Dudley.

However, according to the California Department of Finance, there are only about 2,500 students who will qualify for Cal Grants.

The cost is about $14.5 million.

The annual budget of the Cal Grant program is at 1.4 billion.

The new cost will make up about 1 percent of the annual budget.

Others say they support the act as long as the state is capable of providing the extra funding.

“I think it is great that other will have opportunities previously not offered,” said CSUSB student Maury Dudley.

“I don’t know where the extra money will come from, but if the state can work it out, I’m all for it,” Dudley continued.

Some students support the legislation but believe there should be stricter qualifications in order to receive the state funding provided by the law.

“The Dream Act has good intentions, however there should be a stricter GPA requirement in order to receive state funding,” said CSUF student Mark Villanueva.
Your new gardener may be a recent parolee who is an aspiring entrepreneur, thanks to a local city employment agency.

The Water Efficient Landscape, Entrepreneurial Skills and Soft Skills program (WELESS), is a program similar to the Day Reporting Center (DRC) reported in last week’s edition of the Chronicle.

WELESS, administrated by the San Bernardino Employment and Training Agency (SBETA), is a program designed to assist parolees with reintegrating back into the community as well as to teach them how to start a business.

“We looked at it as a training program,” said Patrick Larkin, executive director of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens. “This program is classroom based, hands-on learning out in the field about various plants that are water efficient,” Larkin continued.

“One of the outcomes that we want from the program is for each and every participant to come out with a business plan,” said Nicole Kinney, director of the Inland Empire Women’s Business Center (IEWBC). “We want them to leave here with something,” Kinney continued.

Mayra Garcia, a participant and trainee in the program, said that she wants to own a business that produces gift baskets.

“If one plan doesn’t work out, another one most likely will. This program is going to help me better myself, and that’s why I joined,” said Garcia.

Edward Blackman, another trainee and participant in the WELESS program, explained that he was in a similar program aimed at the same goal of entrepreneurship.

“When you’re on parole it’s like there’s a black cloud over your shoulder,” said Blackman. “Luckily I already had a business plan, but this program is going to help me make sure that I pursue it.”

Blackman also said he wants to pursue a business in water irrigation, efficiency, and landscaping.

Aaron Daniels, a participant of the DRC, also said that he would like to pursue water efficiency as a business.

Daniels explained that he was not aware of the fact that landscaping possessed so many different avenues of work. He further explained that he never thought water efficiency and preservation were such problems until he joined the WELESS program which sparked his interest in the subject.

Daniels also praised the DRC and said that he is grateful the organization found a program such as this.

“I felt excitement and joy when they told me about the WELESS program,” said Daniels. “I honestly thank God for the DRC and all of their help they have given me,” he said.

The WELESS program is broken down into three stages. These consist of training and instruction in water irrigation and landscaping, training in soft skills which include teaching the trainees business etiquette such as how to dress, speak and be professional in a business setting, explained Kinney.

“At the end of the day we are helping save and preserve water. We are helping the workforce in this field and giving the trainees an opportunity for success,” said Larkin.

SBETA is working in conjunction with CSUSB’s College of Extended Learning and the Water Resource Institute. IEWBC is a grant administered through University Enterprise Corporation’s Sponsored Programs Administration.

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens is located in the city of Claremont.
CSUSB reduces carbon footprint

By KENNY JOHNSON  Staff Writer

CSUSB is on its way to reducing its carbon footprint by 15 percent. The school is one of the first six California campuses to pilot the Green Campus program. The focus of the Green Campus program is to educate the campus community on energy conservation. The program has expanded to include a number of projects with direct measurable savings.

“This is very interesting and also fits within our campus. We are built right by the mountains, we should take advantage of all the resources surrounding us,” said student Kenneth Messely. The school expects to reduce its carbon emissions by 2,000 metric tons. That is the equivalent of having 14,000 cars taken off the road and planting 2.9 million trees. CSUSB recycles more than 60 percent of solid waste.

The Green Campus program has reached 7,071 students, faculty, staff and community members. The students put lighting audits in the campus apartments and installed timers for the video games that are located in the student union. “I don’t know why we have a time limit on the video games, but if its for a good cause I’m all for it,” said CSUSB student Edward Hewitt.

Within the program, there are also a variety of educational events that include mock bills, energy awareness day, Take the Stairs Day, and also training residence hall assistants on energy efficiency and holding focus groups. The actions have resulted in energy audits of the apartments which helped create $2,615 in annual savings. The campus also upgraded its heating and air conditioning controls, with new energy-efficient chillers and a new cooling tower.

Right next door to the police station on campus, a field of solar powered panels captures sunlight to turn into electricity for certain buildings on campus. More solar panels are being added by the Coussoulis Arena next to the parking structure. The future plans for the campus are to include state-of-the-art wirelessly-controlled irrigation systems. These irrigation systems will control water based on weather conditions. CSUSB will also be installing one million watt hours of solar panels to several building rooftops that will increase the amount of renewable power at the school.

With generating its own energy, conserving all of its natural resources, recycling its solid waste and shrinking its carbon footprint, CSUSB is giving its students a good education and a greener future.

Medical marijuana meets its match

Continued from Pg. 1

caught smoking in the store.

Mrozek stressed that it was just one random store. Mrozek explained The Compassionate Use Act in 1996 was passed for ill Californians to obtain marijuana for medical purposes as recommended by a physician that will alleviate pain, and to protect that patient and their caregiver.

“It begs the question: why do these dispensaries need a store front when they are not a patient or a caregiver?” said Mrozek.

“If they (the federal government) just strictly regulate all of us, they’ll know what we’re doing,” said Dewayne “Dewbie” O’Brien, a volunteer at a local medical marijuana dispensary in San Bernardino. O’Brien goes on to say, if innocent dispensaries shut down, it will drastically affect a lot of patients because they rely on them. People will get their medicine whatever way possible, which means even going to the black market. The Cannabis Law Group website mentions how these closures are going to take away safe access and tax revenue.

