President Obama addresses nation’s issues

By NICOLE VERA
Staff Writer

Keeping the basic American promise alive is the defining issue of our time, according to President Barack Obama in his State of the Union Speech on Jan. 24. His definition of this promise was: “If you worked hard, you could do well enough to raise a family, own a home, send your kids to college and put a little away for retirement.”

He went on to note taxes and employment as the critical issue in achieving this goal. “It’s time to stop rewarding businesses that ship jobs overseas, and start rewarding companies that create jobs right here in America. Send me these tax reforms, and I’ll sign them right away,” said Obama.

The plan to included raising taxes for companies moving overseas and lowering them for those that stay in the U.S. Larger breaks for those that relocate in a struggling community were also included and even greater tax deductions for high-tech manufacturers.

Obama promised businesses that if they brought jobs back to the U.S., he would do everything he could to help them succeed.

He went on to say that the 98 percent of Americans making under $250,000 annually should have lower taxes. The other 2 percent of Americans that make above $1 million annually should not be allowed to pay under 30 percent in taxes.

In his official GOP response, Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels noted, “No feature of the Obama presidency has been sadder than its constant efforts to divide us, to curry favor with some Americans by castigating others.”

Daniels also accused Obama’s policies of being pro-poverty and spending more money, specifically borrowed money, than any other administration in the history of the United States.

CSUSB’s chairman of the political science department, Brian Janiskee, said it should be noted that it is an election year which makes speeches significantly more political in nature.

Continued on Pg. 3

CSU limits new presidents’ salaries to 10 percent raise

By MELISSA BENTON
Staff Writer

Incoming presidents of CSU campuses will not receive a starting salary of 110 percent of that of the incumbent’s base pay, according to a CSU press release.

The new policy, declared by the CSU Board of Trustees on Jan. 25, was first introduced from the Special Committee on Presidential Selection and Compensation which has been reviewing the system’s selection process and executive compensation structure.

According to CSU board chair Herbert Carter, the new policy will aid all presidential candidates, the public and others by maintaining presidential salaries at a reasonable level in the future.

“Our continued goal is to recruit and compete for the best leadership possible, but also within articulated budget guidelines,” said Carter.

CSU is currently in the process of identifying new campus presidents for San Bernardino, Northridge, San Francisco and the Maritime Academy.

Undocumented and unafraid

Immigrant students shut down streets in downtown to bring light to their struggle for education

By COURTNEY SIMS
Staff Writer

Twelve Immigrant Youth Coalition (IYC) protestors were arrested on Jan. 24, outside of City Hall in San Bernardino during a sit-in called “Undocumented and Unafraid.” Of the 12 arrested, 10 may face deportation.

Protestors sat-in in front of the Department of Homeland Security’s field office and Downtown City Hall to protest the treatment of undocumented residents.

“No papers, no fear. Immigrants are marching here,” chanted group members.

Other hot button issues included the Secure Communities program, in which the FBI automatically sends fingerprints to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to check against its immigration databases to prioritize the removal of criminals, those who pose a threat to public safety, and repeat immigration violators, according to ICE.

“The Immigrant Youth Coalition is an organization led by undocumented youth, immigrants and students for fight for immigrant rights, education and against criminalization,” as stated on the IYC website.

Formerly known as the Inland Empire Dream Team, the IYC provides a service for not only students who want to go to college but immigrants that are facing deportation or have experienced criminalization because of their illegal status.

The IYC is pushing to mobilize the youth into political action. One such step was taken last year when they pushed for the Dream Act.

The Dream Act (AB 130) which calls for California universities to allow qualifying students, regardless of citizenship status, to attend.

Many students at CSUSB worry about how the Dream Act will affect their education and future success in this country.

“Tell me when [immigrants] start paying taxes,” said student Renee Barlin. “[Immigrants] have welfare and other social programs sewed up and now you want to give them an education? When they’re here illegally? Give me a break,” she continued.

Other students say they are completely supportive of their right to pursue an education, sympathizing because they know just how the Dream Act will affect their education and future success in this country.

CSUSB's chairman of the political science department, Brian Janiskee, said it should be noted that it is an election year which makes speeches significantly more political in nature.

Continued on Pg. 3
New K-9 enforcement sniffs its way into CSUSB

By KRYSTINA PEDERSEN

CSUSB is bringing campus safety to a whole new level by adding a K-9 to the university’s police department.

Chevy, a 2-year-old 80-pound German shepherd, was brought to CSUSB from Little Rock, Arkansas through grants, private donations and fundraisers held by the women’s cross country team.

Chevy is not your stereotypical attack dog that is trained to bite on command; he is in the process of being trained to detect explosives and ammunition.

“Campuses are a target for terrorist threats; by having Chevy who specializes in detecting explosives and ammunition, we increase campus safety,” said officer Helen Skaggs.

Skaggs is not only Chevy’s command but also his trainer. The pair have been working together for approximately three months now. Skaggs finds working with a K-9 over another officer to be “different and fun but all seen as working with a partner.”

Every day ranging anywhere from 2 to 5 hours, the pair train vigorously at the Fontana Police Departments K-9 facilities.

Chevy is the newest member of the University Police Department. This German shepherd will protect students from potential terrorist attacks as he is being trained to sniff out approximately 12 different scents of explosives and ammunition.

A typical day of training consists of Chevy sniffing out different scents. He is currently able to pick up on five to six scents but won’t be finished with his training until he identifies approximately 12 scents. Chevy also has to pass a certification test issued by the state of California, until then Chevy is unable to be sent out on calls.

When Chevy detects a scent he sits in front of it, that’s his signal to Skaggs that he has detected something. When Chevy obeys commands he is rewarded with a toy.

To Chevy finding explosives is a game, in his mind all he is concerned about is finding these scents so he can be given his toy.

When asked if Chevy is on any special diet for his training, Skaggs laughed and stated that no he is not.

However Chevy is very picky when it comes to his food; he’s already gone through five different brands before he finally found a brand he likes.

After a long day on duty or at training Chevy resides in Skaggs’s backyard running around rolling in the grass and playing with Skaggs’s two young sons.

Skaggs describes Chevy’s personality at home to be more domesticated. At home he is more at ease and there’s more of a playful atmosphere.

Chevy definitely knows his role when he is on duty. He is more protective of the unit and his kennel.

Chevy is the first K-9 to ever be a part of our campus’s police force, and CSUSB continues to look for ways to fund Chevy who cost approximately $10,500.

Skaggs hinted we may see fundraisers such as pancake breakfasts hosted by the Criminal Justice Club in the future. But she still remains on the lookout for more opportunities to raise money for Chevy.

Two rooms for rent: One with private bath, very close to CSUSB, utilities included, full house privileges, $375 and $450 per mo. Men only, some house rules. Credit check/deposit. Phn./Text (909) 855-6211
Obama gives annual State of the Union speech

Continued from Pg. 1

He continued to say that the president is making the argument that spending must be reduced but revenue needs to come from those who are well off. Representatives argue that at a time of recession, or sputtering recovery at best, the answer is not to raise taxes to come from those who are well off.

He also suggested the extension of tuition tax credit and doubling the number of work-study jobs over the next five years.

