Why so blue?

Trees aren’t only blue in Dr. Seuss books, CSUSB’s art department gets creative and partners up with Omni Trans, pushing a green initiative

By COURTNEY SIMS
Staff Writer

The blue tree located at CSUSB has earned more heads than any other tree on campus.

Omni Trans has teamed up with Green meme and Omni Trans for the Blue Tree Project which provides color-inspired transportation for the growing commuter population and new bus station designs.

The station’s design will not only impact the way transit riders experience their journeys with Omni Trans but their experience with the environment as well.

“The blue design came true since the color of the sky, on a clear day you can hardly see the image of the tree, but on a foggy or rainy day the tree images become visible, like they never left,” said David Rutterford.

Freya Bardell and Brian Howe, also known as Green meme, are the forces behind the campus station’s design, citing the environment and student engagement as significant concepts.

“The color blue is really site specific, we had students research the air quality in San Bernardino and color variations of the sky and that’s how we came up with that color of blue,” said Bardell.

According to Bardell, in addition to the blue tree based design, she wanted to pay tribute to the trees that had to be removed from the location in order for the new station to be built.

“We noticed how the trees provided shade for the people, we felt like we had to go with them,” said Bardell.

Students are delighted with the Blue Tree Project and asserting that art truly does imitates life.

“I think that the idea behind the Blue Tree Project is quite innovative,” said student Heather Serdoz. “The concept of going the tree new lives in each environment that it will be placed in encompasses how the lives we lead are ever changing and nothing will stay the same forever.”

Faculty members for the university believe the opportunity presented by Omni Trans has had a hand in the educational development for students on campus.

“Being able to provide students at CSUSB with hands-on learning experiences is a critical component of their educational and professional growth,” said Sant Khalsa, art department chair, as stated in a CSUSB press release.

Omni Trans’ new project, the SBX Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) incorporates 16 new art inspired stations for the 157 mile bus route throughout San Bernardino County.

The SBX BRT is considered the first of its kind and will help to reduce pollution by utilizing compressed gases and accommodating the predicted growing commuter population.

The BRT is to help the anticipated increased demand

Continued on Pg. 3

CSUSB’s donors prove vital to campus

By MELISSA BENTON
Staff Writer

The school uses donated money in a variety of beneficial ways like constructing the observatory donated by the Maciels.

The Mr. and Miss CSUSB pageant offers more than just a moment in the spotlight for its participants; it’s an opportunity to win free tuition for Spring 2012.

The pageant will be held on March 13 at 6 p.m. in the Santos Manuel Student Union Event Center.

According to Associated Students Incorporated (ASI), the night is anticipated to be a spectacular night full of entertainment with performances and hosts who have volunteered to help make this night as sensational as possible.

The Mr. and Miss CSUSB pageant offers students the opportunity to demonstrate a talent of their choice and express their Coyote spirit on stage in front of a full audience.

The lucky participants who are crowned Mr. and Miss CSUSB will receive their entire spring quarter tuition paid off as an incentive for winning the pageant.

Daisy Botancourt-Ramos, activities committee member of ASI, said that the pageant, “is an opportunity for the contestants to showcase themselves, and if they win they get the owning rights to the title Mr. or Miss CSUSB.”

For people like Kathryn Huntington, the possibility of receiving spring quarter tuition free was a good enough reason to audition for the pageant.

Although she didn’t advance to the finale, Huntington went into the auditions and gave it her all by singing “Don’t Know Why” by Norah Jones and honestly answering the questions the judges asked her.

“It was definitely scary. I have never done anything like this before, being on stage in front of the judges made me really nervous and even though I didn’t advance to the finale I would definitely like to retry next year,” said Huntington.

Even though there is a lot at stake for those in the pageant; it isn’t all about being serious.

“The pageant is just meant to be a fun night, filled with entertainment and a night...
CSUSB grad bikes for disability cause

By JACQUELINE SCHOLTEN
Staff Writer

Chris Russell will ride his bike from Santa Monica to Chicago hoping to raise awareness of disabled unemployment rates.

“My husband was a passenger on a plane that took a nose dive into a hillside. He was left in pieces and had to undergo over 30 surgeries. “When I started looking for work, I did all the right things. I started getting responses, interviews, even being told ‘welcome aboard.’ Yet nothing happened. It was like I fell off the face of the earth,” said Russell.

Unemployment is 65 percent for those who are disabled according to Russell who cites Cornell University’s unemployment and disability study performed in 2009.

He thinks that it is important for universities to get involved in the march against unemployment among the disabled. He believes it will resonate with them and that they are the most likely to listen.

“I want people to see that people with disabilities are not mentally disabled,” said Russell. “We are more than capable of getting good grades and performing well.”

He believes he is blessed because he is able to ride a motorcycle, let alone across the country. With the help of B&B Motorcycles, Russell will be riding a classic 1997 Honda Valkyrie on his long journey.

He was given the opportunity by the rehabilitation department to attend a school of his choosing on a full ride. He said that he chose CSUSB because of the accommodations they offer disabled students.

Russell graduated from CSUSB in 2007 with a degree in communications and plans to return this spring for his master’s degree.

“I want people to see that people with disabilities are not mentally disabled,” said Russell. “We are more than capable of getting good grades and performing well.”

He is still hoping to raise money for his trip. Donations for his trip can be given on his website.
Donors continue to help CSUSB

Continued from Pg. 1

Dr. Milton Clark, dean of undergraduate studies.

The Edwards started this trust fund because their son was in foster care before they adopted him. They stated that most foster youth do not continue on in their education because of the lack of a support network.

Their hope is that this trust will help and encourage more fostered youth who would not have any realistic chance of receiving a higher education.

Betty Barker, the co-chair of CSUSB’s fundraising campaign for the Palm Desert campus, knows how important money is for education.

Barker approached CSUSB about donating to the Palm Desert campus through a charitable gift annuity.

The gift annuity would allow Barker to donate her money and assets to the school, while CSUSB paid a fixed income to Barker for the remainder of her life.

“I’ve come full circle. I’m now on the other side as a donor to the campus and I’m thrilled that I’ve been able to do it this way,” said Barker.

Glenn and Judy Rymer believe they owe so much to CSUSB after spending more than 80 years combined with the school.

The Rymers met at CSUSB in 1970 when Judy was a Spanish teacher and Glenn was a sociology student. They were married a year later.

Judy continued teaching and then rose to faculty posts in the School of Education. She then took a leadership role and chair in the Faculty Senate.

She eventually became executive dean of the new division of University Relations and became CSUSB’s first vice president for University Relations.

After graduating from CSUSB, Glenn was active as an alumns serving on the Coyote Athletics Association Board.

The Rymers’ ties with CSUSB led them to include the school in their estate plans to benefit both scholarships for student athletes and teaching credential candidates.

