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 “fronts for illegal drug dealing” which does not comply with state law, according to USA Today.

A 45-day notice has been given to several dispensaries ordering them to close or be faced with criminal charges. However, in the Central District of California (CDCA) where San Bernardino is located, there have only been 14-day notices given out, according to Thom Mrozek, public affairs officer at the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

USA Today states that federal prosecutors at the news conference revealed they would crack down on the commercial marijuana industry would, particularly by athletic fields, schools, and parks. Mrozek said that each of the four California districts are approaching the issue in generally the same way.

“The idea that there is illegal drug trafficking going on in some of those collections,” said Damian Nassiri, from the Cannabis Law Group aka “the medical marijuana lawyers.” 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 have been because local officials have been coming to the U.S. Attorney’s Office asking for help.

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

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.

Supporters of the Dream Act rallied together to celebrate the passing of the bill. Immigrants become eligible next July.

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 is ranked in the top four percent nationally out of hundreds of participating schools.

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Local Catalytic converter theft strikes CSUSB

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Soccer siblings lead the pack
Late nights preferred at Pflau
Working man to marathon man
Parolees helping the community
CSUSB Out Fest
Coming Out Day
Out in Music

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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 into 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 made a report, but the cameras that were recording were covered by trees, so all they were able to tell me was that there were bolts left over,” said Briseno.

However, Briseno felt that because he paid $102 for parking fees that his car should be better protected on campus. “We pay $102 for parking so you’d think we’d have cameras that could help,” 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 happened, 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 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 fees due to lack of state funding,” she continued.

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.

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.

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

Then says 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.
Program helps parolees, community

By STEPHANIE PANIAGUA
Staff Writer

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.
In a matter of days some California dispensaries will be forced to shut down.

“Their sales,” said Mrozek, “are relatively small, which means even going to the black market, people will get their medicine whatever way possible, for thousands of marijuana stores. 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 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 Cali-

fornia 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 Mosely.

The school expects to reduce its car-

bon 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 it’s for a good cause I’m all for it,” said CSUSB student Edward Hewitt.

Within the program, there are also a va-

riety of educational events that include mock bills, energy awareness day, Take the Stairs Day, and also training residence hall assistants on energy efficien-

cy and holding focus groups.

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.

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 will arrive 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 CSUSB ranks in top 4 percent

Continued from Pg. 1

cal thinking, writing and verbal skills.

According to 2010-2011 CLA data, CSUSB students have greatly improved their learning skills in writing and critical thinking.

The study shows that incoming freshman scored in the 31st percentile. The same study showed that during their senior year, they scored in the 56th percentile.

This strong performance is what led to CSUSB being ranked by CLA at the top four percent.

CLA believes that there is value added in getting an education from CSUSB. “I have seen a major increase in my critical thinking and writing skills,” said Lacie Hall, CSUSB student.

Alay, 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 Alay.

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 im-

pact in my learning experience,” said Alay.

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

The CLA strongly believes that “faculty are the ultimate stakeholder of the assessment re-

sult.”

According to the CLA web-

site, the assessment used on stu-

dents is to discover the univer-
sity’s contribution toward the development of their learning.

The results of the assessment show how much progress stu-

dents have made from attending their particular university.

Alay 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, Alay said she “feels extremely proud of being a CSUSB coyote and being a part of what’s amazing that is ranked nationally in the top four percent.”

Medical marijuana meets its match

Continued from Pg. 1

count 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 mari-

juana 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 whichever way possible, which means even going to the black market.

The Cannabis Law Group web site 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 com-

ply with state law, “which does not allow for-profits services,” 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 mari-

juana 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.
Students need 24-hour Pfau now

By NICOLE MALDONADO Staff Writer

There are not enough minutes in the day. Unfortunately, our library hours don’t accommodate all of our crazy schedules. These hours are Mondays through Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Current library hours often conflict with student work and class schedules, according to a short survey I conducted among 35 students. Over 85 percent of students polled said they would take advantage of extended hours or want the library to always be open.

Patricia Fischer was asked if she thought the library should be open 24-hours, “Yes! I get off work at midnight and can definitely use late night library hours, at least till two a.m.,” she said. I agree with Fischer, because I can relate with late night works.