Immigrants fight for American rights

Continued from Pg. 1

how hard it is to not having an education. Students like Irving Alonso, a descendent of an illegal immigrant, knows just how lucky he is to have the opportunity to go to college.

He feels the Dream Act is a step in the right direction.

“Yeah, immigrants should have the right to go to college. It’s not their fault where they came from, they can’t control it. Education is a part of the American Dream,” said Alonso. “It was hard for my parents trying to find work or having to work two jobs to make ends meet.”

The two extreme sides of this debate over illegal and legal pursuits of education might be able to find a middle ground. Especially when taking the future of California’s budget into account, there needs to be a final agreement.

Students that allow undocumented students to receive state funding to attend colleges and universities and is currently awaiting Gov. Jerry Brown’s signature.

For more information on the IYC and their cause, you can visit their Facebook page.

Send your creative works to coyotesubmissions@gmail.com

Any poems, short stories, photographs, etc. can be published online or in the print edition starting this quarter!
Jack Brown donates to scholarship fund

By KATHERINE VALADEZ
Staff Writer

Jack H. Brown, chairman of Stater Bros. markets, donated over $100,000 to CSUSB for the university’s Rose Brown Scholarship fund.

The scholarship was established in 2000 by Jack Brown as a tribute to his mother, Rose Brown on her 80th birthday.

“He admired her for being widowed at a very young age, and she never remarried while she was raising her son,” said Carmen Murillo-Moyeda, a public affairs marketing specialist for CSUSB.

Jack Brown, for whom Jack Brown Hall is named, created the scholarship to help widowed and single parents, according to Murillo-Moyeda.

It was designed to encourage students to continue to pursue a college degree.

A total of 62 students have been recipients of the scholarship.

More than $60,000 has been awarded since the scholarship was created, according to Murillo-Moyeda.

“The Rose Brown Scholarship provides scholarships to students with a minimum 2.5 GPA, financial need, to students who have been out of high school for at least eight years, and to widowed and single parent enrolled up through secondary school,” according to CSUSB’s Financial Aid website.

In the past, $1,000 scholarships were awarded each year to those who met the requirements. But starting this year, the amount of each scholarship has increased to $1,500.

This year, four students were awarded the scholarship.

One of this year’s recipients is a nursing student raising a 4-year-old son alone, according to a CSUSB news release.

“It was an honor and a privilege to receive this scholarship,” said the recipient. “It has been a blessing financially and has helped me so that I don’t have to work as many hours. This way, I can spend more time with my son.”

Rose Brown married at the age of 18 and was widowed eight years later at age 26.

She was left to raise her only son, 8-year-old Jack, alone, since she had no siblings or parents to help her, according to her obituary from Mt. View Mortuary and Cemetery.

Ms. Brown was a native of Rancho Cucamonga, CA, and lived in San Bernardino for approximately 65 years before her death, according to CSUSB Magazine.

She passed away on August 20, 2011 at the age of 91.

“The amazing thing is she was able to raise this son who has become prominent in the business world,” said Murillo-Moyeda.

Jack Brown is currently CEO of Stater Bros. markets as well as chairman of the board.

In a related issue, overall donations to the Cal State University system rose during the 2010-11 school year, according to a news release.

The total donations received reached $344 million, which is up 30 percent from the previous year, according to the San Bernardino Sun.

In 2009-10, the Cal State University system received donations totaling $265 million.
By DOMINIQUE STERLING  
Staff Writer

CSUSB will never become a school known for great school spirit unless it becomes a place where students who live on and off campus have a place to meet and socialize late at night.

The main and easiest way people can socialize is around food, and there is no better place on campus to do that than the Commons with their main dining room.

I have been attending the CSUSB campus for three years and had never eaten at the Commons until last Thursday.

Since then it has become my first choice for a meal.

I was very surprised at the amount of healthy yet wholesome choices that the menu offered.

Entering the Commons I found it very big plus. It keeps each meal new exciting.

The menu not only offers what is being served it also includes the calorie count which permits me to eat according to my diet plan.

Many health conscious students and faculty often find it difficult to find healthy choices on campus, that’s why it is such a shame that the Commons is not open when the students really need it to be.

Choosing between nutrition and convenience can distract many of us from the better choices.

The variety at the Commons also is a big plus. It keeps each meal new exciting.

However, there are fan-favorites that they continually offer such as pizza, burgers, and the salad bar.

Because CSUSB is a commuter school, it is very important there are plenty of options for students to have a healthy choice for meals.

“It’s cheap. Service is quicker and a larger variety. They definitely want to try and meet the needs of the students,” said student Gill Rutherford. “Eating in the Commons allowed me to get my food, pay, eat and still have time to casually walk to class.”

The Commons is open Mon-Fri, 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Mon-Wed. Dinner 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. This is not helpful to the student who takes a full load of classes the whole day until late at night.

One area on campus that does have convenient hours, is the Recreation and Fitness Center, which is open until midnight.

The Rec Center and the Commons could go hand-in-hand for many students who want to “carb up” or just follow their workouts with a healthy and balanced meal.

I don’t think it’s too much to ask from Sodexo, who has a strangle hold on food on campus, to try and make student life a little easier.

Although the schedule for the Commons may not permit all students to have every meal there, I strongly suggest that when you do get the chance to enjoy a meal there, I guarantee you will not be disappointed.

With the great selection that the Commons offers I can say the only negative is their lack of availability. Because of my awkward scheduling this quarter I am able to enjoy their food. The only need I see that would have to be addressed would be the lack of open business hours.

Continued on Pg. 6

By LIZBETH LOPEZ  
Staff Writer

CSUSB has been too slow in demonstrating our discontent with the tuition hikes compared to other CSUs.

We should all know by now that they have gotten out of hand.

For a CSU campus that currently enrolls more than 17,500 students, why does Occupy CSUSB, which expresses the belief that we should protest on our campus, have only 112 likes on Facebook?

Yes, students have gathered in front of the Pflau Library to protest the rising fees and effects on the quality of higher education in California, but that turnout has had minimal effect.

In a previous Coyote Chronicle article, it was reported that a meeting facilitated by CSUSB’s Student for Quality Education (SQE) on Nov. 22 of last year, a mere 30 attendees gathered outside the Blue Coyote Pub in the SMSU.

The purpose of the meeting was to try and get the “Occupy” wave to come to CSUSB but this does not appear to have happened relative to potential.

The L.A Times reported that UCR had a passionate crowd of up to 500 protesters throughout its campus on Jan. 26.

University of California, Riverside is relatively close to CSUSB, yet we are not nearly as actively involved as them. The number of people voicing their opinion at that university puts ours to shame.

We should be more active in raising our voices and demonstrating our dissatisfaction with tuition increases, the lack of class availability, and the number of full time professors.

We are not doing enough!

It is pitiful that a great majority of us complain about the tuition fee increases, parking permit prices, and inability to get classes yet don’t do enough, if anything about it.

Take an initiative and stop making excuses for your lack of involvement.

I am a student too and I understand that we are pressed for time because most of us work, go to school to pay tuition out of pocket and allot time to spend time with our families.