“I personally don’t agree with smoking marijuana, however those medical marijuana dispensaries do bring in money for our state that really needs it right now, so for that reason I think the dispensaries should stay,” said Lacie Hall, CSUSB student. However, I do think there should be a more strict regulation and distribution of medical marijuana because in high school, my friends could go easily get a medical marijuana card,” Hall continued.

The federal government has said that they are focusing on large-scale owners and growers that are taking in millions. However, falsely claiming that their operations comply with state law, “which does not allow for-profit sales,” reported in the Los Angeles Times.

O’Brien further commented on this report by saying, “If they are doing this 45-day notice just to get rid of those collections that aren’t paying taxes and abusing medical marijuana, I’m fine with those close downs, just not all of us!”

“We have seen an unprecedented expansion of marijuana over the last few years; an explosion of the number of stores and the number of commercial grow operations in California; it has become a medical marijuana industry and it’s all about the money,” said Mrozek.

“Whether it’s the large stores or the smaller stores, they are illegal under federal law.” Mrozek explained that California law does not allow for thousands of marijuana stores.

“It’s hard to believe that many people are sick. Bottom line, it is illegal under federal law,” said Mrozek.

CSUSB ranks in top 4 percent

Continued from Pg. 1

value added in getting an education from CSUSB.

“I have seen a major increase in my critical thinking and writing skills,” said Imanis Aelay, CSUSB student. Aelay, a senior at CSUSB, said that compared to her freshman year in college there has been a definite increase in her skills. “Professors here interact with me making my learning experience more valuable,” said Aelay.

One aspect of her education she enjoys is that most professors at CSUSB interact with their students and value their input in the classroom.

“Not only do they care about their students, (but) professors are very knowledgeable about their field of study, which has a big impact in my learning experience,” said Aelay.

She believes that the reason CSUSB is ranked so high is the faculty on campus.

The CLA strongly believes that “faculties are the ultimate stakeholders in the assessment result.” According to the CLA website, the assessment used on students is to discover the university’s contribution toward the development of their learning. The results of the assessment show how much progress students have made from attending their particular university.

Aelay agrees that the CSUSB faculty has played a major role in developing her learning skills that she has acquired throughout her career on campus.

Furthermore, Aelay said she “feels extremely proud of being a CSUSB coyote and being a part of a university that is ranked nationally in the top four percent.”
Black Greek organizations are losing life

Minorities dominate 70 percent of the student body, yet they do not make up the majority of Greek life on campus. It’s an increasing issue especially for black fraternities and sororities where support is dwindling on campus. The first week of school are considered “Rush Week” for most Greek organizations at CSUSB. As I passed through the outside of the Santos Manuel Student Union, most Greek organizations were trying to recruit, but there were little to no black fraternities and sororities tabling among everyone else. Luckily, I wasn’t alone in my observation. Third-year student Kristina Hall said she was once interested in joining an organization but never found access to membership information.

“It’s kind of hard to get information about them and what they do if they aren’t out,” Hall stated in regards to black sororities on campus. Ten black CSUSB students I polled knew about one or two black fraternities or sororities. They are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs,” Johnson added. “And we carry a greater influence on campus when we work together.”

Greek morale among black students decreases more and more every year due to loss of members and inactivity on the organization’s part. Everyone takes pride of the org they’re in but when it comes to the NPHC, everyone seen the bigger picture,” Johnson said. 

“We need to be collectively stronger as a unit since we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs,” Johnson added. “And we carry a greater influence on campus when we work together.”

I decided to dig deeper to find out what is the underlying reason to the dying black Greek life on this campus.

To put things into perspective, here are some statistics about CSUSB and our Greeks; currently posted on the CSUSB website, black students represent 11 percent of the 17,500 plus students enrolled here. Sadly, only three out of nine organizations under the NPHC have sought and regained endorsement by the Student Leadership and Development Office, and now are recognized on campus. The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is the national council for historically black-founded fraternities and sororities. The council is made up of nine Greek organizations that are recognized on college campuses across the nation.

However, in 2006, it was a much different story. At least seven of the NPHC organizations were present on campus and kept black Greek life thriving.

So I pose the question: Why has the black Greek life become stagnant and almost nonexistent? With a campus as large as CSUSB, and a hefty proportion of black students, it is surprising that there aren’t more NPHC organizations on this campus.

According to Kenneth Mosely of Phi Beta Sigma, the Greek morale among black students decreases more and more every year due to loss of members and inactivity on the organization’s part.

“Everyone takes pride of the org they’re in but when it comes to the NPHC, everyone seen the bigger picture,” Johnson said.

“Everyone takes pride of the org they’re in but when it comes to the NPHC, everyone seen the bigger picture,” Johnson said.

“We need to be collectively stronger as a unit since we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs,” Johnson added. “And we carry a greater influence on campus when we work together.”

Johnson emphasized that seven organizations were chartered on CPP’s campus, that’s much better than ours. But it is mainly due to the general understanding that numbers speak value.

With Latin Greek organizations averaging about 15-20 members, and others like Zeta Tau Alpha averaging about 50, the three NPHC organizations at CSUSB get lost behind the shadows with only about five to ten members a chapter.

So how can black students gain interest in a sorority and fraternity that enhances their culture? More importantly, what is the correct strategy to promote service and strengthen the black student body?

However, I don’t think just being recognized on campus again.

The black community needs to make a statement as minorities on campus, a revival of culture, and it starts with the people who hold that leadership role, the Divine Nine.

By VICKI COLBERT

Staff Writer

Greek morale among black students decreased more every year due to loss of members and inactivity on the organization’s part.
books to achieve success in their courses and constantly are looking for new solutions to help round off textbooks costs, whether it be by renting books, buying them used, or attempting to sell them back. Students have spent on average $807 per college semester on textbooks since 2002-03 according to College Board. Textbook costs depend on more than production, editors and authors. The cost that students see also accounts for the book packaging, binding, labor to ship, fuel costs of shipping, the boxes books get shipped in, all the way down to the course guided CD-ROMs inside the books and even the cellophane wrapping. “Costs would be cheaper,” says CSUSB student Lauren Harris. “You wouldn’t have to worry about turning books in at a deadline, the eBooks would keep the inconvenient truth that illegal immigration controversy.