“As students we live very busy lives, some of us have to work graveyard shifts to accommodate the predominately morning class availability. I work and go to school full time, having access to campus services around the clock would be an extremely useful tool in my academic success” said Jennifer Fuentes.

There are some students that have security and budget concerns about the issue. Student Whitney Mayo along with other concerned students feels that if the library’s hours are extended that there will be a spike in tuition fees; others are worried about late night safety.

These are reasons why the library hours are set to what they are; however some alterations may be on the horizon. Dean Cesar Caballero of the library also has safety concerns and explained the rationale of library hours. According to Caballero, the hours were reduced last year due to the decreased budget, which means less money to operate such a large and costly building.

Unfortunately, usage statistics show that 24-hour library use or even extended hours are not needed for current students. But it is needed. Student Julio Ibarra favors 24-hour library service or at least extended hours. “Due to the hard economic times I am forced to work longer hours. This makes it difficult for assignments to get done during the day and even more difficult when the library is not accessible at all times.”

The availability of the library 24/7 would be a great tool for students like me who don’t have the fortune of being able to use the library during the day; nonetheless access to the Internet and a computer at home,” said Ibarra.

“I just need to know the demand is there. If there are a significant number of students that want extended hours I would consider it strongly,” said Caballero.

Caballero said, “We have plans for the future, about three to four years into the future, to expand the library building. We are planning to have a study room open 24 hours on the side of the building which is contained, has computers and cameras for safety. It’s in the works.”

I most definitely think that the library should be open all day and night, or at least have extended hours. This university has over 17,500 students that have a hard time fitting library time into their hectic schedules and I am one of them.

Black Greek organizations are losing life

By VICKI COLBERT Staff Writer

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 whose support is dwindling on campus.

The first weeks 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 information.

"We need to be collectively stronger as a unit since we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs," Johnson added. "And we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs," Johnson added. "And we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs," Johnson added. "And we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs," Johnson added. "And we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs," Johnson added. "And we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs," Johnson added. "And we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs," Johnson added. "And we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs," Johnson added. "And we are low on numbers in comparison to other orgs."

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,” said William Johnson, president of the NPHC at Cal Poly Pomona.

“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 is enough. I want to know what each organization plans to do if/when they should gain charter rights on campus again. I would like to see the NPHC at CSUSB gain and retain the kind of membership that will give the black students here something to look forward to rather than treat CSUSB as just another commuter school.

Ultimately, the most important step after gaining members is retaining members. Staying consistent is what makes an organization succeed.

Edward Hewitt of Phi Beta Sigma suggests that every organization needs to set aside their differences and support one another’s events and programs. That will build unity and pride within the black student body by working together.

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

Drop the print and hit

By SUANNA GUTIERREZ
Staff Writer

With the wear and tear caused by the economy on College Bookstores, a college education seems to nearly put salt on the wounds. Students can help themselves significantly reduce their costs of education by moving to digital textbooks. The incentive for students to switch from traditional bound textbooks to digital textbooks is the possibility of personalizing the books. Whether it be by renting books, buying them used, or attempting to sell them back, students can save. Students have spent an 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 cover, book size, number of pages, spiral binding, labor to ship, fuel costs of shipping, the boxes books get shipped in, all the way down to the course guided CD-ROMs 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 e-books would expire — it would be more convenient.”

CSUSB could administer a move towards eTextbooks through web sites like kno.com, a fully free service, which would provide incentives for a guaranteed reduction of textbook costs without digging through used book web sites. As an additional benefit to the digital move the free learning application kno.com offers has over 60 features including interactive 3D settings, smart links to relevant course materials, study guides and searchable notes within the journal feature. Over 100,000 textbooks are available on kno.com. If the textbook your looking for isn’t currently on hand, you can easily notify the site to put in a digital request and publishers and can usually receive the requested title within days.

Programs similar to the eTextbook concept have been successfully administered on campuses such as Arizona State University. ASU was able to make the program run successfully and was able to get students participating in the program free eReaders according to ASU News Now.