It is no secret that the majority of CSUSB students are county wide commuters from San Bernardino and Riverside, and I understand that commuting is a chunk of our lives.

However, CSU fee increases affect all of us and our families down the line.

Continued on Pg. 6
Depressed cats and students alike could be multitudes happier if only the were allowed to unite in CSUSB student housing.

By ALEJANDRA ARANA
Staff Writer

Students should be allowed to have pets in the dorms or apartments to help reduce the stress of college life. Coming home to an excited, jumping puppy or kitten allows the stress to leave your body. I moved down here from Northern California and my first year was very difficult to deal with without my family. If I would have been allowed to bring my bunny Snowball, I would have had something from home that no one could take from me. She would have been a constant and reassuring reminder from home that would have helped me deal with my stress.

Housing does not allow pets (besides fish) to live with students for various reasons but they should allow them, for the student’s emotional well-being. There are more benefits associated with having a pet than there are negative issues they might generate.

Even the Health Center has the annual “Pet Your Stress Away” event where students have the opportunity to pet cute animals so they can relieve stress. If the Health Center facilitates these events it’s because stress among students is high and there is a real problem.

College is difficult on its own and some of us are having trouble just affording to continue on as students, so we deserve to have pets. It is ridiculous that after all the money we spend to live on campus we can’t even make it a real home with our own accommodations.

With pets, you let all your emotions go, you forget about all your homework and the bills you have to pay and just enjoy the company of someone that loves you unconditionally, all the stress of the day evaporates.

“I believe pets should be allowed in the dorms because having a pet is very beneficial to the owner. They provide stress relief, entertainment as well as companionship,” said student Isela Ocampo.

Some students come from all the way across the country and they miss home so having their pet allows them to have a little something from home to make them feel more comfortable in their new surroundings.

Of course, there should be limitations on how many pets are allowed and what kinds residents are allowed to keep. “There should definitely be a limit. One pet should be the limit because we don’t want the rooms to get smelly or have to manage too many pets,” said Ocampo.

“They should not be poisonous or harmful to anyone,” said student Kathleen Huntington.

No poisonous snakes or spiders or any other animal that can cause harm should be allowed for the safety of everyone who lives nearby.

Designating one whole building “pet friendly” would help avoid any potential conflicts with students that could arise regarding the pets, especially since it would be safe to say that everyone in that designated building would be animal lovers.

Allowing pets to live with residents will help students to not only deal with their stress in a healthy manner, but also to have a little piece of home with them.

Course Clickers may be a nifty idea in theory, but are proving to be a real headache to already penny-pinching students.

By KIMBERLY “CHARLIE” TRELLOAR
Staff Writer

There is no denying that advancement in technology has changed the way we receive our education.

In addition to paying for tuition and books, students now may have to purchase a clicker to be used in their courses.

At what point does the hemorrhaging of our wallets and bank accounts stop? I believe that it is wrong to impose extra costs on students for the sake of participating in the latest technological advancements that don’t even work most of the time.

Fortunately, if a student requires a clicker for the winter quarter, he or she has to spend $25.50 for the clicker itself and then another $17.50 for the access code according to the CSUSB bookstore.

This adds up to $43 for one course so that your professor can take roll for a class that may have more than 150 students.

According to the CSUSB bookstore, eight classes this quarter with more than 150 students require a clicker and code to participate in.

That amounts to over $52,000 that students will spend extra just to be counted.

What happened to taking roll by passing around a pad of paper and a pen?

Some can say that this is the great benefit to the clickers, that attendance is done in a matter of seconds. However, if a pen a paper is passed around, it really is only consuming a few seconds of each individual’s time, worth the $43 I think.

The clicker, though it can be used for such things as quizzes and class questions, cannot fully guarantee that the person who is getting credit for them is the one taking them.

This can be achieved when a professor requires photo identification or when students turn a quiz or exam in. It’s just a matter of them wanting to make that sort of effort to ensure the integrity of their classroom.

This past quarter I had to purchase a clicker and an access code for one of my communication studies courses.

Due to the website and the computer in the classroom having issues, we only used our clickers a few times. It really ended up being an extra waste of time and money.

“I think that having to buy a clicker is a waste of time and money. As a full time college student, I don’t have the money to waste on a clicker when I could invest that money into a book for school, and the E-Instruction website a lot of times is down, which is inconvenient,” said one student.

Some professors will say that the whole class benefits from the gadget by forcing the students to be involved and on their toes, ready to click away. Seems reasonable, right? Wrong.

Students are still able to access the site and get the information they need without having to be present.

Heck, they can even have a fellow student do the clicking for them and it will still register them as present even when they are not.

Professors should see that sometimes what really counts is the information that they are teaching students, not any “cool” tool that they use.

With all the rising costs of being a college student any kind of financial assistance, break would be helpful. The cost of a clicker, $43. The cost of a pad of paper, $3.

CSUSB professors taking it easy on us and not requiring such materials, PRICELESS.

Consider this: commuters have the added financial burden of cost of fuel, thus, more than anyone, we should be doing our best to halt tuition increases.

California Grants and federal financial aid as it currently exists is insufficient, and you can be assured that there will be another tuition fee increase this time next year if something isn’t done forthwith.

We have the tools in the palms of our hands, so let us put them to good use.

It is unimaginable to think that students on campus may not own a smartphone but, if that is the case, we still have access to the Internet.

Take an initiative and stop making excuses for your lack of involvement.

on Facebook for meeting times, event updates and information in an endeavor to voice your frustration with tuition increases and poorer educational environments.

We all have access to Blackboard. Send mass e-mails to all your classmates of upcoming movement on CSUSB.

The rest of the students can then forward that e-mail to their classmates in other classes, and they can do the same, which would create a more informed student body.

We can also inform and promote Occupy CSUSB on CSUSB’s Coyote Radio to inform everyone who listens on to them on CSUSB on CSUSB’s Coyote Radio to inform.

We are the voice for our children and their children and it is in our hands to act now for their future.
By EDWARD HEWITT

Travis Brass Band thrills the audience with an energetic battle between its two trumpeters. The duo entertained the audience with a round robin performance of a brass version of the “Macarena” song, while battling for the title of the band’s best trumpet player.

CSUSB’s music department hosted its annual “Music Tuesday” concert Jan. 24. The featured artist was none other than the Travis Brass Band of the Air Force’s Golden Band of the West.

The Travis Brass Band is a sub group (brass section), of the Air Force’s Golden Band of the West which consist of 45 active duty Air Force members. The musical group consists of six members, all of whom play one of the band’s five featured instruments.

Airmen First Class Stephen Denison and Mathew Garza are the band’s trumpet players. Staff Sgt. Robert Mayes plays the French horn, Airmen 1st Class Travis Harde plays the euphonium, Staff Sgt. Jill Corbett the tuba and Tech. Sgt. Christi L. McGowan plays the drums.

Their sound is an eclectic one. During their performance they played a variety of music styles ranging from traditional marching band to more uptempo covers of music from artists like Duke Ellington. The band bases their playlist off of the anticipated audience, which ensures their performances resonate with all ages.