The federal DREAM Act contains strict eligibility requirements such as the individual must: meet a 5-year residency requirement, have graduated from an institution and keeps trees in forests — not paper. Regardless of who is paying their tuition at the federal government must face the inconvenient truth that illegal immigration controversy.

The federal DREAM Act contains strict eligibility requirements such as the individual must: meet a 5-year residency requirement, have graduated from an institution and allows for a path to permanent residency after two years of military service or two years towards four-year degree have been completed. This bill has bounced around Congress has even had a vote on immigration reform. Depending on how they are employed, undocumented migrants actually do pay taxes through paycheck deductions, there still is a human element to this. Illegal immigration is not black-and-white — it’s complicated. In fact, it is so complicated that not one session of Congress has even had a vote on immigration reform.

When asked of the eTextbook incentive program would be appealing, student Ashley Petit-fere said, “Yes, I would participate. Everyone is on their computers anyway and it’s more cost effective for students.”

The eTextbook incentive program would immensely reduce the carbon footprint left by CSUSB by cutting down consumption of paper goods, reducing emissions of product transportation, and reducing the waste created by product packaging. The incentive to make the transition to digital textbooks gets the most out of the money invested by students in their education and keeps trees in forests — not paper mills. Additionally, CSUSB would reduce overhead cost and theoretically maintain the textbook profit that is funneled back into student programs. Help the system help you, speak to administration and faculty or through your student association to explore a new incentive program that would be able to benefit everyone.

With the wear and tear caused by the economy on our pocketbooks, a college education seems to nearly put salt on the wounds. Students can help themselves significantly reduce their education by switching to digital textbooks. The incentive for student switching from traditional bound textbooks to eco-friendly action by having students participate is the guaranteed cost of text-
Letting your voice be heard

By R. ANTHONY DIAZ
Asst. Features Editor

Most people have always thought of California as one, if not the most liberal state in the United States. The past has proven us otherwise.

On July 24, 2011, the state of New York proudly legalized gay marriage making it the seventh state to give homosexual couples equal rights to wed.

I recently went to the Castro in San Francisco to get a feel first-hand of how the legalization in New York affected Californians (see coyotechronicle.net for exclusive video form the Castro). As I walked the crowded streets many gave an opinion but did not want to be on camera, while others were eager to share their piece of mind with the world.

Javin Stone, a resident now living in California shared his views about growing up in New York. “Even though California is known to be really gay, New York is just as gay if not more. It’s just not as published,” said Stone.

And that it is.

Stone went on to say that there are many liberal cities in the state of New York that dominate the ballots, while California only has major liberal cities and many smaller conservative ones.

As the interviews went on, the responses became more interesting once we found our way down major local streets a mile or so from the Castro.

Not only did I hear everything from funny and vulgar responses, but also heartfelt ones too.

A lesbian couple I had met shared how they had their marriage license was revoked shortly after they had spent thousands of dollars for their much anticipated wedding.

It seems that the majority of people simply still do not understand why it is not legal in California if we are the so-called “Liberal State.”

We may be liberal, but locals claimed that the Mormon church and other religious groups give millions of dollars in private donations each year for campaigns.

CSUSB encourages embracing sexuality

By NORBERTO PEREZ
Staff Writer

Santos Manuel Student Union Pride Center’s focus for October is their Coming Out Series. The week-long event allows for a window of opportunity to come out rather than the single International Coming Out Day that fell on Oct. 11.

But coming out doesn’t necessarily happen in planned events.

Megan Rush, a graduate assistant, who worked the counter at the CSUSB Pride Center helped anybody that came into the Safe Zone. The mission statement aims to respect “lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and interested students and their allies (LGBTQQAI). Allies are the “greater campus community” which include “people of all races, ethnicity, socioeconomic backgrounds, age and religious identity.”

“The coming out process is a very personal experience and is different for every individual,” said Rush, the lead coordinator for the event.

The Pride Center’s series is built to help people who are having trouble coming out and to give them access to resources on and off campus that help with the coming out process.

“The Pride Center is here for all students, whether they are out of the closet or not. The Pride Center tries to provide a safe space for all LGBTQQAI students to be themselves,” said Rush.

The week-long activities started slowly in the SMSU and Pride Center and included games, raffles and good food.

Continued on Pg. 8

Residents usually think that RAs are out there to get them in trouble. They see us almost like cops except without guns,” said Lorena Delgado, RA for building 4. “We are here to help build up a community, create education and fun programs for the residents. We are also here to help them resolve major conflict and preserve a safer area so that residents can live in a peaceful community.”

The misconceptions about RAs are mostly misunderstood.

Residents may or may not be aware of what exactly RAs do and how they can actually benefit from them.

“They [RAs] build community in their halls through decorating, planning events, acknowledge residents, letting them know about the campus, answering their questions, dealing with their complaints/housing requests, checking in and out, resolving conflicts, letting them in when they’re locked out and enforcing policy and safety,” said Jason Kamura, RA of building 6.

Despite the true or false beliefs about RAs, there are still those who consider becoming one. They are concerned about their social life.

“Yes, it can interfere if you are not careful in maintaining an organized schedule and managing your time. You have to take risks and try to think ahead in case you plan to do as an RA will conflict with something that shows up later. I keep a planner, and without that I’m dead. But I love the challenge of trying to balance everything in my life. I think I do it well,” said Kamura.

Being an RA comes with its perks. They receive free room and board along with a $100 quarterly stipend. Taking on the responsibility of an RA is not for everyone.

After speaking with a couple of them, I have found that they usually have a good sense of which students will be good residence assistants.

The main element needed to be an RA is motivation.

“There are a lot of students who have the capabilities but don’t realize that they do, and with a little motivation, their mind can change and give that at...
Stepping into my dreams across the pond
A shared travel journal from abroad

By LINDA TRAN
Loyola Contributor

If you have a hunch about something, figure it out.

It wasn’t until my third day of school that I realized one of the classes I was enrolled in did not transfer credit for my degree back at home.

I was scared and kept convincing myself that it was the right class, but I knew I could not afford to make this mistake while studying abroad.