Dream Act calls for federal action

By LOUIS PENNA
Opinions Editor

Starting 2013, certain undocumented migrant students will be able to qualify for state financial aid at public universities and community colleges. Last week Gov. Jerry Brown signed AB 131, the second half of the California Dream Act. This bill’s passing puts illegal immigration at the forefront of controversy yet again. Assemblyman Tim Donnelly (R-San Bernardino), a former border-monitoring Minuteman, calls the bill “morally wrong.”

“We have just created a new entitle-ment that is going to cause tens of thou-sands of people to come here illegally from all over the world,” said Donnelly. Morally wrong. On black-and-white principle alone, Donnelly could be considered right. Students whose parents do not contribute tax monies that help fund the CSU, UC and CCC systems should not be able to benefit from it. But illegal immigration is not blackand-white — it’s complicated. In fact, it is so complicated that not one session of Congress has even had a vote on immi-gration reform.

Depending on how they are employed, undocumented migrants actually do pay taxes through paycheck deductions, there still is a human element to this through no fault of their own. To deny these children a post-sec-ondary education is, too use Donnelly’s words, “morally wrong” and commis-sionate to what our society and education system proposes for achieving success. Instead of working fruit fields or con-struction sites like some of their parents, now these students can receive a college education prevent a permanent underclass forever ostracized as “illegals.”

It gets more complicated — future graduates who benefit from the bill can not be legally hired in the U.S. As of now, the state stands to gain zero specially edu-cated workers from the bill that created the opportunity for their education in the first place. This is where the federal gov-ernment must make a decision. California is hoping that AB 131 will push the federal government to pass their own DREAM Act. This bill, with the current provisions is an answer to America’s 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 American high school, undergone a law-enforcement background check along with other stipulations. The bill only applies to those under 29 years of age, of this current 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 boused around the legislative branch of government since its introduction in 2001. Despite the huge leaps and bounds the federal DREAM Act would make on immigration, it still does not address the root cause of the problem: the border.

One way or another the government has to stop the source of illegal immi-gration: our national borders. According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 62 percent of illegal immigrants originate from Mexico. Build a wall, most of fire, reboot traps, anything to prevent further migrat-ion. The American people are tired of the status quo when it comes to illegal im-migration. Neither side of this issue is at ease with current conditions and the situation is only gradually worsening.

The federal government must face the inconvenient and that illegal immi-gration must be dealt with now.

Download...
Most people have always thought of California as one, if not the most liberal state in the United States. The near 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 publicized,” 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 perks. Taking on the role of 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 resiidents. They usually all have a good sense of who will be good resiidents. They usually all have a good sense of what exactly RAs do. And do some of them even do their jobs? Resident Assistants (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, acknowledging residents, letting them know about the campus, answering their questions, dealing with their complaints/housing requests, checking them in and out, resolving conflicts, letting them know when they’re locked out and enforcing policy and safety," said Jason Kamura, RA of building 6.

"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.

The main element needed to be an RA is motivation. After speaking with a couple of them, I have found that they usually have a good sense of which students will be good resident assistants.

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

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...
Stepping into my dreams across the pond
A shared travel journal from abroad

By LINDA TRAN
Loyola Contributor

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

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

As an English minor, I have always been afraid to travel. This happened for a couple of reasons.

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, as well as they call them "modules," to be a little more difficult than they are back home.

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I am accustomed 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 finals.

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 small, as well as 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 traveling!

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

It was 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.

In November, I will be going on a three-day weekend 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.

Resident Assistants tell all

Continued from Pg. 7

No matter the differences, you will have a choice to experience something for yourself and in return build on skills that you probably didn’t know you were capable of.

You will also have an opportunity to establish friendships and break the stereotype of a faux friend. "I would encourage students to definitely apply! This is one of the best experiences you will have 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 Bay at the SMSU.

CSUSB students also performed vocal solos, drum box and guitar duets, plus individual guitar and piano performances. The audience swayed and moved their hands and feet to the music and the final roasting applause was indicative of our appreciation for the entertainment.