“We felt it was important to include an institution that had been so vital to us and to so many people I’ve had the good fortune to work with as students, alumni and colleagues,” said Mrs. Rymer. “We know what a difference the University makes to the region and we continue to be proud to be associated with it.”

Students and faculty continuously benefit from donations made by donors like Barker, the Edwards and the Rymers.

Also, many buildings have been built or expanded on campus due to donations including: Jack H. Brown Hall, Santos Manuel Student Union, the Murillo Family Observatory and many buildings on the Palm Desert campus.

There are many different ways to donate money to CSUSB and determine whom or what they will help.

To learn more information on donating to CSUSB visit http://csusb.giftlegacy.com.

Conference teaches protection

Continued from Pg. 1

Karmig will shed light on the history behind the development of the university’s campus information security program, its role on the academic programs and the designation of CSUSB as a National Security Agency Center of Academic Excellence in information assurance education.

The conference will offer a set of informational sessions for the personnel that are charged with protecting confidential material in a technological environment. Experienced information technology and security professionals will present on the latest topics and issues regarding information security.

Secure IT will also address the use of new tools and the best practices of information technology professionals in maintaining security. Those who attend the conference will learn how to provide secure access to the increasing demands of mobile device users.

“This conference not only provides information security professionals an opportunity to collaborate and share best practices, but will also highlight our partnership with academic departments and the Department of Homeland Security through our Cyberwatch West program,” said Frost.

The Secure IT conference, held in collaboration with the California Community College Chief Information Officers Association, will be held on March 18-20 in Ontario. It is open to anyone who is responsible for the security and privacy of information.

Art department paints a statement

Continued from Pg. 1

for commuters that travel 10-15 miles, over the next 30 years as the population grows,” said Rutherford, Omni Trans Public Relations Manager.

If weather conditions continue to stabilize, the tree will be removed during CSUSB’s spring break. Due to the construction for the new art station, the current university bus stops will be re-located.

In addition to the blue tree, designers Greenmeme have an exhibit in the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art (RAFFMA) located on the CSUSB campus.

The Blue Tree Project will be on exhibit from Feb. 18 through April 21. For additional information visit the RAFFMA website http://raffma.csusb.edu/.
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Consumers should not be goo goo gaga for Google goggles

By LIZBETH LOPEZ
Staff Writer

Google is being too invasive with their advertisements and are constantly looking for new ways to collect information from us to tailor the advertisements they send us. If you haven’t heard already, The New York Times reported that Google is planning to release a pair of Google goggles that “stream images to its rack computers and return augmented reality information to the person wearing them.”

“For instance, a person looking at a landmark could see detailed historical information and comments about it left by friends. If facial recognition software becomes accurate enough, the glasses could remind a wearer of when and how he met that person.”

It is against California law to talk or text on the cell phone while driving because of the dire consequences that have resulted in such practices. Let’s add the prohibition of wearing the goggles while driving to that law as well, since it is a tragic mess waiting to happen.

We are a public that loves to consume and there are agencies out there that are enriching their pockets by associating Vera Wang with the perfect wedding day. Even though Google’s engineer experts say that the glasses are not designed to be worn constantly and are meant to be used only when needed, it is still in their best interest that consumers wear these goggles as much as possible.

Google is just a step away from placing a chip in our shoes to keep track of our wants and needs, to be the first to manipulate our autonomy so we inherently embrace consumerism for their benefit, not ours.

Eight votes pass student fee increase

The Feb. 6 edition of the Coyote Chronicle featured staff writer Liz Lopez encouraging students to vote no on a referendum that increases CSUSB tuition in order to fund services used by a small portion of the student population. Polls were open Feb. 29–March 1.

Approximately 1,000 votes determined the fate of a fee increase affecting over 17,500 CSUSB students. A difference of eight votes (501 yes, 493 no) passed the referendum to increase student fees. Beginning Fall 2012, all registered CSUSB students will pay an additional $14 per quarter in tuition.

The increase will generate a quarterly revenue of around $250,000 which is intended to “provide funding for the CSUSB Children’s Center, President’s Academic Excellence Scholarships, Student Research and Travel, Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) Scholarships, Athletic Scholarshipships and ASI programs and services to enrich the college experience for CSUSB students,” according to Joe Gutierrez, assistant director of public affairs.

The results of the election were deemed too close to determine a definitive outcome. A recount took place on March 9 in which a review group made up of multiple interested parties from both sides certified the vote.

U.S. war in Iran is irrational

By KIMBERLY “CHARLIE” TRELOAR
Staff Writer

I am against the U.S. going to war with Iran and you should be too.

Just when we thought the troops were coming home and we could finally catch our breath, it appears that the U.S. may be going to war.

When we become the world’s policeman, who puts us in charge of running the world and controlling everyone in it? According to a CBS News poll, “a majority of Americans, 55 percent, say the threat posed by Iran, which has been developing a nuclear capability, can be contained by diplomacy, 15 percent say the situation requires the United States to take military action now.”

“Republicans are more than twice as likely as Democrats to think Iran is a threat that requires military action. And more than half of Republicans hold an unfavorable view of Islam.” These Republicans that are in favor of us going to war and see this as a good thing, could be right.

The effects of World War II were difficult on everyone and the U.S. swore they would never allow something like that to happen again. That thought hangs in the back of many people’s minds.

“I believe that in regards to Iran and their possibilities of attacking countries around them, it is a good idea for us to go and defend the allies that we have created,” said student Kelley Oas.

As such, I do believe that it is up to us as human beings to actually defend another from any potential harm or threat.

On the other side, the United States is so riddled in debt, it cannot afford to go to war no matter how desperately they desire to do so. What kind of other extravagant costs would the U.S. incur if they were the leader in the war against Iran?

A Pew research poll recently claimed that “nearly 60 percent of the Americans polled were against another war in the Middle East and favored diplomacy and stricter sanctions against Iran.”

We would end up wasting time and billions of dollars with a war in Iran. It would just be another Iraq with no weapons of mass destruction situation if Iran had not been developing nuclear weapons.

I firmly believe that the U.S. should not get involved in the situation unless it is provoked. If war is declared upon us and we are attacked first, I would say then that it is necessary to go to war.

A false flag, a covert operation that is designed to deceive in such a way that it appears the operation is being carried out by other entities, doesn’t count either.

Whatever happens, the country needs to make the decision of whether or not to go to war rationally. With Iran, the U.S. needs to consider how that would serve the will of the people and how that would serve the will of the people and how that would affect the situation before it goes in guns blazing.