As the only West Coast Air Force band, their coverage area is broad and includes the states of Calif., Nev., Wash., Idaho and Ore. This dictates that they cover all musical military ceremonies in addition to community outreach functions such as “Music Tuesday” at CSUSB.

During the CSUSB version of the show, the band made an effort to incorporate the audience by including facts about themselves, a background to each piece of music they performed and a little showmanship with a Macarena musical battle between the members of the trumpet section.

In addition to performing live music, the band conducts education clinics which can range from the band performing, answering questions, assistance in teaching master classes, one on one tutoring, and technique tutorials for students that are interested in brass music instruments.

The overall goal for the clinic is to provide a more hands-on experience to students and the community at large.

In addition to West Coast tours and performances, the musicians are active duty members of the Air Force. As Tech. Sgt. Christi L. McGowan explained, “We are members of the AMC (Air Mobility Command), which not only consist of fighter jets, but humanitarian efforts. Whenver commercial air can’t handle the situation, we step in and help provide relief.”

“In addition to the importance of music, the bands overall message, we pay homage to veterans and those currently serving, recruiting new members and discharging,” Taylor said.

Continued to Pg. 8

By MARINA RANGEL

Ove $2,000 could be resting comfortably in our wallets rather than hiking to the federal government, if students realized the savings they could be making on their federal taxes.

In a “Tax Talk” hosted by the Osher Re-entry Center on Tuesday Jan. 24, representatives from the nearby H&R Block spoke to students about the student deductions they could be missing out on.

“Students need to be interested in this sort of thing,” said representative Victor Malone, urging the importance of knowing available student benefits in the tax world.

Malone stressed three tax terms: credits, deductions and phase-out. Through credits and deductions, less money is owed to the government and most credits and deductions will phase out, or disappear if income increases.

“I feel like I don’t get enough money back,” said Magda Lopez, one of the students who attended the Tax Talk.

So what are those deductions and credits and what is commonly being overlooked?

The American Opportunity Credit is applied to student expenses like books, supplies and equipment. Up to 100 percent of the first $2,000 and 25 percent of the second $2,000 can be claimed as a credit.

Recently changed in 2009, the American Opportunity Credit is now 40 percent refundable allowing for a maximum of $2,500 back in your pocket.

Sounds complicated, right? Actually, it is really as simple as claiming out of pocket expenses on books, computers or school supplies and the most overlooked expense, mileage.

As a student, I drive about 94 miles to and from school twice a week and at 50 cents a mile, I could be claiming up to $1,100 for a mileage deduction under the American Opportunity Credit.

“In that hour, I realized so much of the student stuff I never used,” said student Bryant Taylor in response to attending the Tax Talk.

Taylor is former military and is aware of the limitations he has from not doing his taxes himself during that period. He now feels confident that he can get the most from his tax return just from being a student.

Students can also benefit from the Lifetime Learning Credit which applies to tuition and fees paid out of pocket. Interest paid on your student loans can also be used as a deduction, for more information visit 1098t.com.

Not being an expert, it felt great to listen to a tax professional one on one address our concerns as students. This was not the only opportunity to receive free help.

Many businesses offer great tax resources. Specific to H&R Block, anyone is able to schedule a free “Second Look” which gives you an opportunity to go over past tax returns with a licensed tax representative or file a 1040ez for free till Feb. 29.

“Go and talk to someone, just to go through the experience,” said Malone in reference to students doing their taxes for the first time.

Taxes are real life and our lives inside and outside of school are not always cheap. Having the scoop on how to save money is always welcome.
The aggressive rhythm and strong beat of Latin American dance music is enough to catch people's interest. It gets our bodies moving. The movements of Latin American dance are hot and fascinating.

The Latin American Dance lecture was held on Jan. 25, in the Pfau library by Robin Hernandez. Hernandez has traveled and taught Latin American dance for seven years, five years as a freelancer. She says she wants to get people interested in Latin American dance because it is a world-wide interest. Hernandez said, "This historical information of the dance makes people open their minds to Latin American dance."

The lecture dealt with subtopics such as types of dances, physiological and psychological benefits of dancing and dance etiquette.

The benefits of dancing are numerous. Physiologically, dancing is a great aerobic exercise and increases flexibility. It also improves the circulation of the body and helps with cardiovascular conditioning.

Moreover, socially and psychologically dancing activity allows you to meet many people so that you can socialize with them. It reduces stress, so you will forget your annoyances. By having a fun time dancing, you will feel confident and relaxed at the same time.

Sam Romero, Public Affairs employee said, "It was a helpful lecture. I have always wondered about Latin American dance."

However, before you go dancing you should know about today's dance etiquette. It is critical. When someone asks you to dance, you should not say "No." If you must say no, give a reason. Say "Thank you" after the dance. When you step on someone's foot, apologize. Keeping these pieces of etiquette while having an amusing dance time with your partner can make you love dancing more than ever.

There are seven Latin American dances: Samba, Rumba, Mambo, Cha Cha, Cumbia, Merengue and Salsa. In short, Samba, means "to pray," introduced in the late 1920s and now dominates most of Brazilian culture. Today we can see it on the streets of Brazil especially during the Brazil Samba Festival during the Rio Carnival.

Rumba is the most sensual dance with fast hip movements. Rumba has an international style and American style but for the most part the male plays an aggressive role and females play a submissive role.

Mambo, meaning Voodoo priestess, influences Cha Cha by adding a triple step. Like other dances, Cha Cha is spread by tourists who returned to their home countries.

Cumbia, a Columbian dance, started between the 17th and 18th century. Cumbia is famous for social courtship dance which is done on special occasions.

Merengue became popular in the mid-1950s due to its simplicity. It's often accompanied with scandalous lyrics and a strong beat.

On the other hand, Salsa began to mix with Rumba, of African origin. In result, Salsa has evolved over time through an elaborate syncretism of different sounds, culture and meaning.

After the lecture, people had enjoyable time to putting this information to actual use by attending beginners level of Salsa and Merengue.

Faculty and students came together to shake some hips with Robin Hernandez to not only learn about Latin American history but a few dance lessons of Merengue and Salsa as well.

Cumbia, Merengue and Salsa. The Travis Brass Band shows off their musical talent as they competed against each other and provide an unforgettable performance for audience.

The Travis Brass Band of the Air Force's Golden Band of the West provides a musical experience that all ages can enjoy and an experience that people from all walks of life can relate to. Despite musical preferences or personal likes, the Travis Brass Band is sure to provide an enjoyable experience for all.
Diaries of a Jet Setter

A guy’s guide to getting lost

By R. ANTHONY DIAZ
Asst. Features Editor

Ever thought about getting lost? Well think again because once you step into the unfamiliar, you will have to think fast, and I am not talking about downtown San Bernardino.

As college students many of us have traveled abroad or simply about downtown. San Bernardino. I want to share my experience, of course someone to clean after you. The best part about unplanned trips is not knowing what is next and welcoming the unexpected.

With theaters, pubs, coffee shops, Chinatown, the gay area, excellent food and plenty of shops on Long Acre.

The best part about unplanned trips is not knowing what is next and welcoming the unexpected.