Now all of that is fixed. Still, it took me awhile and to this day it’s hard to figure out how my classes transfer. I have reached out to my professors and have asked for their help. It is a lot different from the process at home.

As an English minor, I have always had small seminar classes, but here I have two English classes that have over 150 students!

I find the classes, or as they call them “modules,” to be a little more difficult than they are back home.

There are no midterms and since Swansea University follows a semester system, my finals will not take place until January.

I acclimated to having my exams before Christmas break, but in this case I’ll have to study over my holiday vacation.

With the midterms out of the way, I feel like I have to constantly keep track of all of the material and make sure I include it in the study sessions for my final exams.

Knowing that I am a fourth-year college student, introductory classes are now finished and I’m currently stepping into more difficult courses.

I definitely feel like a freshman again because I have been scribbling in my notebook the way I did during my first year of college at CSUSB.

The scenery at Swansea University is beautiful. The classes are very interesting as well and they motivate me to accomplish my work.

Living in a foreign country makes me more alert and attentive, so I am confident that I will stay up to date with my coursework.

Even though it is very important that I understand the material for my classes, one of the greatest perks about studying abroad is travelling.

Aware that the British pound was almost twice as much as the U.S. dollar, I was afraid to spend money.

It was not until a friend told me how much cheaper it is to travel around Europe while living in the same continent that I knew I would not be able to travel around Europe at a price like this from back home.

I go into the travel shop on campus and check e-mails for special offers and so far I have three trips booked for this month and next!

This Saturday I am joining the international students on campus on a day trip to Avebury and Stonehenge!

The following Saturday I have booked a day trip to Bath, which is located in the southwest of England. This will be a really exciting experience for me since I am curious to see how different the English are compared to the Welsh.

For more information come to the Pride Center more visibility, voice and presence.

In November, I will be going on a three-day weekender to Amsterdam! I am thrilled and cannot believe I am going to all of these places.

Working hard to get here is really worth it and I cannot wait to tell you all about Stonehenge and Bath! Until next time.

Residence Assistants tell all

Continued from Pg. 7

I have been writing about how much going to college has changed me. As college goes. You get the opportunity of impacting students and somewhat influencing them on which direction they should go. You learn so much about who you are as an individual and others. It helps you grow leadership skills, communication skills, networking skills and many others as well as gain characteristics you might not even know you had. Another plus is that it looks amazing on a resume,” said Valeria Delgado.

If you’re interested speak to any RA on campus.

Finding comfort on campus

Continued from Pg. 7

old fashioned camaraderie.

By mid-week “Hot bitches, leopard banana hammocks and renegade nipples” were some of the campy notes included in Redlands’ Darcie Rickett’s performance.

The Redlands guitarist, backed by members of Hobo Jazz entertained CSUSB students and guests with their “60s trucker country” inside the Events Center at SMSU.

Events Center at SMSU. Friday’s events included yoga instruction and Frisbee play, typical of another day in the sun for many but for some it was giant step.

Shaina Greensweight, a Pride Center staff member, said “I lost a lot of friends when I came out; I was tired of hiding my affection.”

Greensweight came out when she was 14 with her friends but was 16 when she told her family about her lifestyle, “I knew about their concerns and I had the answers,” she continued.

Greensweight’s family accepted her after concerns about jobs and family were answered. But for some teens it’s not that easy.

“I wasn’t being authentic, I felt like I was being fake,” said Deejay Brown. He felt this way until he came out to his friends and family at the age of 13. Of the Pride Center he said, “We’re lucky to have a place like this. It gives us a chance to be a community, but it improves the community CSUSB needs to give the Pride Center more visibility, voice and presence.”

Some studies disagree with coming out. In some settings the mental health boost from being openly gay or bisexual may not outweigh the harms of social stigma and alienation. Time magazine health journalist Alice Park reported, “It all depends on how supportive the environment is.”

The Pride Center offers a variety of recreational services such as board games, TV, computers, a quiet corner, micro library and kitchen.

Just a few students can make the center feel comforting.

For more information come to the Pride Center in SMSU–112.

Features
Chronicle Page 8 Monday, October 17, 2011
New York Tops California in gay marriage

Continued from Pg. 7

"It is unfortunate, I think if New York can do it, San Francisco can do it as well," said Wheeler, when I asked him to describe the situation in one word. The ongoing war for equal rights across the board has been a major issue for decades, but it seems to be slowly making its way around the block. I believe the answers are clear and out there, we simply must get to the root of them and act quickly.

For now we have National Coming Out Day, a recognized holiday amongst the gay community. At CSUSB we showed our support by celebrating this past week long offering events like Out Fest, Out in Music, and Out in Words. Check out exclusive video online @ coyotecronicle.com

Halloween How-to’s and guide for the fall’s best costume ideas

By RENEE ETCHEBERRIA

Trick or Treat, finding the perfect costume always seems to be quite the feat. It's Halloween and anything goes! Although dressing sexy is still high on the popularity list, according to Yahoo's search database, this year's top trends fall more along the lines of inappropriately poking fun at people in the 2011 headlines. "Winning, Charlie Sheen tops this year's Halloween trends. If imitating Sheen's outrageous antics isn't bold enough, be on the lookout for people dressed as Casey Anthony, Amanda Knox, Osama Bin Laden and even the late Steve Jobs. Reality impersonators are all the rage. Another top charting costume includes steam-punks, a combination of the steam power era and science fiction fantasy. In layman's terms, a cross between Johnny Depp's Willow Wonka and Mad Hatter. Influenced by the popular television show "Pan Am," stewardesses are making a debut this Halloween season. Technology has not only taken over our lives, but it has now become a Halloween costume trend. According to Buy.com, the phone application Angry Birds is its number one sold costume at this time. In a downward economy, shopping for a Halloween costume is at the end of most budget lists. A simple alternative to those pricey store bought costumes is to get creative and do it yourself or use something you already have. This is a more cost effective choice compared to the average costume cost of $30-$60. Stick to simple ideas like pirates, Indians, sailors, cowboys, anything 80's and superheroes. For an effortless Halloween costume, raise the cloths of family members and friends. Also, search your local thrift stores or yard sales for inexpensive unique costume ideas. Another budget friendly option is to do group costumes with friends. Take a movie trend such as Bridesmaids or Smurfs and go with it. Costumes can be simple and often already in your closet. Halloween is all about having fun. Whether you buy or make your costume, you have the freedom to be whoever and whatever you want.