There’s no shame in being cautious. In the conflict with Iran, the U.S. can afford to be just that.
If you have ever seen a person wearing Greek letters on our campus and have asked yourself, ‘Is Greek life for me?’ here is what you need to know. There are so many options for you. You need to consider all the organizations that interest you. Then you need to ask questions when you visit those organizations. I decided after my second year at CSUSB that I would be a part of the fraternity along with any major on our campus. Students do not need to be a business major to become a member or ‘brother’.

The lovely ladies of Sigma Pi Alpha create a very strong support system with all of their sisters and by joining you will have a great experience from the get-go. ‘We are committed to grades, self-discovery of a Latina woman, sisterhood and we understand your financial issues and don’t have high dues. We choose quality over quantity to provide a great sisterhood experience. We also have open houses to get to know us better so please stop by,’ said Santana.

Garza, philanthropy chair for Sigma Pi Alpha, is very passionate about her organization and their philanthropy efforts towards the Diabetes Association and the Ronald McDonald Walk.

Consider all the organizations that interest you and don’t be afraid to ask questions. Most importantly make sure you are happy throughout the whole process. Going greek will be a decision that benefits you throughout your whole college career.
DJ master competition spins CSUSB

By MARINA RANGEL
Staff Writer

Music burst through the SMSU Event Center Mar. 8 on Thursday night. DJ Pleaze, DJ Infinity and Kid Disko pumped up students with their custom beats in CSUSB’s first DJ Master Competition.

The DJ Master Competition featured some very talented students. It was hosted by the new campus’ club Underground Music Society (UMS), and with some support from Red Bull, CSUSB welcomed three DJ’s to participate in a 15 minute spin-off.

“We wanted to bring some of the music scene to CSUSB and connect students through music,” said Emmanuel Rodriguez, UMS president.

The competition’s master of ceremonies was DJ Wall-E. He spun during the gaps between competitors. DJ Infinity kicked off the night, followed by DJ Pleaze and Kid Disko closed the competition.

DJ Pleaze, also known as Will Macale, got the crowd really going, scoring him the grand prize: a paid trip to Vegas.

Macale works for Coyote Radio and said it felt great to win and had fun participating.

Rene Tovar, calling himself Kid Disko, took second place with his beats and John Orta, stage name DJ Infinity, spun his mixes for third place.

House DJ, DJ Wall-E and competitors had students on their feet with every mix. Participants even included popular old-school jams from past decades.

The night was filled with dancing and screaming for your favorite DJ. Red Bull was the perfect addition for setting the tone by handing out their energy drinks to get students going.

UMS hoped for a huge turnout not only to promote local talent but to prove music could bring a lot of people together and create a real presence on campus.

This was only the beginning for events like this. UMS has only been around for two quarters and they aspire to bring the type and size of music scene similar to UC Riverside here to CSUSB.

“Everyone loves music and it’s a great way to bring people together no matter what type of music you like,” said Rodriguez, speaking of the club’s motivations.

UMS tries to bring out those artists that want to share their talents and at the same time bring culture to our campus.

Music is not an easy industry to break into, but foundations can be made while in school and it’s a great place to start networking.

UMS hopes to create this type of environment for aspiring musical artists.

Events that bring life and excitement to our campus while showcasing students who are passionate about what they do, is what breaks the mold of our so-called “commuter college.”

Campus “Crusaders” welcome students with open arms

By TOM STILLWAGON
Staff Writer

Christians at Cal State should acquaint themselves with Andrew Farison and the Campus Crusade for Christ International.

Also known as CRU (pronounced “crew”), the Campus Crusade for Christ was started in the 1950s by Bill Bright at UCLA. What started out as a small campus ministry has since grown, as CRU currently has club branches throughout the world.

Farison, the CRU president at CSUSB, did not originally intend to join the club. It was his parent’s idea.

“They were involved with Campus Crusade when they were in college,” said Farison. “I wasn’t too stoked about it but then I found the group and got involved.

The people that I met there ended up being the best and some of my closest friends I’ve kept throughout my time at CSUSB.”

He joined the club in his first year on campus. During his second year, he was asked to take on the role of vice president.

After the previous club president graduated and took an internship with CRU at Cal State Pomona, Farison took the role of president.

“It’s definitely been an awesome experience,” said Farison. “Surely it can be, you know, stressful at times, but it’s definitely grown me in a lot of ways, in my faith and in my walk with Christ, but also in my leadership skills and my people skills.”

CRU meets on campus Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. in the lower commons. The meetings are structured similarly to Sunday mornings at church.

A typical meeting begins with club announcements, worship time and music. That leads into the message of the night, which is the main part of the meeting, followed by some group discussion time to reflect on said message.

“Last year we had a tradition of going to Del Taco afterwards,” said Farison. “Maybe we’ll bring that back next year.”

The goal of the club is to give lost students a Christ-centered life, which Farison takes very seriously. He noted that the club is based on the idea “win, build, send.”

“Win people to Christ, and then build them up in their faith to the point that they go out talking about Christ to other people.

It kind of follows a cycle,” said Farison.

The club is responsible for hosting the popular “Free Hugs” days on campus, the most recent having taken place on Valentine’s Day last month.

“Putting ourselves out there, giving free hugs on Valentine’s Day is just a very simple and tangible way to show and express God’s love to people on campus,” said Farison. “What’s a more simple expression of that than a hug? What more appropriate day to do that than on Valentine’s Day. It was probably the most successful outreach we’ve done.”

As a result, CRU certainly plans to continue the “Free Hugs” days tradition in years to come.

The club is open to all students, regardless of religious affiliation.

Anyone interested in checking it out is encouraged to attend the Wednesday meeting.

There are also opportunities to connect with the club at Tuesday morning prayer and worship, at 9 a.m. in the lower commons.

“We’re not a fraternity,” said Farison. “If you want to show up, you want to hang out, you’re in the group. Every student is always welcome. It’s not an exclusive group in any way.”

For more information on the Campus Crusade for Christ International visit their Facebook page CSUSB-Cru-Campus-Crusade-For-Christ.
“We did it for you” empowers CSUSB women

By EMERALD COLLINS
Staff Writer

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The Women Resource Center (WRC) has brought the play “We Did It For You: Women’s Journey Through History” to CSUSB. The play was performed in the Santino Manuel Student Union Theatre on March 6. If you would like to learn more about the production you can visit Weddidforyou.org. For You: Women’s Journey Through History, the Women Resource Center (WRC) has brought the play “We Did It For You” in the middle of singing the “Star Spangled Banner” at the sight of the American flag still standing, if it were not for the woman who spent the ages and shed light on the impact that Francis Scott Key was inspired to write the “Star Spangled Banner” at the sight of the American flag still standing, but if it were not for the woman who spent a considerable amount of time sowing that flag, Scott’s inspiration would have never manifested.

CSUSB’s Women Resource Center (WRC) has brought the play “We Did It For You: Women’s Journey Through History” written by Thea Iberal, to our campus. The production educates the audience on women’s rights and suffrage throughout U.S. History.