Remember that no matter what, the subway is the way to go for most major points in the city. Buy the day pass and exit at Leicester Square. The chaos and personality of the city is here, lace up your kicks and shine your Ray Bans!

CSUSB MARC Program

The CSUSB MARC Program (Minority Access to Research Careers) is seeking excellent undergraduate students who plan to continue their academic careers and gain a Ph.D. in research-based disciplines that have relevance to health such as psychology, biology, chemistry, etc.

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“Let us know if you’re approached. Report it to the police and to the career center so we can stop it as soon as we can.”

Carol Dixon

Faux company scams students

By TOM STILLWAGON
Staff Writer

A fraudulent company has been attempting to scam CSU students through campus career centers across the state, according to the CSUSB Career Center. Police reports were filed on campus this past week regarding the scam attempts.

Carol Dixon, interim director for the CSUSB Career Center, is aware of the situation and is taking measures to fix the problem.

According to Dixon, this is the only event of its kind that she has witnessed in her six years at the center. “This is a situation that happened to all of the entire CSU so it is not isolated to our campus,” said Dixon. “Whoever they are, the FBI is aware of them. Our own campus police department is aware of them.”

The faux company posts fraudulent job opportunities on the boards of the campus centers. The most recent name used was ABCO ROOFING, INC.

“They’ve come in with at least six names that I know of,” said Dixon. “They create a bogus company and they provide a very realistic job description, which basically tells students that they will be handling accounts.” After allegedly hiring students, the scam artists sends the student a check, and ask them to put the money in their bank account. They are then asked to send the money to an address provided by the “company,” minus the ten percent the student is encouraged to keep as payment.

If the student goes through with this, the check will bounce in a few short days, and the student is scammed out of his or her money. “It’s a really awful scam,” said Dixon, who mentioned that the CSUSB Career Center has been chasing the individual for at least a year.

She mentioned that they are constantly on the lookout for posts by the fraudulent employer, but just as one post is flagged and taken down, another one quickly pops up in its place. Given that the scam artist uses a brand new company name every time he or she posts, trying to catch the person has been very difficult. “It’s got to be a professional criminal because they are quick,” said Dixon, “quick and very slick.”

“But all of the CSU’s are aware of it,” said Dixon. “This is not just endemic to our campus.”

Should a student encounter one of these scams, Dixon encourages them to bring it to the career center and to notify the police. “Call us immediately,” she said. “Let us know if you’re approached. Report it to the police and or to the career center so we can stop it as soon as we can.”
Her passion and inspiration for music started from listening to her father's classic rock records as a child. She has memories of herself dancing in her living room to Parliament-Funkadelic. Just like most hard-working aspiring artists, K. Flay started her way from the bottom. In the summer of 2004, she got a job at a French restaurant in her hometown, Chicago, making just $4.95 an hour. Compiling her earnings, she purchased a basic Edirol keyboard and taught herself how to make beats.

K. Flay, whose real name is Kristine Flaherty, was inspired to start producing music from a college friend who was a DJ. She learned the ropes her sophomore year at Stanford and started what would become a blossoming career performing at campus venues.

With her new mixed style, she has been influenced by artists from Missy Elliot and Lizzo to Fiona Apple and Lizzo.

Even with her degrees in psychology and sociology, K. Flay decided to follow her dream of getting into music and becoming a rap artist. “I’m just making music I hope my roommates don’t mind listening to,” she says.

After a year of preparing high school students for the SATs, she stepped out of the world of academia for a shot at the music industry.

“I think at some point, I was just so sick of sentence completion that I said, ‘F— it,’” K. Flay said in an interview with Alternative Press.

K. Flay has a distinctive aspect that sets her apart from other artists. She makes her own beats, manages her own website, controls her own recording process and pretty much serves as her own rhythm section.

Despite graduating from Stanford University, K. Flay embarked on a different journey, aiming to become the Obama of hip-hop/rap star. Having already performed with the likes of Snoop Dogg and Ludacris, K. Flay should be on your hip-hop radar.

Despite encountering those experiences,” said one of the students.

“Her jokes are relatable because I think it’s funny because she’s just telling the truth and everyone knows it, but they don’t say it,” Johnson said in an interview with Alternative Press.

“Her jokes are relatable because I have encountered those experiences,” said student Ondrina Johnson. Amber Claude, another CSUSB student, also agrees, “I think it’s funny because she’s just telling the truth and everyone knows it, but they don’t say it.”

Johnson shows some of her uniqueness when she tells her life story through comical skits in “That’s How We Do It,” but there were some jokes she made that were more typical and perhaps more predictable than funny.

For example, the nail salon skit is common because Johnson and every other comedian repeat the same stereotypes of Asian workers.

A piece of the skit narrates an incident where the manicurist (in broken English) asks, “You have boyfriend?” and her response was no.

Why you don’t have? You look so honey, that’s why you don’t have boyfriend.”

Johnson replayed, “Short nails, please. Thanks.” The manicurist responded, “Oh honey, that’s why you don’t have boyfriend.”

Despite some of her overly common jokes, she deserves credit for portraying her character Bon Qui Qui on “MadTV” because of the, strong-willed personality she has.

Tickets are currently on sale for $10 for CSUSB students; $25 for staff, faculty, and alumni; $30 for reserved; and $40 for gold circle. For more information, visit CSUSB.edu
Swedish sisters heal with First Aid Kit

By BRIAN CHIDUENE
Staff Writer

Swedish teenage sisters Johanna and Klara Soderberg are here to prove that folk music still carries relevance in music culture today with their new album The Lion’s Roar.

Hailing from Rabid Records, under the name First Aid Kit, Johanna and Karra have been creating a stir around the net since 2008 with their first EP Drunken Trees.

They have been gaining recognition everywhere from the decks of DJ’s for their 2010 release of The Big Black & The Blue.

From then on, critics have been able to note shades of Bob Dylan and the Fleet Foxes in their work.

With The Lion’s Roar’s 10 tracks show that the Indie-folk duo’s signature sound of bittersweet harmony remains present throughout.

By blending traits of Indie music with different types of country and folk music as an influence, First Aid Kit does not disappoint.

The opening track, titled after the album, gives the vibe of a lone-star with the soul of a forlorn ballad.

Both of these qualities work in unison to create that Indie-country sound which effectively transitions over to “Emmylou,” an experiment at showing how to construct an effective love letter to Nashville.

The Lion’s Roar is home to a couple of First Aid Kit’s finest composed tracks of their career, most notably in the dreamlike “Blue.”

“I Found A Way” stands as the best track on the album.

It showcases First Aid Kit taking their signature lone-star harmony to an apex in order to create one of their finest composed and best sounding tracks.

The eighth track, “Dance to Another Tune,” gives a post-apocalyptic coat in the album’s slowest and most melancholy tune.

The song is also the strongest in terms of an homage to the sounds of the frontier.

Songs such as “In the Hearts of Men” and “King of the World” don’t disappoint and remain solid and worth a listen.

It is also important to the cross-country adventure that tells a story of the band (with Conor Oberst) traveling to different locales and meeting different people.

While it serves as an uplifting closer to a solid album, it feels like there doesn’t seem to be much innovation found.