Thursday’s events included guest DJ music, “live art” sculpting, “zine” instruction and campus and off-campus vendors in the 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 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 to improve 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 stigmata and alienation. Time magazine health journalist Alice Park re-layed, “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.
Halloween How-to’s and guide for the fall’s best costume ideas

By RENEE ETCHEBERRIA
Staff Writer

Trick or Treat, finding the perfect costume always seems to be quite the feat. Halloween is but days away and this year’s trends are all over the place from the risque to the ridiculous.

This is the one day of the year where women can parade around in provocative outfits, making it socially acceptable to wear underwear as outerwear. Sexy is encouraged even by borrowing from children’s characters such as Strawberry Shortcake or Snow White.

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 Willie 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 those 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 get with it. Costume ideas 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.

New York Tops California in gay marriage

Continued from Pg. 7

By LITA GAITHERS
Staff Writer

According to its president, members of the CSUSB Muslim Student Association (MSA) covered their mouths with tape and exercising their free-speech rights during a meeting when Michael Oren, the Israeli Ambassador to the United States spoke at UC Irvine last year.

I recently attended a MSA meeting and spoke with its president and members about their concerns and demonstration. According to MSA president, Medina Douveiri, probably sums up the biggest misconception some think that only people from the Middle East are Muslim. We have people from different cultures who are Muslims. There are Americans, Africans, Europeans and so forth that practice the religion.

“In fact, the CSUSB Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) has categorized our organization incorrectly. The ASI has listed the MSA as a “cultural” organization instead of listing us as a religious organization. We’re students who are connected by our faith, not a culture. I hope this article helps to correct that,” said Douveiri.

Douveiri, probably sums up the biggest misconception of us as a religious organization. We’re students who are connected by our faith, not a culture. I hope this article helps to correct that,” said Sahak.

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For more information about the MSA visit @ coyotechronicle.com
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.

A lively and exciting show with impressive local acts set in a positive environment. The lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex and ally community gathered together to have a great night with peers and listen to amazing music.

“The Pride Center’s goal is to help students be comfortable with who they are,” said Deejay Brown, the lead student assistant.

Some of the acts that played at the event included Aar-...
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.

By MATTHEW BRAMLETT
Arts & Entertainment Editor

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.

“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.”

For more on Smart’s work, visit jimsmartphotography.com

By CAROLINA MCCARTHY
Staff Writer

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, Leonardo DiCaprio is set to give an astounding performance yet again in his movie 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 epic mistake is what makes this a must-see comedy to end the year. 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.

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 the plot, which tells the tale of a penguin named 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.

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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 theaters 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 moment’s time. Now Netflix is back to one website, one account, one password and one (still large) bill.

By MARISSA GRAHAM
Staff Writer

Qwikster: short and sad
As quickly as it was created, the new rental service disappears

Do you have questions about going to graduate school? Do you have questions about getting involved in research?

CSUSB MARC Program
The CSUSB MARC Program (Minority Access to Research Careers) can help by providing peer mentoring for students in any health related major such as psychology, biology, chemistry, etc.

To set up a mentoring appointment contact: Brittani Washington, Program Coordinator E-Mail: bwa1ah@csusb.edu • Phone: (909) 537-3152 • Office: FO-180

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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.

He began training in the 9th grade.

“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.
Chronicle Page 14 Monday, October 17, 2011

Sports

Jock talk
By J. LEVI BURNFIN
Sports Editor

Legendary Oakland Raiders owner Al Davis passed away October 9.

For many football fans, especially under 30-year-old fans, long-time Oakland Raiders owner Al Davis’ legacy is maligned drafting decisions, (i.e. Darrius Heyward-Bay), mortgaging the future for the present, trading draft picks away like they carry the plague, deserting Oakland for Los Angeles and then turning his back on L.A. after being anointed L.A.’s team and only seven winning seasons since 1980.

And it is.

After well-known figures in society die, many times people only speak of the good things about the person. It is as though they are without flaws. Al Davis had many.

Al Davis made questionable decisions for many years and had many Raiders fans clamoring for him to step down from his position as self-appointed General Manager. And, in my opinion, it would have helped the franchise if there was another person making the football-based decisions in the Raiders organization.

But Davis would not give up control of the franchise and while he was alive, he was criticized mercilessly for being stubborn.

After his death, he was characterized as someone that knew what they wanted and was praised for being focused on his goal. It is all about perception.