“The musical is a call to action through a tour of the past, a powerful vehicle for creating a sense of empowerment in girls and women. Organizations and schools use the uplifting and educational experience to create a call to action for voter registration, anti-discrimination and gender equality issues,” stated the production’s website, in giving a description of the play.

The 45 minute production explains the involvement of women in history and issues discussed in history class. Cast members spent their time behind the stage, changing into their next character while the narrator remained on stage. The characters spent three to five minute segments re-enacting the difference their character made in history.

The mission of this production is to take the audience on a journey throughout the ages and shed light on the impact that women have made. This included covering topics about women suffrage and how women overcame those struggles. Characters gave the audience a chance to reflect on historical events that women were involved in but often overlooked. This journey went beyond voting rights but to youthful years of our country.

Topics such as slavery are also included in the play, showing tribute to phenomenal women such as Harriet Tubman. The message is delivered clearly that all the women who came before this time “Did it for you,” granting the women the right to have the liberties they have today.

“We women were seen as a piece of property; for example in marriage, a woman is handed over from the hands of her father to the hands of her husband,” said Harriet Bennish during her performance, playing Lilly Ledbetter.

The performance was not only captivating but informative for both women and men. Characters strutted across the stage showcasing their vocal talents and keeping the play interesting without any dull moments.

The crowd giggled as the ladies started to sing Lesley Gore’s “You Don’t Own Me” in the middle of singing the “Star Spangled Manner.” The play also had comical moments, when the “hippie grandma” was so eager to come out at the sound of revolution.

In concluding the production, it was certain that the audience left with more knowledge than when they walked in, learning to appreciate the efforts that women have made.

The WRC has strived to educate students by hosting woman empowering events throughout the quarter. “We Did It For You” is being performed throughout Southern California, hosting workshops and giving performance rights to those who are eager to educate others on the topic.

The WRC hosted the event in the Santos Manuel Student Union Theatre on March 6. If you would like to learn more about the production you can visit Weddidforyou.org.

CSUSB alumni turn degrees into success, dreams into reality

By EDWARD HEWITT
Staff Writer

“Come Here … Go anywhere.” The motto of CSUSB is posted on the schools website, posters, class schedule books and it seems anything that is associated with promotions.

Have you ever wondered if this statement has some truth to it? Once you graduated you can really parlay your degree into a career and eventually choose your own destination?

For some alumni this motto has actually turned into reality. According to CSUSB Alumni Association there have been approximately 69,000 graduates some of which have turned their degrees into an actual successful career.

Amongst these alumni there have been CEOs, best-selling authors, software engineers and entrepreneurs, just to name a few of the careers alumni have found success in.

The CSUSB Alumni Associations website reports that among these thousands of graduates there has been a CEO of the world’s sixth-largest accounting and consulting organization, one of the nation’s top independent financial advisors.

In addition to that, CSUSB has produced two California Teachers of the Year, five California State legislators and the presidents of two organizations: Arrowhead Credit Union and the Southern California Automobile Association.

People like Lois J. Carson, who graduated with a B.A. in English in 1967, was a 2007 recipient of the “Lyndon Baines Johnson Human Services Award” from the national Community Action Partnership.

Carson was the executive director of the Riverside Community Action Partnership for 32 years. She helped serve low-income families in the Inland Empire but recently retired from her position at the end of 2010. She was also a member of the first graduating class of CSUSB.

Another notable alumnas is Dr. Travis Huxman, who graduated from CSUSB in 1992 with a bachelor’s degree in biology, and also obtained his masters in biology in 1998.

He is currently the director for Biosphere2 and the Black Earth Food Research program. Biosphere2 is a facility dedicated to the researching and understanding of global scientific issues.

Alumni like these help to re-insure students that there is a light at the end of the tunnel and can serve as inspiration for those that are feelings unsure about life after graduation.

Some alumni like Jeff Pope, a radio personality for Inland Empire’s 99.1 KGKI radio station, have found success on a local and national level.

Pope, who graduated from CSUSB in 1992, has been a radio personality for 99.1 KGKI for over a decade and is proud of where he received his education as well as his consistency. “I’ve been on the morning show since May 2000. How’s that for consistency?” said Pope.

Successful alumni can provide a sense of security and pride in the type of education the students at CSUSB are receiving or have received in the last four decades.

In addition to providing inspiration for the students the success of the alumni help the school hold true to its motto’s claim “Come here … Go anywhere,” re-assuring the students that they are receiving an education that they can take pride in.
Whether you decide to soak up the sun in Maui or stay closer to home make sure you take precautions when traveling. Plan ahead, keep a list of important contact information and be aware of your surroundings. But most importantly have fun.

By YEZI CHO  
Staff Writer

Our winter quarter is coming to an end, and with finals around the corner, students anxiously await spring break to escape their stress.

Some students plan to travel out of state and even out of the country. However, for a safe trip, preparation ahead of time is required.

If you are planning to visit other countries, it would be best to visit their embassies’ website for information on the current status of the country.

These basic tips will help you plan your itinerary for a week-long successful spring break trip. First of all, double check you have your passport, ID, visa, flight ticket and room reservation. Make sure you always have your passport or ID with you, especially in other countries, your identification is the most important issue.

Second, an emergency contact is needed for staying in touch with your group and loved ones during the trip. “Have three emergency contacts programmed into [your] speed dialer,” said Larry Kaminer, president of the Personal Safety Group.

In addition, it is important to carry the number of a reliable ground transportation service such as a taxi company. In case you lose your cell phone, make sure you have your contact information in a separate address book.

Medicine – this is important because if the environment suddenly changes, your body might not adapt to it right away. In case you get injured or become ill, bring a first-aid kit with your medication and bandages. However according to cool-espringbreak.com, when you bring them, keep prescription medicines packed in their original bottle or packaging so that the Customs Officer knows what the medicines are.

Bring an itinerary in case the transportation delays cause some problems or unexpected incidents happen.

Check the weather, it could be a game changer.

For example when travelers plan to go to Mexico, the climate of the inland highlands is mostly mild but sharp changes in temperature occur between day and night. For this daily temperature differences, bring a windbreaker which is comfortable, light and portable instead of heavy clothes.

Lastly, when you travel, keep your guard up. Be aware of strangers and careful of the new environment.

From the destination to finances, fun traveling is accomplished by much considerable information.

Based on the information, plan specific details such as the hotel you will stay, how many days you will travel and what transportation you will take.

According to travel.state.gov, carry the minimum number of valuables and do not dress in a way that could mark you as a tourist.

Be aware of the countries or states before you visit because regulations or customs might be different than the ones back home.

Besides following these tips, the most important thing to do is kickback, relax and have fun.