For more Halloween ideas or help with making your costume visit youtube.com or explore vintage shops, costume stores and re-sale boutiques.

MSA sets misconceptions straight

By LITA GAITHERS

According to its president, members of the CSUSB Muslim Student Association (MSA) covered their mouths with tape and walked the campus on Oct. 11 in support of the CSUSB Muslim Student Association (MSA) member Khatib and President Sahak's welcome everyone regardless of race and faith to join their organization. The MSA sets misconceptions straight.

Another top charting costume includes steam-punks, a combination of the steam power era and science fiction fantasy. In layman's terms, a cross between Johnny Depp's Willow Wonka and Mad Hatter. Influenced by the popular television show "Pan Am," stewardesses are making a debut this Halloween season. Technology has not only taken over our lives, but it has now become a Halloween costume trend. According to Buy.com, the phone application Angry Birds is its number one sold costume at this time. In a downward economy, shopping for a Halloween costume is at the end of most budget lists. A simple alternative to those pricey store bought costumes is to get creative and do it yourself or use something you already have. This is a more cost effective choice compared to the average costume cost of $30-$60. Stick to simple ideas like pirates, Indians, sailors, cowboys, anything 80's and superheroes. For an effortless Halloween costume, raise the cloths of family members and friends. Also, search your local thrift stores or yard sales for inexpensive unique costume ideas. Another budget friendly option is to do group costumes with friends. Take a movie trend such as Bridesmaids or Smurfs and go with it. Costumes can be simple and often already in your closet. Halloween is all about having fun. Whether you buy or make your costume, you have the freedom to be whoever and whatever you want.

For more Halloween ideas or help with making your costume visit youtube.com or explore vintage shops, costume stores and re-sale boutiques.
The Out in Music event at the Santos Manuel Student Union here on campus was one of the most exciting events during the festive and positive Coming Out Week. Students from all persuasions came out to showcase their great musical talents.

The audience to hear a mini story about his writing process.

Another act that performed was Eric and Shana who began with an awesome medley of popular music. The first song in the mix was the Beatles’ “Let It Be,” which led into other songs such as Justin Bieber’s “Baby.” All of the acts who played were very talented and it was a lot of fun to sing along to the popular songs, as well as enjoy their original pieces.

“The Pride Center events are a place to have fun with friends,” said CSUSB student Shane Burrell. “This is a diverse environment where everyone respects each other and enjoys each other’s company.”

“The Pride Center’s Out in Music event is an opportunity for people to come together for a good cause and listen to great music,” said Brown.

When there wasn’t anyone on stage, the DJ played popular dance songs and people would randomly break into dance. Everyone who attended was happy to be involved. People were very friendly and it was a loving place.

A raffle which was done gave away free stuff such as a poster and shirts that read “Love Who You Love.” Eric and Shana also played Lady Gaga’s “Born This Way,” which was a very fun and appropriate song for the cause. The song perfectly captured the overall theme of the event, which was the freedom of being whoever you want to be and expressing that freedom through song.

The Pride Center is one of the four student centers at the SMSU where students can go and get any assistance they need. There are a variety of other campus resources at the SMSU that assist students in college life situations. The other resource centers include the Women’s Resource Center, Osher-Adult Resource Center and the Cross Cultural Center.

By TIFFANY BATSON
Staff Writer

M83 invades the subconscious

Anthony Gonzalez’s one-man electro-ambient dream-pop act has returned in full force. Hurry up, We’re Dreaming is an all out assault on the eardrums. It’s big and it’s loud, and it doesn’t hold back.

Gonzalez, popularly known as M83, transports us to another galaxy with a new release destined to be remembered. Listening to this record is like being washed away in an ocean of white noise. It’s loaded with reverb, synth, fuzzy distortion, unexpected instruments and several other spell-binding effects you would expect to hear in a sci-fi video game.

In short, it’s equivalent to a movie soundtrack on steroids. It can be overwhelming if you don’t know how to process it at first, but once you’ve done so the album is nothing but pure euphoria.

“It’s mainly about dreams, how every one is different, how you dream differently when you’re a kid, a teenager, or an adult. I’m really proud of it,” said Gonzalez in an interview with Spin magazine. “If you’re doing a very long album, all the songs need to be different and I think I’ve done that with this one. Overall, it’s pop — and very epic.”

With two discs and 22 songs, this album has no reason not to have epic written all over it, and it doesn’t disappoint. The best part about this record is how it incorporates and resembles different musical acts and styles. There’s a good amount of 80s influence present that will have you thinking of musicians such as Depeche Mode and Peter Gabriel.

Surprisingly, elements of smooth jazz and some light funk are included as well. Saxophones and flutes take the music for an interesting turn while funky bass lines compliment the dance infused drum beats.

With all these influences thrown into the mix, it’s hard to conclude that the music is just pop. In fact, it surpasses that.

“This Bright Flash” is a perfect example of how big the music is and its title is nothing short of accurate. The song starts slowly, then explodes into a flash of noise that will swallow you whole.

“My Tears are Becoming a Sea” is another noteworthy track that brings the orgasm to the center of attention. It’s loaded with big bass and long notes, creating the imagery of waves crashing during a sea storm.

In between all the noise, Gonzalez changes up the pace and decides to experiment with the acoustic guitar, bringing a different side to M83. Fortunately, Gonzalez succeeds without losing any of the magic and captivating.

Hurry up, We’re Dreaming is more than a pop album, it’s an experience. Anyone who is already a fan or wants to hear an extraordinary piece of captivating music would be wise not to miss it.

By NIGEL HAMBLIN
Staff Writer

The SMSU is alive with the sound of music

The Out in Music event showcases ultra-talented local acts in a fun and positive environment.
James Smart proudly stands beside one of his most prominent photographs of a breathtaking rock formation in Joshua Tree National Park. Smart's photography effortlessly shows the natural and wondrous beauty of the great American west.