I have to admit though I was one of the many that saw Davis as a broken down old man that had no place in the game anymore. Yeah, he had some good years in the 70’s but I never understood why he was respected for being stubborn.

But Davis’ legacy is what he meant to Civil Rights in sports. He was pioneer in the hiring of minority candidates for high positions within the Raiders organization.

In 1979, Davis hired Tom Flores as the head coach of the Raiders. At the time, Flores was only the second Hispanic head coach in history of the league. In 1988, Davis hired Art Shell, the first black head coach in the NFL in the modern era.

Davis also broke the gender barrier as he hired Amy Trask to be CEO of the Raiders in 1997. Trask was the first and only female CEO in the NFL.

In addition, Davis protested several games in the name of civil rights. In 1963, the Raiders were scheduled to play a preseason game in Mobile, AL but Davis refused to play in protest of the segregation laws in Mobile.

In 1965, the AFL was supposed to hold the All-Star game in New Orleans, LA but Davis once again refused because of the racial inequalities prevalent in the city.

Davis’ legacy is complicated and his football-based decisions, especially later ones, have every right to be questioned; but, the strides he made for the game of football, civil rights or otherwise, have led the league to be a better sport today. He will be missed.

For more Jock Talk, visit coyotejocktalk.blogspot.com

This week in Sports

History:
October 19, 1919
Reds beat White Sox, five games to three in World Series. This series is known as the “black sox” scandal as eight Sox players threw the series.

October 20, 1988
Dodgers beat the A’s in baseball’s 85th World Series, four games to one.

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.

Coyote Jock Talk
Check out the Coyote Jock Talk Blog
This week: updated NFL power rankings and MLB playoff predictions and commentary.

Coyote Chronicle: @CSUSBChronicle
Chronicle Sports Section: @CSUSB_CC_Sports
Sports Editor: @JLBurnfin
E-mail: chronsp seditor@gmail.com

SPORTS TRIVIA
Each week the Coyote Chronicle will try to stump the students with sports trivia. The answers will be given in the following issue.

Who is the only MLB player in the history of the league to hit five home runs in one League Championship Series?

Answer to last week’s question:

Mario Lemieux scored in all five possible scoring situations in the same game on Dec. 31, 1988
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 faced scholarly trials.

“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 fin 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, and I kept wondering when it was going to understand what exactly was wrong.

While Erika is still deciding on her future post-graduation, she, like her sister, does not see soccer being an intense part of her life as it is now.

Despite this, they are dedicated now to the team and will continue to bring it, 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.

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

Clarke also explained while Erika was recovering, she was out on the field on the sidelines encouraging her team and developing into an active team-mate.

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 Eri-}

By EILEEN GUTIERREZ
Staff Writer

The Faggioni 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 close-knit 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 same 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.

“Figo,” 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 on 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 inconsistencies play the team has had so far this year.

They have not won 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.
Sports

Coyote Chronicle: Athlete of the Week

Name: Samantha Middleborn
Sport: Volleyball
Class: Senior

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 five digs and a .333 hitting percentage at Cal State Monterey Bay.

More about:
As a junior, Middleborn was named the 2010 AVCA and Daktronics National Player of the Year. She's an Anthropology major and would like to play professional volleyball.

Volleyball team majors in Chemistry

By AARON HUGHES
Staff Writer

The 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 Coussouils 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 rocked 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 universities 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’ve put 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 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 and an Oakland Raiders fan.

The Raiders have a big fan base on the CSUSB campus; when walking through the different colleges or walking through the SMSU, you are bound to see at least a few Raiders jerseys being worn.

“I’m really surprised by how well [the Raiders] are doing,” said Katrina Ruiz, another student.

This year in the NFL, the Raiders have been doing quite well.

Over the first five weeks of the season, they beat the Denver Broncos, the New York Jets and the Houston Texans. The latest of which was an emotional game as Raiders owner Al Davis passed away the day before the game.

Raiders and NFL fans mourned the loss of Davis as he was an intricate part of the NFL for decades.

“Oakland Raiders Owner Al Davis Passed Away (R.I.P.),” wrote Nelson Estezee Jr., in a Facebook comment.

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 my 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.