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Diaries of a Jet Setter

A guy’s guide to getting lost in Maui

By R. ANTHONY DIAZ  
Asst. Features Editor

Ready for a breath of fresh air? Well thanks to the island of Maui, you will get a chance to do just that.

Although I have always advocated against trip planning, Maui may be a place you might need some guidance for.

The sophisticated and exclusive island offers not only breathtaking landscapes but shopping and many outdoor activities as well.

Although the island is not as large as Hawaii, getting from location to location can take up to 90 minutes by car.

The last time I was there I couldn’t decide between a convertible car or a topless jeep. Jeep is definitely the way to go, you can drive on the beach, go off-roading and get a better view of the scenery.

From Kahului Airport (OGG), the bigger airport, you’ll have to drive to your hotel to get the party started. Although there are many places to choose from there are a few things to consider.

I always stay in Lahaina on the West End. Here, there are younger locals, a good mix of different people who moved to the island and decided to never go home. My friend Emily and Rob are two of them. All they do is scuba dive and lay out. What a life!

Lahaina is like a little big city, it has almost everything you would need and plenty to do. In my opinion, this is the most lively part of the island. But do not make the mistake of planning too much in one day.

One New Year’s Eve, all of my friends passed out after a busy day of laying out poolside at the Hyatt. Not kidding. I found myself at the Hard Rock on Front Street, a tourist and restaurant area, with my friends’ mom, dancing and hanging out with Marines. Let’s just say I don’t even remember how I got home.

Who needs friends when you have Mary from Tennessee and some local boys? Good thing she was in town at the same time we were.

This town is very lax with nothing short of a good time waiting to happen. At almost any spot on the island the monstrous lush green mountains surround you on one side the wide blue ocean surrounds you on the other.

Whether you’re hiking or biking at the 10,000 foot summit of Haleakala or snorkeling at Molokini, you’ll find that the atmosphere refreshes the soul and you’ll quickly forget there is such a thing as time.

The Road to Hana is a must and if you think not getting started at 6 a.m. is okay, you are wrong my friend. The Road to Hana is remarkable; the over saturated greens, black sand beach, epic waterfalls and cliffs as high as heaven and the journey will take all day, not two.

I add the fact of getting there at sunrise because you want to head back before sunset. Driving along 2,000 plus foot cliffs in pitch black, is a bit nerve wracking. Especially if it is raining and some locals drive like lunatics leaving a football stadium.

If you get back in time for dinner, the quaint little town of Paia, is a must-see. The old sugar cane plantation town has a posh style vibe and eco-friendly atmosphere.

I recommend eating at Flatbread Company. The organic and gluten free menu is awesome, it is so fresh the pizza is even made in a wood burning stove.

A great book to have with you at all times, no matter where you decide to go in the U.S. is The New York Times, “36 Hour Weekend.”

This book is my travel bible, it offers an itinerary for random towns all over the country whether they are mainstream or not. Although I rarely follow the itineraries, it is a great reference guide.

Natural wonders are all over, stop for a roadside coconut water or to cool off under a water fall. The excitement and fun never stops. Whale watching is marvelous, the turtles are mystic and the sun just feels better.

A few things to consider is that Maui is a world class resort town with luxurious golf communities, it better suits the older rich crowd.

If it storms or rains the night before cancel your dive and snorkeling plans, the water will be foggy for at least a day after, leaving you a slight chance of seeing anything clearly.

Don’t take anything from the oceans or beaches, it is bad luck. Be well, love your life and take a minute to inhale the wonders around you.

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Features

Stress escape throughout spring break

Whether you decide to cook up the sun in Maui or stay closer to home make sure you take precautions when traveling. Plan ahead, keep a list of important contact information and be aware of your surroundings. But most importantly have fun.
**Triumph over adversity**

Award-winning play "No Child" makes its CSUSB debut

Yutaka Higa (left, as Phillip) and Victoria Estrada (right, as Ms. Sun) perform during the CSUSB Theatre Department’s rendition of Nilaja Sun’s play, “No Child.” The play focuses on one teacher’s struggle to get her students interested in the arts.

By MATTHEW BRAMLETT

Arts & Entertainment Editor

The CSUSB Theatre Arts department brought a story of artistic inspiration in a Bronx high school to life March 9 in the Performing Arts Theater.

The department performed “No Child,” the award-winning and semi-autobiographical play by Nilaja Sun that focuses on one young woman’s struggle to get a rowdy bunch of inner city teenagers interested in theater arts.

The comedic play, directed by Dr. Kathryn Ervin, was originally a one-woman show, with Sun playing all the parts of the students and teachers at the fabled Malcolm X High School.

Ms. Sun was played with a wonderful realism by Victoria Estrada. Estrada aptly showed how exasperated and seemingly overwhelmed her character was against the students of room 10F.

Ashley Storey played Baroness, the wise janitor who served as the chorus of the play. Baroness’ omnipresence throughout the play and her folksy been-there-done-that demeanor was one of the play’s highlights.

Kevin Ezeh played Jerome, the de facto ‘leader’ of the class who is a little more than he lets on. Ezeh played the perfect foil to Estrada’s Ms. Sun and the chemistry between the two was evident.

Kevin Ezeh (left) and Victoria Estrada (right) in the play "No Child." The play focuses on one teacher’s struggle to get her students interested in the arts.

Yutaka Higa (left, as Phillip) and Victoria Estrada (right) perform during the CSUSB Theatre Department’s rendition of Nilaja Sun’s play, “No Child.” The play focuses on one teacher’s struggle to get her students interested in the arts.

**Jazz ensemble classes up CSUSB**

By RYAN HESTER

Staff Writer

The CSUSB Jazz Ensemble gave a wonderful performance March 6 to a packed house at the Performing Arts Theatre.

The concert was presented by the California State Music Group, as well as band director Dr. Robert Knop and Bradley Hampton. Knop also directs the CSUSB Vocal Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Combo and CSUSB Vocal Jazz Ensemble.

“Triumph over adversity” was one of the themes of “No Child” as its use of theater as an exit from the harsh realities of the Bronx and a beacon of hope in an otherwise grim future.

“No Child” covers all the bases of the typical downtrodden high school: apathetic and comatose students, passive teachers, metal detectors and oppressive security guards.

A particular incident between one of the students, Shondrika (Je’Lisa Rucker) and the school rent-a-cop (Jamie Jacob) was one of the funnier moments in the play. Rucker and Jacob played off each other seamlessly and the chemistry between the two was evident.

Kevin Ezeh played Jerome, the de facto ‘leader’ of the class who is a little more than he lets on. Ezeh played the perfect foil to Estrada’s Ms. Sun and the chemistry between the two was highly entertaining. Other notable actors include Yutaka Higa and James Hazel as Phillip and Chris, the only two students who actually want to be in a play. Alexandra Juarez played the exasperated Ms. Tam and Angelica Mahabir played the intense and overbearing principal, Mrs. Kennedy.