James Smart has a brilliant knack for capturing the treacherous terrain of the western United States. The CSUSB professor and Coyote Chronicle faculty advisor had his wonderful works on display over the weekend at the 32nd annual Art for Heaven’s Sake show in Redlands, California.

The art show, held at the Redlands United Church of Christ, features more than 60 artists in the fields of painting, ceramics, photography and jewelry. Many of the artists are local, but over the years the art show has showcased exhibits from all across the globe.

Smart, who lives outside of Joshua Tree National Park, draws his inspiration from the harsh and rugged terrain of his spectacular backyard. “The land is stripped, it’s such a harsh environment,” said Smart, “There’s a certain nakedness to it.”

In addition to Joshua Tree, Smart has traveled all across the western portion of the country, shooting breathtaking photographs as far east as Utah and Idaho.

He also has taken pictures of abandoned movie sets in Amboy, California which were used in old John Wayne films. Some of his photographs required lots of footwork and manpower. To get a certain shot, Smart and his team once hiked for miles on rough and pathless terrain in the dead of night.

“The challenge is to take something out of the rocks and isolate it for the photograph,” said Smart.

Some of his most prominent pictures capture old, rundown buildings in dusty ghost towns. Although the exteriors look dead, the histories they portray give them new life through Smart’s photographs.

A great number of Smart’s photographs take on a surreal quality. A certain photograph of Spatula Rock looks like it could exist on an extraterrestrial planet. Many patrons of the art gallery were taken aback by the natural majesty portrayed in Smart’s work. Some mingled around and studied them, while others were inspired to visit these places or reminisce about once being there.

“I was there once,” one art patron said to Smart, “I remember it being the creepiest place in the world, but it looks so nice here.”

Whether you prefer heart-pounding action flicks, gut-wrenching drama, or love-struck comedies, this upcoming season will have something for you.

Premiering early this November, the Academy Award-winning film J. Edgar, a film based on the true story of the first FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover. The film, which was directed by Clint Eastwood, is not shy to the Oscar-worthy buzz that has been circulating through the Hollywood grapevine.

Furthermore, whether you are part of Team Edward or Team Jacob, part one of the final Twilight saga is sure to excite and enthral its loyal fans. Since the filmmakers have split Breaking Dawn into two movies, screenwriter Melissa Rosenberg promises fans that many of the book favorites will be included in this action-packed love triangle.

Another cute classic waddling its way into children’s hearts is Happy Feet 2, which tells the tale of a penguin named Erik struggling to find new talents in his icy world. This Academy Award-winning storyline is sure to fill the hearts of children across the nation.

With Christmas just around the corner and Santa’s bells already beginning to ring in our heads, Harold and Kumar surprise us again with their hilarious and half-baked adventures.

In their film, A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas, the dynamic duo accidentally burns down a prized Christmas tree belonging to Harold’s father-in-law. The experiences that unfold after their epic mistake is what makes this a must-see comedy to end the year.

Also, with the colder weather rolling through, a romantic comedy is perfect for those cuddling couples. This Means War is guaranteed not to disappoint with actors Reese Witherspoon, Tom Hardy and Chris Pine headlining its stellar cast.

This Means War chronicles two life long friends that fall for the same girl and battle to be the center of her attention. Viewers should expect this film to be released early next year.

Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol is a tempting drug for adrenaline junkies. After a bombing in the Kremlin, Ethan Hunt and his team go on a mission to clear their name and potentially reopen their organization. This film is a guaranteed winner.

With the holidays quickly approaching and the new year almost upon us, it is the perfect time to end this year with a bang. With a mix of pounding action, romantic edge and a taste of the holidays, the movie theatres will be sure to be packed wall to wall with these amazing films.
After a string of disastrous decisions, Netflix seems to finally be listening to us. Its new spin-off Qwikster, which was introduced only a month ago, was quickly abandoned after customers ripped it to shreds.

Reed Hastings, CEO of Netflix, announced on his blog that Netflix was going to make some changes to his company. The company decided to revamp themselves by creating a new spin-off of the company’s DVD delivery option into a new service called Qwikster.

Netflix separated the company’s online streaming and DVD-by-mail services into two separate accounts, meaning customers that wanted both online and DVD-by-mail services could no longer get them for the small monthly fee, but instead had to buy both packages separately.

Netflix raised their cost from $10 to $16 for having online streaming and DVD-by-mail delivery. The 60 percent price increase had Netflix customers seething with anger.

The decision to create Qwikster was because of the online streaming service significant growth, and the conclusion was that the two services could be separate. “Online streaming is the only way I watch my movies from Netflix. I do not use the DVD mailing service because I find online streaming more convenient,” said student Emily Huizar.

Although there are those customers that use both, and if they wanted both they had to have two different accounts and pay two separate bills.

“I hate it! I like using both online streaming and DVD by mail. Depending on the time and location I switch between the two,” said student Amber Claude, “When I am in the library I use online streaming and when I am with friends I use DVDs.”

The most astonishing thing is that Netflix did not go through with the changes or release Qwikster at all. The company’s shares fell and caused investors to be concerned about the future of the company as a whole.

“There is a difference between moving quickly, which Netflix has done very well for years, and moving too fast, which is what we did in this case,” said Hastings.

Due to the fierce backlash, Netflix abandoned Qwikster in a moments time. Now Netflix is back to one website, one account, one password and one (still large) bill.
Marathon life

By JOVANI GAMA
Asst. Sports Editor

For a 42-year-old dishwasher, running is not only a hobby, but a passion, an escape and ultimately, a way of life.

Tony Torres came to the United States from Mexico at a very young age. The oldest of ten siblings, Torres found himself in a position in which school had to be pushed aside in order to work and help his father maintain the household.

“I went to school in Fresno,” said Torres. “I had to work to help my father take care of my 10 brothers and sisters.”

It was in high school, however, where Torres found a love for running.

“We won everything in the San Joaquin Valley in Fresno. As a team we won all the championships as high school runners,” said Torres.