Another area to note, that critics have praised First Aid Kit for the numerous moments in which the sisters harmonize together.

According to Simmy Richman of The Independent, he states that “First Aid Kit sing harmonies so close [together] that you couldn’t run a Band-Aid between them.”

In the case of the duo, how far they’ve come since their 2007 debut with the home-recorded “Tangerine” remains too good to be true.

The Lion’s Roar is rewarded with a 9 out of 10, because of how the band has taken their signature sound of bittersweet harmony.

The album soars to new heights while paying an effective homage to lone-star ballads of the past.

‘American Idol’ ratings drop for first time in a decade

By MONIQUE CLARKE
Staff Writer

“American Idol” kicked off their 11th season on Jan. 22 with high expectations for the hit show this year.

Unfortunately, it did not deliver its familiar high ratings.

The show’s ratings dropped for the first time on a premiere episode in the show’s long history.

Their ratings dropped 24 percent from last season’s premiere episode.

Some critics suggest that for the past three years the show’s ratings were due to audiences curiosity regarding the new judges.

In 2009, Kara DioGuardi stunned fans when she became the fourth judge on the show.

The audience was interested in finding out just how another judge would fit in.

Then in 2010, another curve ball was thrown when Ellen DeGeneres replaced Paula Abdul in season nine.

It was a move that brought in another set of high ratings.

Sadly, both Kara DioGuardi and Ellen DeGeneres would go on to leave the show after brief stints.

The biggest shocker of them all was when Simon Cowell himself left the ninth season to work on the U.S. version of “The X Factor.”

Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez join Randy Jackson as the newest judges last season.

Back to last season’s premiere, Lopez and Tyler were a hot topic for audiences around the country, raising the ratings yet again.

Now on its eleventh season, judges Jackson, Tyler and Lopez are back and looking for the next superstar American Idol.

For the new season, auditions were held in St. Louis, Portland, Pittsburgh, San Diego, Charleston, Denver, Aspen, New Jersey, Galveston and Houston.

Their first stop: San Diego. Auditions were held on the USS Midway.

Campers even saw a special contestant, actor and comedian Jim Carrey’s daughter, Jane Carrey.

Carrey won her golden ticket to Hollywood by singing Bonnie Raitt hit song “Something to Talk About.”

She then called her famous father with the good news.

The season’s audition episodes are still giving fans what they want: contestants to laugh at and fall in love with.

So why are ratings lower than usual? Is it because fan’s feel like Steven Tyler shouldn’t be judging people on their singing, after he messed up on the national anthem at this year’s NFL AFC Championship?

Or has the show aged and left nothing new to freshen up 11th season?

One could conclude that it is no longer the only show that gives希望ful singers and musicians the chance to become a Hollywood star.

New shows like “The Voice,” “America’s Got Talent” and “The X Factor” have given “American Idol” a tough time keeping their fans interested in a show that has been running over a decade.

Nevertheless, “American Idol” is still one of Fox Entertainment Group’s hit shows.

Faithful “American Idol” fans will continue to tune in Wednesdays and Thursdays to see who will become its next Scott McCreery or Kelly Clarkson.
Dark, emotive and eccentric are among the vocabulary used to describe up-and-coming U.K. pop singer Charli XCX. The nineteen-year-old songstress from London is on her way to making it big this year.

With a voice reminiscent of Gwen Stefani and an eerie electronica sound, Charli has been making a splash in the London scene. She was recently nominated for MTV U.K.’s Brand New for 2012 list, competing with other new acts including Lana Del Ray and Conor Maynard — Britain’s version of Justin Bieber.

Charli, who has always had a passion for songwriting, started a band at the age of seven. “It wasn’t really a serious sort of band when I was seven but I was really into writing songs and stuff like that,” she said while laughing off her past experience in an interview with Music News Web.

Charli wrote her first album when she was fourteen with the help from her mother and father. That experience ultimately opened doors and soon she was playing gigs across the London borough of Hackney in warehouse raves.

Charli soon began playing bigger venues such as Royal Festival Hall which prides itself on being one of the “world’s leading performance venues.” Last year, she debuted an EP titled Stay Away which featuring her popular single Nuclear Seasons and various remixes of her single Stay Away.

Her biggest influences include Kate Bush, Bjork, Austra and Salem, and she takes inspiration from various forms of art. “Usually, I get a lot of influence from photography and film,” said Charli. “I really enjoy writing beautiful lyrics that sometimes don’t make sense. Just words that sound good together.”

Charli also achieves satisfaction from interacting with her online fans. “I’ve always been quite interactive with my fan base with Facebook and Twitter. I really enjoy that,” explained Charli Music News Web. “I think it’s good to interact with people that way. I think it makes them aware that you’re not a robot.”

Though she is on the rise in the U.K., the question remains: will she become a hit in the United States? Most CSUSB students who were asked about Charli XCX stated that they were unfamiliar her. Nonetheless, Betsabe Bolanos knows who she is and stated “Personally, I wouldn’t listen to her.” However, when pressed for her thoughts on Charli XCX’s potential popularity in the U.S., Bolanos suggested, “She’s different and her music is eccentric. People will gravitate towards that kind of music.”

Charli XCX’s music demonstrates much potential, but only time will tell if she can reach a broader global fan base.
Basketball is only the beginning

Angela Streets and Theron Laudermill are two of the most prolific athletes on campus, leading their teams in more ways than one.

By JAZMIN JETT  Staff Writer

Angela Streets, the talented shooting guard of the women’s basketball team, achieved a monumental milestone by earning her 400th point in a losing effort to Humboldt State.

Originally from Arizona, Streets was born in the Philippines due to her father’s standing in the Air Force.

Adjusting to life in California was tough for Streets at first; her family, including her twin brother, was still in Arizona.

Streets explained the difficulties she faced initially as “we were without our family’s presence.” As if living without her family wasn’t difficult enough, Streets also found herself born into a new culture. She attributes her ability to persevere to her team-mates and current roommate.

Like most transfers, she found herself making up classes that were nontransferable to CSUSB.

Though she initially faced trials and tribulations, Streets quickly became accustomed to life here in California. She attributes her ability to persevere to her teammates and current roommate.

While it may appear that she’s played basketball her entire life, Streets only began playing basketball in middle school.

Once she began, however, there was no stopping her. She has been playing since eighth grade, mostly playing at shooting guard, though occasionally taking on the role of a point guard and small forward.

When asked to compare and contrast the different positions she has played in her career, she emphasized that while playing shooting guard, she was the most comfortable as she found that it became easier to drive and shoot the ball.

Playing the point guard position has been the most difficult due to the need to memorize plays and bring the ball up the court against heavy pressure.

Streets career at CSUSB has been fairly successful, though even she admits that she’s had a few games she wishes she could play over.

Two games that haunt her were recent matchups against Cal State Monterey Bay and Sonoma State.

“I felt I could have helped my team out better,” she said.

Streets followed her poor performances with one to remember against Humboldt State. Recording her 400th point in a 34-point performance made that night a special one for Streets.

“It was my best game of the season. We made little mistakes here and there but I felt we should have won,” said Streets.