The play runs for seven performances from March 9–18. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Tickets are $15 for general admission, $12 for seniors, military and non-CSUSB students. Tickets for CSUSB students are $6 with a valid ID.

Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at theatre.csusb.edu.

**Jazz ensemble classes up CSUSB**

The CSUSB Jazz Ensemble gave a wonderful performance March 6 to a packed house at the Performing Arts Theatre.

The high-energy ensemble prides itself on performing various jazz styles in- including swing, funk, and Latin. They had rapid changes in tempo and rhythm, going from fast to a standstill to fast again.

The most interesting part was when Ronquillo and Simmons improved and re-harmonized melody lines by playing different notes and altering the root movements of a tune.

The piece told a story about a playboy who is involved with many women but wants to settle down. The performers were very skilled with their instruments and showed the audience how wonderful music really is.

The Jazz Combo will be performing again on Thursday May 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the SMSU Events Center.

Tickets are at the box office or online at music.csusb.edu.
The best band you’ve never heard

By YETUNDE KEME

Tanlines are looking to get their proper recognition by utilizing more vocals and synthetic pop in their newest album, Mixed Emotions.

The indie rock/pop duo consists of Brooklyn natives Jesse Cohen (drums) and Eric Emm (guitar/vocals).

The band formed in 2008 when they collaborated in the production of a song for Cohen’s band Professor Murder.

Entertainment columnist Spinner.com interviewed the duo back in 2010 and asked them how they came up with the band name.

“I think the name was something we saw on a back of a truck that we were driving behind,” they said. “‘Lines’ is a musical term, like, a keyboard line, and it also references how much time we spend indoors making music.”

The group released their single “New Flowers” in 2008 on the Internet, but they did not receive much recognition.

Spinner.com also asked what their musical influences were.

“One of the things we talked a lot about was this sort of studio pop music from the 90s,” the band said.

They also said they liked British pop music with a lot of projects being released at the same time.

According to NPR music, Tanlines also cited westernized Afro-Pop beats as another one of their influences.

The mixture of these beats along with synthetic pop can be heard on their new album, Mixed Emotions.

Tanlines are more vocal in their new album in comparison to the past singles they have released.

“Brothers,” the first single from their new album is one of the songs that have more vocals present and less melodies.

“All of Me” is another single that displays their powerful vocals with the lyrics, “Sing loud to yourself/like you just don’t care,” sending a message of self-expression.

The single “New Flowers” is mostly instrumental with barely any vocals, but had a unique synthetic pop feel to the song, which was what made the song interesting.

Another instrumental single, “Real Life,” also had that synthetic pop feel, but emphasized more of the Afro-pop beat.

Tanlines have proven that they are not a one-hit wonder and have released several songs which have been compared to the work of other artists such as Vampire Weekend (Westernized Afro-pop) and Friendly Fires (synthetic pop) on a musical level.

Tanlines opened for The Strokes frontman Julian Casablancas in 2009 and have played with bands such as Yeasayer, Health and Delorean.

Why are Tanlines not getting the recognition they deserve? Despite their good music and the noteworthy musicians with whom they toured.

This is a question that has remained unanswered after four years and shows how the music industry can be very selective in terms of who becomes popular and who does not.

Tanlines have proven that they are ready for the big time. If you want Tanlines to receive more recognition for their music, buy their album Mixed Emotions, which drops in record stores March 20.

Nite Jewel makes danceable electro music relevant again

By JUSTIN MATHEW DENNIS

LA-based electronic artist Nite Jewel is bringing a cutting edge to classic 80s synth-pop with her new album, One Second of Love.

Ramona Gonzalez began as Nite Jewel in 2008 as a college student juggling music and studies. Now armed with her bachelor’s degree in philosophy, she is still strongly pursuing her music career.

In just one year, Nite Jewel has gone from generating sound tracks for Los Angeles art galleries to touring European festivals.

Gonzalez explained to Rolling Stone that her first show on the East Coast was during her spring break.

“I was writing my thesis at the time. I was finding there is this push and pull between music and school, and then the live show was kind of karaoke,” said Gonzalez.

“I wasn’t committing to music fully back then. And now I am. So I feel much more at peace performing now.”

In college she started her networking through MySpace. Soon after starting her music page, her song, “Suburbia” was selected to be featured in Ben Stiller’s movie “Greenberg.”

Nite Jewel’s music is made with warm synthesizers and old school recording techniques.

One Second of Love, her second album, debuted on March 6 to positive reviews.

Her song “In the Dark” evokes a smooth and silky sound. The lyrics talk about longing for love and surrendering herself to it as you can tell in her lyric, “Holding hands in the dark / I’ll hold my hands up in the dark.”

“One Second of Love,” the album’s title track, has a darkly upbeat feel. The music features routing synthesizers and has an infectious 80s pop groove that listeners will enjoy.

Even with all her hype on blogs and European shows in front of hundreds of fans, her overseas success took a while to get to the U.S.

“We were in Fresno, or ‘the Frez’ as we call it, and these kids were just so excited to see us, they were like ‘Nite Jewel’s the next big thing, man! We can’t wait for you to play!’ Blah blah blah,” Gonzalez told Rolling Stone.

“They were giving us a hotel and money and we were just like, ‘Wow, this is amazing.’ And we ended up playing for like, seriously, five people in a sushi restaurant. And I don’t know if those five people were there to see us, or if they were there to eat.”

Now her stateside success has grown. She has participated in East Coast tours and has made numerous music videos.

Nite Jewel’s work may conjure up images of the Eurythmics-era Annie Lennox and Tracy Thom.

Make no mistake: One Second of Love is an infectious album and it proves that Nite Jewel is an artist worth looking out for.

“Project X” fails at being edgy

By BRIAN CHIDUEMEN

“Project X” may try to be the next “Superbad,” but we don’t really need another attempt at trying to one-up the fabled 2007 sleeper flick.

While the concepts of both films are similar, what made “Superbad” memorable was the characters that audiences actually cared about. From McLovin, a pair of cops that break the stereotype of police officers as bad guys, the film became a huge hit without trying to be a huge hit.

Where “Superbad” succeeded is where “Project X” fails in several crucial areas.

“Project X” premise becomes clear that the film is trying too hard to outdo “Superbad.” By focusing on the teenage trio of Costa, Thomas and J.B., the film attempts to create the greatest party of their lives while disguising it as Thomas’ seventeenth birthday.

The rest of the film is more of a glorified MTV special that supposedly tries to market itself as “the party you’ve only dreamed about.” Instead, “Project X” drowns in its own debauchery by making the entire feel of the party as stereotypical and misogynistic as possible.