Torres detailed the countless invitations universities extended to him, all of which he, unfortunately, had to turn down.

“The lack of money was an issue, and I couldn’t leave my father to take care of my brothers and sisters all by himself,” said Torres.

Nowadays, Torres continues to have that working mentality. With all of his success as a professional athlete, one would expect him to have a lucrative profession right? Instead, Torres spends his working hours at the UCLA Conference Center as a dishwasher.

“I, myself, am also a dishwasher and we laughed a bit talking about the pressures and stress that comes with the position. It’s not as easy as it may sound.

Despite the fact that Torres receives earnings for his events, he continues his position as a dishwasher.

“Sponsors occasionally pay for shoes and clothes. It isn’t much that I make. Right now, I’m involved with the company Compex,” said Torres.

Torres explained that for some events his flight is paid for, but that he never makes much.

“I work because I have to. I make a little running, and a little at work,” said Torres. “I can’t complain. I live comfortably.”

As a competitor, Torres has found much success. Recently he placed 3rd in the USA Master’s Marathon. The event took place in Minnesota. In addition, he has won the “Endure the Bear” competition in Big Bear for two consecutive years.

With such an impressive resume to lean on, I asked Torres about potential Olympic aspirations.

“I had an opportunity four years ago, but I injured myself and was not able to go to the trials,” said Torres.

He went on to explain that, although he would welcome an opportunity to compete on the Olympic stage, he most likely would not pursue it.

“Seeing people like Tracy Lokken (47 years old) motivates me to keep going. I probably have four to six years left in me,” said Torres.

With at least four more years to contend, who knows how many more accolades, victories, and accomplishments Torres can still attain.
Correction from last week:

October 13, 1903
Boston Pilgrims, predecessor to the Red Sox, beat the Pittsburgh Pirates five games to three in World Series.
More than family: soccer siblings

By BRITTANY FILIPPINI
Staff Writer

While sisters Kristina and Erika Gomez shine on the soccer field, one has struggled off the field. Erika, the younger of the two, is a junior here at CSUSB and has had some battles on and off the field. Though her freshman year was filled with progress and good feelings, her sophomore year is when she was faced with the challenges.

"My sophomore year during the middle of season I had a tumor removed from my breast and I had problems with my liver which caused me to have no appetite and energy," said Erika. Doctors never really found out what the main cause of her liver problems were. However, they did find the liver enzymes were elevated above normal and the liver itself was inflamed and swollen.

"Thankfully, the tumor was not cancerous and the serious health issues have not destroyed her spirit. Before finding out she was sick, Erika struggled during practice and could not understand what exactly was wrong. "It was like one thing after another, and I kept wondering when it was going to end," said Erika.

Erika explained she struggled getting back into shape for soccer, but her sister, family and friends encouraged her to get back and train for this year’s soccer season. Coach Travis Clarke said the girls’ family travel to every game to cheer on their daughters and the team, giving high fives and cheering from the stands.

"They are two totally different players and people with very different personalities but they are a huge part of our team," said Clarke. When asked what they bring to the team, he said each has a positive energy that is vital to the team.

"Two weeks ago, when we were on a bit of a losing streak, they were the two most positive players," said Clarke.

Clarke also explained that while Erika was recovering, she was out on the field on the sidelines encouraging her team and supporting an active teammate.

Although these two are very different, they have a close bond that has stayed strong through the ups and downs.

Soccer has been an opportunity for the girls to come together and interact despite their busy schedules and extra curricular activities.

"You always have a friend to talk to and do drills with which is awesome because Erika is my best friend," said Kristina.

As far as soccer being a part of their future lives after college Kristina says, "I hope my kids play soccer and that’s about it. I don’t intend to play professionally." While Erika is still deciding on her future post-graduation, she, like her sister, does not see soccer being an integral part of her life as it is now. Despite this, they are dedicated now to the team and will continue to bring in, that contagious, positive energy.

And the team may need that positive energy and attitude as they stumbled out of the gate early. At one point, the team had not won a single match in six straight games going 0-5-1 during that stretch.

However, the Gomez sisters kept their spirits high and helped rally the team to five straight wins and improving their record to 7-5-1 and 5-5-1 in the conference.

Kristina was especially innate to stopping the six match winless streak as she was able to contribute a goal in a 6-2 blowout of Cal State East Bay.

The team has four games to play in conference and some works still needs to be done. But, as Clarke explained, the girls positive attitude has led the team out of their own struggles and it is evident that this attitude will lead them to whatever goals they set for themselves during the season and after they graduate.

By EILEEN GUTIERREZ
Staff Writer

The Figgioni brothers are four years apart and have never played soccer together — until now.

The brothers, Brett and Dylan, hail from Mesa, Ariz. where they say they did not have a chance to become close. But the brothers have become closer since rooming in the same house and playing on a co-ed team.

Brett is a team captain in his senior year. Dylan is a freshman.

The boys joke around, referring to Brett being the “husband” and Dylan the “wife.” Brett explained his off campus job helps support his brother, but Dylan does the cooking and cleaning.

“I buy his food,” said Brett, of his younger brother Dylan. “He paid me to do his laundry the other night.”

The two say they do not discuss game strategy amongst themselves, only with other teammates in their house.

Teammate D.J. Vigil encouraged Brett to play soccer for CSUSB after leaving UC Irvine because of financial reasons. Dylan found his way to CSUSB after catching Coach Noah Kooiman’s attention at a soccer tournament in San Diego.

When asked what its like to play with his younger brother, Brett joked, “It’s like playing with a worse version of myself,” but later continued more seriously, “he’s done really well. Every once in a while, when he relieves me, I ask him to turn over the ball so I can keep my starting spot.”

“I don’t play any differently,” said Dylan.

The brothers definitely agree to the advantages of playing together, saying it is easier to read each other since they “play the exact same way” according to Brett.

If Dylan follows in the footsteps as Brett, he is sure to be a leader for the team in the future. Dylan explains that he does feel pressure to step up and fill his older brother’s shoes when Brett graduates this year.