Hoping to conclude her undergraduate study by the summer, Streets plans on earning a degree in kinesiology, with a concentration in pedagogy.

This season, CSUSB men’s basketball has shown flashes of brilliance and overwhelming potential.

Theron Laudermill, a senior from Riverside, has had a great influence on the exceptional season that the Coyotes have had so far.

Although he was a redshirt during his first year as a Coyote, Laudermill has made notable contributions during the two years he has played.

He has impressively scored in double figures in 13 games, including a 16 point performance against a tough UCLA squad earlier this year.

Born in Riverside, Laudermill was raised in Moreno Valley where he attended Vista Del Lago High School in 2007.

Following graduation, he then attended Shoreside Community College in Seattle, Washington for 2 years before transferring back to Southern California to register at CSUSB in 2009 in order to reunite with his family.

Home-cooking proved to be just what Laudermill needed.

“Cal State helped me grow up responsibly,” said Laudermill. “When you have a lot on your plate with a set schedule, you have to learn to stick with it.”

The big question everybody has been asking him has been, what does he plan on doing when he graduates from CSUSB?

The answer is a simple one. He plans to make it into the NBA.

“I’m looking to play professionally,” Laudermill stated. “I’ve been looking to do that my whole life. The NBA is my main goal.”

Laudermill holds faith that he will be prosperous no matter what obstacle he may face.

“My mom and the people at church have encouraged me to push through and keep faith in God in order to be where I need to be,” said Laudermill.

Inspired by his father and led by his former basketball coaches, Laudermill has always had aspirations to achieve what many only dream of doing; making it into the league.

Playing overseas has not been stricken off the map for the prospective athlete either. Although Laudermill is striving to be drafted in the NBA, he is still interested in playing overseas after he graduates from CSUSB.

As a business and administration major, Laudermill plans to partner with his mother, Pamela Laudermill, and assist her in building her local photography business, Photos On Sight, located in Moreno Valley.

With his determination and competitive nature, one can only expect to see Laudermill’s name in the big lights one day.
What can the Rec Center do for you?

By ZION GUILLOY
Staff Writer

The CSUSB Recreational Sports and Fitness Center is a place of solace for many students, professors, and others who simply want to break a sweat.

The “Rec Center,” as many call it, has an easy flowing environment where one can go to become centered. Its main focus is to help students work on their bodies and wellness.

In addition to the fully equipped gym that the Rec Center provides, there are many different activities that it offers.

Every quarter, a schedule of all the various activities provided is offered to those who are interested.

The Rec Center holds intramural tournaments in basketball, volleyball and indoor soccer at any skill level.

According to Rec Center employee Mark Esho: “The intramural tournaments has the most participants because there are no expectations to play like a pro; it’s all about having fun and winning with your team. I have a great time overseeing some of the games.”

This quarter’s outdoor adventure guide is packed with exciting activities that aren’t going to be available in any other quarter.

These activities do charge a fee varying from $20 to $230.

The sole cost free activity is the Kayak Pool Workshop offered in our own pool. This is an evening class aimed to teach the students how to paddle, do wet exits and other techniques.

Another exciting water workshop is the Black Canyon Kayak and Hot Springs. There you actually get to go kayaking in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River right below the Hoover Dam.

Another popular activity that is offered is snowboarding for both beginners and experienced riders.

The snowboarding activities take place at different locations such as Mt. High Ski resort, Mammoth Mountain and Bear Mountain.

Other outdoor adventures this quarter include hiking, camping and even whale watching.

For a full schedule, price list of all the activities and workshops being offered this quarter, visit the front desk in the Rec Center; they will provide you with any information you may need.

Inside the Rec Center there are many classes taught throughout the quarter. These classes are known as GroupX, and are free of charge.

There is a class for all types of exercise, whether it is dance, self-defense or training.

One of the classes offered is Boot Camp X which is an intense workout that has different exercises aimed for a specific body part. In addition to Boot Camp X, there is also TRX Boot Camp.

The dance classes that are available are Zumba, belly dancing and hip-hop. These styles of dance look very different, but a lot of the same moves are incorporated in all three.

For those of you who like a slower paced workout, you might want to consider taking yoga or Pilates which are also offered this quarter.

The more limited classes in the GroupX schedule are the self-defense classes including: jujitsu, Fight Like a Girl and reality based self-defense. These classes are only offered once or twice a week.

Of course, there is also standard workout equipment for those who are looking to bulk up or lose a few pounds.

There are a vast number of machines and equipment that one can use to accomplish desired results.

No matter what you’re into, the Rec Center is sure to have an activity suitable for you.

From dancing to intramural sports, the Rec Center has it all. Stop by, take a look at the schedule and join the fun.
W with the women’s basketball season more than half way done, the Coyotes have been preparing even harder in order to close the season strong.

In the Lady Coyotes’ most recent loss to Humboldt State, Angela Streets and Elinza Dy answered Coach Becker’s plea for more productivity out of his two stars. Despite Streets racking up a season high of 34 points and Dy chipping in with 17 points of her own, the Coyotes were unable to pull out the victory.

“As a team we shot poorly that night and had 15-plus more field goal attempts than Humboldt and only needed a couple more baskets to win,” said coach Kevin Becker.

“As a team, we had a couple of players play major minutes with no production, which hurt the team,” concluded Becker.

On a positive note, Streets and Dy more than made up for the woeful performance they had a few weeks ago against Cal State Monterey Bay in which they both combined to make a single field goal.

Becker said what worked well against Humboldt for both players was their great sense of mixing the offense up and willingness to take what the defense gave them.

At the start of the game, Streets was one point short of reaching 480 points in her career. She was able to reach the 400 point plateau in a big way.

She shot an impressive 12 of 25 from the field, while going 6 of 14 from the three-point line. Streets is looking to have no regrets at the end of this season.

“This is my last year and I don’t want to leave with any what-if’s,” said Streets.

“This year we are younger and not as experienced. I haven’t taken it upon myself to carry the team offensively. I just want to have fun and bring my A-game every chance I get,” Streets concluded.

She has high hopes for the remainder of the season as she expects her team to continue working hard and to play every game as if it’s their last.

Becker stressed that Streets is getting great opportunities offensively because of the production of Dy’s within the flow of the offense for the team.

“She is more comfortable knowing her skills this season. She knows when to attack, when to shoot the three, when to screen and how keep the others involved,” said Becker.

Becker hopes in moving forward into future games, that Streets realizes that she is a “go-to” player, looks to continue to work hard and not to take anything for granted.

“The team also needs to recognize when someone is ‘in the zone’ and make sure that she gets the ball when needed,” said Becker.

They’re young and have a lot to learn, but this determined, feisty group of girls is one we should look forward to watching progress. They plan to make the changes necessary to become a force to be reckoned with.

As for the remainder of this season, it will be important for this group of players to play with pride and confidence understanding that no season is a lost one.

With consistent performances out of their stars, Streets and Dy, a solid defensive game plan, and a fluid offensive scheme, the team can potentially end the season with a winning record.

With eight games left, it will be interesting to see what these girls are really made of.