For example, the character of Costa seems to be like a parallel of Jonah Hill’s ‘Seth’ character in “Superbad,” but without any element of likability.

By centering his entire life upon getting laid, there’s nothing likeable about him.

Another area that the film fails to be the next “Superbad” is its lack of humanity within. Sure, these teens are getting wasted and trying to do anything to get spaced out beyond belief, but the viewer is constantly asking himself: “What’s the point of all this? And what is everyone getting out of this at the end?”

It would be easy to interpret the overall product as a stark social commentary on Generation Y at its worst (excluding the film’s climactic sequence straight out of the 1992 Los Angeles Riots), but the film doesn’t advertise itself as such.

However, the Michael Bacall penned script isn’t as bad as expected, and barely saves “Project X” from being a complete failure. Despite some solid dialogue and a realistic feel, especially with the film’s cinema vérité, Nima Nourizadeh’s debut effort with “Project X” shows that the director has a lot of potential that is not yet realized.

What could have worked was that instead of the film being a mean-spirited music video, there should have been a bigger emphasis on the party going wrong. The acts of mayhem depicted in the climactic sequences, from a crazed guy with a flamethrower torching the entire neighborhood to riot police struggling to maintain an already disturbed peace, needed more attention.

While “Project X” isn’t a total failure, the film is far from being the next “Superbad.” It could have ended up being the biggest party that anyone has ever dreamed about, but it ends up being the biggest party that the audience doesn’t care about.
Arts & Entertainment

Monday, March 12, 2012

“The Lorax” is enjoyable, if preachy

By KIMBERLY ROSALES
Staff Writer

A tiny, slightly annoying but endear- ing orange creature has taken over the big screen.

“The Lorax,” which opened on March 2, is a musical comedy-drama which takes the audience into the whimsical world of Ted Wiggins, voiced by Zac Efron, an optimistic 12-year-old boy who lives in the town of “Thneed-ville,” a walled in city that is completely artificial, lacking any form of nature that is not made of plastic or other man-made materials.

To win over the affections of the girl of his dreams, Audrey (Taylor Swift), Ted sets out to find the one thing she dreams of seeing: a real live tree.

With the help of his eccentric grandmother (Betty White), Ted manages to locate the Once-ler (Ed Helms), a man who lives far outside the city walls in a wasteland.

The Once-ler tells Ted the story of the Lorax (Danny DeVito), a creature who speaks for the trees and how they came to be nonexistent.

Ted soon discovers that there’s more to the story behind his comfy, seemingly perfect town of Thneed-ville, and soon finds himself on a mission to change the past with Mr. O’Hare (Rob Riggle), the greedy proprietor of a bottled oxygen company, out to stop him.

Though the film is more pleasant than not, its plot is unexpected.

For viewers who have not read Dr. Seuss’ “The Lorax,” the trailer gives the impression that the film is about a young boy who goes on this great adventure to find a Truffula tree and encounters the Lorax.

The storyline is completely different than how the trailers for “The Lorax” presented it.

The book, “The Lorax” focuses more on the story of the Once-ler recounting his story to the boy and urging him to plant the last of the Truffula seed.

The film adds completely new characters and focuses on the boy, Ted, who apparently is the key to saving the town and restoring nature to their artificial city. The plot ends up giving the actual Lorax minimal screen time.

One of the strong points of the film is the quirky characters, mainly the Lorax, the gang of cute forest creatures and Ted himself who give the film its funny moments.

The bright and unconventional colors in the film help contribute to the delightfulness of the Dr. Seuss based film.

“The Lorax” is plenty enjoyable for children but strikes a different tone with an adult audience.

The film becomes preachy towards the end by trying to appeal to the inner environmentalist in all of us.

“The Lorax” has a strong “Go Green” message from the second half of the film and soon feels like a lecture on the importance of conserving the planet.

This does not go unnoticed by critics. The film scored a Metacritic score of 47 out of 100, based on various mixed or average reviews.

Regardless of all the criticism, “The Lorax” opened as No. 1 at the box office, raking in a whopping $70.2 million in its first weekend.

Though “The Lorax” may seem like an 90-minute ad for environmentalism, it is a cute film with plenty of funny moments and is worth watching at least once with the family.
Professional sports have taken over the country; they are one of the top-watched events in the world, and at least men’s sports anyway. We often turn a blind eye to the fact that women also play professionally; they are often overshadowed by their male counterparts.

Men’s sports are televised nationally on highly watched stations, such as ABC, TNT, NBC and Fox. Not only do men’s sports receive national attention, but male athletes get paid millions more compared to female athletes. The average salary cap for an NBA team is around $60 million, according to iamagm.com, while womensbasketballonline.com states that the average salary cap for a WNBA team is around $878,000.

What this means is that NBA teams have more flexibility in keeping their star players happy, by paying them substantially more every year. According to celebritynetworth.com, Kobe Bryant’s salary alone is $24.8 million per year. Candace Parker, who is the highest paid athlete in women’s basketball, was paid $44,000 her first year, which is the most ever for a WNBA rookie.

Parker, who is the face of the Los Angeles Sparks, and arguably the best player in the WNBA, does not even make more than what an NBA rookie makes, which is around $490,180, according to NBA.com. Despite the fact that Parker and Bryant play for the same city, in the same arena, and in front of the same fans, Parker’s earnings seem like minimum wage when compared to Bryant’s.

Not only are female athletes getting the short end of the stick in terms of pay, but for a female athlete you must graduate from college before being able to enter the WNBA.

For male athletes, you only have to go to college a year before you are eligible to enter the NBA draft. Why is it that men make more than women if women put their bodies through the same things that men do? Some say that men’s sports are more popular because male athletes are more marketable and more entertaining with a lot more fans compared to women’s basketball. Men’s sports have a lot more sponsors that bring in money, while women’s sports hardly have any.

How many times have you gone through the sports channels and notice men’s sports on mostly every channel and only see women’s sports on one or two? Women put in just as much time and effort as any man, but always seem to fall short because of their sex. While women athletes are attending college to play sports and earn a degree, male athletes have the opportunity not only to earn a degree, but start a professional career in their respective sport with a high paying salary.

Despite the fact that Candace Parker is the most dominant player in the WNBA, she still only makes $44,000 per season.

By SHYNEESE WALTER
Staff Writer

The program was tough but it made me a better teacher. I am so lucky to have it as a foundation.

—Amber Carteet (National California Teacher of the Year 2010, California and USA)

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO

www.csusb.edu
Outdoor CSUSB
sports activities

By ZION GUILLORY
Staff Writer

Here at CSUSB, students are able to enjoy many physical activities to work up a sweat.

Most of them are offered at our Rec Center, but there are a few other places where you can find things to do.

Have you ever wondered what those empty looking courts are behind the Rec Center?