“Figos,” the nickname given to Brett, has seemed to be put upon Dylan as well. Coach Kooiman calls Brett “Figo” and Dylan “Little Figo.”

Brett elaborated that Figo was the name on the Portuguese soccer jersey his parents bought for him while in Portugal. He wore the jersey to a soccer camp in seventh grade, and the name has stuck.

This is Brett’s final season at CSUSB. He intends on attending dental school after graduation, which he calls “a long road.”

Dylan will be a sophomore next year and hopefully will continue in his brother’s footsteps.

Brett and Dylan have each been a part of the team’s success this season. Brett has one goal on five shots in 13 games and Dylan has an assist in 10 games.

But Brett’s and Dylan’s value to the team is much more than just the statistics.

Brett was chosen as one of the few captains of the team because of the respect that his teammates and his coaches have for him. He was also chosen because of the hard work that he puts in and off the pitch.

When Brett graduates after this season, Dylan will have some mighty big shoes to fill as he will follow Brett in a very successful CSUSB soccer career.

Brett has appeared in 49 games so far at CSUSB.

He has been a defensive stalwart for the three years here at CSUSB and helped lead the team to two straight NCAA tournament berths.

The team has been relatively disappointing so far this year as they had a very strong 2010 campaign.

The biggest difference is the inconsistent play the team has had so far this year. They have lost two games in a row the entire year and have lost two games in a row twice.

They have also been inconsistent during individual games.

The Coyotes have outscored opponents 6-4 in the first half of games; however, they have been outscored 12-9 in the second half. They have been able to grab leads but have not been able to hold on to them.

Brett is hoping to be able to lead the team to more consistent play over the final month of the season as they will need to win a few more games in order to qualify for the conference tournament.

Brett may need to lean on Dylan even more as the season comes to a close. Or, at least, he needs Dylan to continue to make wholesome meals.
Coyote Chronicle: Athlete of the Week

Name: Samantha Middleborn
Sport: Volleyball
Class: Senior
Moment: Oct. 7 vs. Cal State East Bay
Oct. 8 vs. Cal State Monterey Bay

Middleborn tallied 32 kills in 52 attempts. She recorded only five errors while collecting four service aces, eight digs and eight block assists while recording a .519 hitting percentage. She posted a .720 service aces, eight digs and eight block assists while recording a .519 hitting percentage. She posted a .720...}

By AARON HUGHES Staff Writer

T he success of the CSUSB women’s volleyball team comes down to chemistry. After 16 games, the Lady Coyotes are undefeated.

Head coach Kim Cherniss, who has been at the helm for 20 years, said the team has been successful because of their chemistry.

“Every one of our girls get along great,” said Cherniss. “They hang out together outside of practice and games. I can put any of them together in a room and not have to worry.”

Because the girls get along so well together off the court, they’re willing to work harder for each other on it.

“Our girls aren’t selfish, they really want to win for the team. That chemistry translates onto the court,” said Cherniss.

After an impressive start to this season, the team has set some very high goals.

“Our primary goal is to win a conference championship. We’ve won eight in the last 10 years and this year would make it six in a row,” said Cherniss.

Despite setting high goals for the season, Cherniss feels that they’re realistic.

“The stakes are really high because the goals are really high,” said Cherniss. “That adds some internal pressure and I’m sure the team feels it. But luckily we have a lot of experience. We have seven seniors on the team who are used to the pressure and are handling it very well.”

If the Lady Coyotes can win their conference, they’d be able to host the NCAA West Region Tournament for the fourth consecutive year, which would be considered a huge honor.

“We’ve had the opportunity to host the NCAA West Region Tournament the last three years in a row and we’ve put on a very classy and professional event,” said Cherniss. “Playing in the Coussoulis Arena is the crown jewel.”

If they could win the NCAA West Region Tournament, they would progress to the Elite Eight where the winners are crowned National Champions.

“The Elite Eight National Championship entails playing three matches in three consecutive days,” said Cherniss. “We’ve come up just short in doing that the past three years in a row.”

Concordia St. Paul University of Minnesota, the reigning Division II champions, have proven to be too strong, defeating the Lady Coyotes both times.

Cherniss has spent a lot of time thinking about what the team can do differently if they were to meet Concordia again.

“Believe me, I’ve racked my brain,” said Cherniss. “I don’t know if we can do anything differently except keep working. Keep trying to be better and we have to play well. We didn’t do that last time.”

Despite not winning a National Championship, the team’s success in recent years has helped raise the university profile.

“We’ve put the name of the school out on a national scale,” said Cherniss. “People know about us and know that we’re a really strong program in Division II. We’re our part to highlight our university.”

If the team can continue to play well and have good chemistry, finishing this season as national champions is a real possibility.

NFL has surprises for all

By ASHLYNE MACAN Staff Writer

The NFL is by far the most popular sport in our country. And it’s not any different here on campus.

Students often head up to the Blue Coyote, the pub, in the student union to watch Monday Night Football. They talked about recent games, what teams could have done better and what they expect from the season.

“Something that has surprised me is how great the Buffalo Bills are playing this year. They were one of the laughing-stocks of the NFL but now they are doing surprisingly good with a team filled with castaways and unwanted football player[s],” said Fernando Fregoso, a CSUSB sophomore.

The Denver Broncos and Dallas Cowboys are also among some of the students’ favorite teams, but they are also some of their disappointments.

“The Denver Broncos really disappointed me because they are our favorite team, and I expected a lot from them; and they kind of let me down,” said student Katrina Ruiz.

Disappointments and let downs are part of the game. Yet the season is not over so there is still room to find hope in this season.

“I feel like this season is going to be the season that many of the young up and coming teams are going to perform and show the other, more accomplished teams, in recent years, that they can compete in their level,” said Fregoso.

So far this season has been going quite well, despite the scare of a NFL lockout and almost not having a season.

“I feel that the Raiders have the talent and the direction as well as the motivation to go deep into the playoffs this year,” said student Joseph Siy.

He is still backing his favorite team, the Oakland Raiders.

While the NFL is highly unpredictable, one thing is for certain, more surprises are to come for fans and for the students here on campus.

For more on Raiders owner Al Davis, turn to page 14.