By SHYNEESE WALTER
Staff Writer

Angela Streets quickly and forcibly drives to the lane against her opponent, Cal State East Bay on Jan. 14 in a 63-47 win.

By ALEXANDRA CANNADY
Staff Writer

Coyote softball plans to surpass last years historical season beginning with their first game on Feb. 3 against Cal Baptist University.

The team performed admirably last season concluding with a 34-23 record and regional playoff participation. Head coach Tacy Duncan and assistant coach Tom Kajitani are preparing their team to improve on last season’s effort with a better record and advance to the national level this year.

“We had a lot of power last season but this year we have a lot of speed,” said Duncan. The team will play small ball by bunting and moving their runners into scoring position, utilizing their quickness on the base paths.

“Our main goal is to win,” said coach Kajitani.

The roster is stacked with 18 women, six returning and 12 newcomers. The new arrivals consist of transfers and freshman, who according to Duncan, provide a vital contribution to the team.

Duncan expects returning players Alex Mitchell, Felicia Cer- vantes and team captain Courtney Wilhelms to use their experience and exceptional individual skills to provide team leadership.

“Cervantes is a great utility player. She can play every position making her very versatile,” said Duncan.

Duncan expects great success from Wilhelms.

Wilhelms was a starting pitcher as a freshman and later switched to second base. Although she found success on the infield, she will be starting the season as a pitcher once again.

She has a personal goal this season: “Becoming an All-American would be nice,” said Wilhelms.

Other returning players such as Carly Land, Britney Butler and Jamee Leffingwell are expected to bring their best performances.

“Butler is known to have a good glove and be extremely fast in her position at shortstop. Land’s reputation precedes her as having a good changeup and a hard throw as a pitcher for the Coyotes,” said Duncan.

Leadership will not be restricted to captains.

“Leffingwell will also be a leader this season as a center fielder. She has a strong bat and a good arm,” said Duncan.

The team has high hopes for what the new freshman and transfers will bring to the squad this season.

“Freshman Charlotte Galzote is an outfielder with speed and can run the bases with ease,” said Duncan.

Transfer Brittney Ybarra came to the Coyotes from Marshall University.

“She has fast bat and the ability to dominate third base,” Duncan stated.

The Coyotes participate in the NCAA Division II section and the CCAA conference.

There are 10 teams in the Lady Coyote’s conference and Duncan plans to defeat every single one of them.

UCSD is the first team on their radar. Beating them will be an excellent way to start the season, and provide the needed confidence to continue winning games throughout the year.

Lately, they have been engaged in strenuous preparations on the diamond including 3-hour practices.

Women’s softball will be participating in two tournaments this season. The first being the Desert Stinger in Las Vegas, Nev. Feb. 10 and the CSUS Tournament of Champions in Turlock, Calif. March 30.

Last years historic run has motivated the Lady Coyotes to not only do it all over again, but advance further.

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Alexander has been dominant for the Coyotes this year, recording his fourth double-double and shooting a high field goal percentage.

Three-point defense will be another point of focus. In the Coyotes loss to Sonoma State, junior point guard Will Ohem hit 12 three-pointers which left him one shy of the NCAAC record for one game. It was the first Sonoma win in San Bernardino since March 3, 2006.

The team will head to SFSU before starting a tough five game stretch against Cal Poly Pomona, Cal State Dominguez Hills, Cal State L.A., Cal State Stanislaus and Chico State, all of whom are sporting winning records.

The good news for the Coyotes is that after playing Pomona, the remaining games will all be at the Coussoulis Arena.

Any late season push starts with Thursday night’s game at San Francisco State.

The Gators have struggled this season with a 2-10 record in the CCAA and a 4-14 record overall.

The Coyotes beat the Gators earlier this season at home 73-54.

Oliver reiterated that despite their record, the Coyotes won’t take them lightly.

“You can look back to last year when we beat them here at home (84-60) but went on the road and got beat (72-81).”

“There is no taking a game for granted, especially this time of year,” said Oliver.

Tough stretches can bring the best out of teams and certain players can find a way to step up. Oliver said the team is still searching for that player(s).

“There is a lot of new faces this season so we don’t have a de facto leader. Hopefully, as the season progresses someone will fill that role for us,” said Oliver.

Standout players from the past five games include: senior forward Tre Brewer, averaging 15.8 points during that time; fellow senior forward Theron Lauderdale who has averaged 14.8 points and 7.6 rebounds including two double-doubles; junior Kwame Alexander who has also had two double-doubles while averaging 12.8 points and 10.6 rebounds.

Though down, this team is most certainly not out. Look for them to bounce back with a vengeance.

By RICHARD DAWSON
Staff Writer

Men’s basketball looks to bounce back

The past few weeks have been full of highs and lows for the CSUSB men’s basketball program. Just over a week ago the team had a three-game win streak, culminating with head coach Jeff Oliver’s 200th win for CSUSB.

That win was supposed to be a momentum builder, but turnovers have hurt the Coyotes in the past two games.

It’s an unfamiliar feeling for the program because it’s the first time they have lost back-to-back games during Oliver’s tenure.

“As a team we need to work on our fundamentals, get back to the basics. We have committed a ton of silly turnovers and it’s inexcusable,” said Oliver. “The good news is with work, the turnovers are correctable.”

The 49 turnovers over the two losses are magnified because statistically the Coyotes (8-4 CCAA, 9-6 overall) have been playing very well having held the rebounding advantage in both games and shooting a high field goal percentage.

By SPENCER HIRSCH
Staff Writer

Coyote baseball pursues playoff run in 2012

Coyote baseball is looking to put last year’s disappointments behind them as they embark on a new season.

Their 20-18 record was not quite good enough, as they missed out on the conference playoff tournament by just a few winning percentage points.

“It’s always very disappointing when you do not make the playoffs, because once you get into the playoffs, anything can happen,” said head coach Don Parnell.

Junior center fielder Ethan Chapman feels they should have had a much stronger finish to the season.

“We didn’t live up to our expectations. We had a lot of talent, just didn’t put it together,” said Chapman.

Parnell has high goals and one big expectation set for his team this year.

“Our goal is to get into the conference playoff tournament and get into the West Region playoff tournament. We expect to win the conference,” said Parnell.

In order to ensure they get into both of these playoff tournaments, the Coyotes have their work cut out for them.

Only four of the 11 conference teams make the conference playoff tournament, while only four of the 36 West Region teams get into the regional playoff tournament.

Winning the conference has its advantages.

It guarantees the Coyotes a spot in the West Region playoffs, rather than having their fate determined by the NCAA West Region Selection Committee.

Parnell feels that staying focused on the daily tasks at hand and worrying only about the things he and his team can control in the moment are two of the key factors to having a successful season and deep playoff run.

In the eyes of his players, teamwork and accountability are the keys to success.

“We just got to play as a team. Everything looks good so far. As long as every one does their job, we should be successful,” said senior pitcher Cory Cartuso.

“We just need to do our jobs and do what we are supposed to do individually, and we will come together as a team,” said Chapman.

If all of the pieces of the puzzle come together, Chapman is confident his team can go far this year and accomplish all of the goals they have set out for themselves.