Don’t be fooled by the abandoned look, they’re actually open racquetball, tennis, squash and basketball courts.

These courts are open to everyone during regular Rec Center hours.

The convenience of equipment rental for these activities is available at the Rec Center.

Of course, if you have your own, feel free to bring it.

One day out of the quarter the tennis courts are reserved for a tournament.

The schedules for these tournaments vary each quarter, so be sure to check with the front desk of the Rec Center if tennis is your game.

Unfortunately, we no longer have a tennis team here at CSUSB, but there is still an opportunity to show your skills against other players.

So far, tennis is the only one of these activities that hosts a tournament.

Hopefully in the future, the other activities will provide tournaments where the students will be able to display their talents or simply have a good time.

Let’s not forget about our track located east of the softball field for those who like to run outside as opposed to the treadmills inside the Rec.

Of all the activities the school has to offer, my personal favorite is taking a dive in the 13-foot pool located right beside “the old gym,” as many call it.

The pool is open to students, although hours vary throughout the week.

“That pool has a high dive that makes your stomach drop like you’re on the Goliath ride at Six Flags,” said swimmer Milan Quick, who visits the pool every Tuesday and Thursday.

To my surprise, most of the students that I spoke with had no idea that our school had so many activities to choose from.

“I just spend my workout time in the Rec Center; it seems to have everything I need, so I never even thought to check out the other places,” said student Tyler Tankailey.

Many students were pleased to find out that the courts were actually open to them.

“I think it’s cool that the tennis courts are open, I love tennis and since we don’t have a team, I didn’t think there was really anywhere to play, but now I know,” said student Chanda Leslie.

It is very important for students to be informed of all of the resources that our campus offers.

Most of these activities were developed with the interest of the students in mind.

I encourage all students to take the time to find all that our campus has to offer. You may be surprised at what exactly is available.

After all, we are paying for it with our tuition, so take advantage.

By ZION GUILLORY
Staff Writer

Here at CSUSB, students are able to enjoy many physical activities to work up a sweat.

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Let’s not forget about our track located east of the softball field for those who like to run outside as opposed to the treadmills inside the Rec.
By ALEXANDRA CANNADY
Staff Writer

The Coyotes were dealt a loss of 13-8 by the Monterey Bay Otters as the opposition utilized a defense unfamiliar to them. “They had a different house defense including their goalie and an extra field player in the cage, making it hard to get around,” said senior Shelle Kocher.

Head coach Sarah Reneker also admitted that her team was unprepared for the defensive set that the Otters put forth against them. “Their defense was not common and rather difficult. I think we could have broken it down but we made it harder than it was as we tried too hard,” said Reneker.

The start of the match was rough as the Coyotes fell behind 10-3 at the half. The loss was especially difficult for the Coyotes, because they were unable to defeat their bitter rivals. They have circled the date on their calendars when they will face the Otters again, hoping to avenge this defeat.

The second contest proved to be much of the same for the Coyotes as they were defeated by Claremont McKenna-Mudd-Scippers, 18-10. “By our second game the team seemed to hit a wall, we became mentally overloaded and exhausted,” said Reneker.

The Coyotes started the match on the right note, as they remained tied at three through the first quarter. Claremont captured the lead 7-2 at the height of the second quarter and the Coyotes trailed from there. Although Claremont came away with the win, the Coyotes had ten impressive goals to show for their efforts. Purkiss did her part in the cage, totaling 12 saves for the day.

“Overall, this was not our best weekend. I feel we did not show up to win we merely showed up to go through the motions and get by another day of play,” said Reneker about the matches.

Despite the loss, women’s water polo received unexpected support from CSUSB’s fraternity Delta Sigma Chi. “We aren’t exactly a popular sport so it was awesome to have a support system at our game,” said Reneker.

A member of the co-ed fraternity, Allison Carrasco, emphasized the importance of campus involvement from Greeks and how their goal is to support their fellow classmates on all levels. “We’ve much very much appreciate support from Delta Sigma Chi, that almost never happens and we hope they continue to support us at our matches,” said Mccliman.

With support from fellow Coyotes, women’s water polo has plenty of matches left to turn their season around and come away with a winning record.

Water polo continues upstream struggle

By ALEXANDRA CANNADY
Staff Writer

Alexander and Laudermill recognized by CCAA

Junior forward Kwame Alexander and senior forward Theron Laudermill were named to the Daktronics All-West Region second team.

Alexander was named to the All-CCAA’s first team and Laudermill was named to the second team.

On March 7, Alexander was also named to Daktronics All-West Region second team. All the attention could be overwhelming for some, but Alexander takes it in stride. “It has been a really good, positive experience,” said Alexander. “When you have different groups of people asking to do interviews, asking your opinion on things, its nice being in a position to share positivity and try to make a good impact.”

Despite the major increase in his performance this season, Alexander feels that there are still some areas in his game which need to be improved. “Over this offseason, I will spend time working on improving my jumper, defense, improving my handles,” said Alexander. “I am a natural lefty, and a lot of teams’ game-plan and try to shade me to go right not realizing that I am just as comfortable going that way.”

Laudermill is proud of his accomplishments, but expressed his desire to still be out on the hardwood with his teammates. “It’s cool, but I would trade an individual accolade for an opportunity for our team to still be playing,” said Laudermill.

Even though his career at CSUSB might be over, Laudermill still has plans of playing ball. “Right now I am still waiting to see what opportunities present themselves,” said Laudermill. “Whether its overseas, tryouts with the NBA D-League, wherever it may be. I know faith and hard work will lead to results.”

Despite playing ball most of his life, Laudermill believes he hasn’t reached his full potential. “The interesting thing about me is that I have never really been in peak physical shape for my size,” said Laudermill. “I am going to spend the next couple months really pushing to get in the best shape I can.”

Having been a starter the past two years, one moment that stood out to the senior was the game against UCLA earlier this season. “That game opened up my eyes to the game and at the next level,” said Laudermill. “Guarding guys like Josh Smith was a great challenge for me. I was proud of my team that game, because we played really well and hung in there until the end even though Kwame and Tre had foul trouble that night.”

Alexander will look back on this year and strive to continue to perform at a high level while polishing his skills in order to reach his full potential. “I feel I am just the beginning of what we hope will be a long, successful career.”

Coyote Chronicle: Athlete of the Week

Name: Kerry Kelley
Sport: Baseball
Class: Sophomore
Moment:
Mar. 2 vs. CSU Stanislaus
The Coyotes defeated Stanislaus in the first game of their doubleheader thanks to Kelley’s performance on the mound.

He delivered three scoreless innings out of the bullpen, giving him an overall record of 2-0. Kelley has recorded 15.2 scoreless innings in seven appearances.

More about:
Last year, Kelley made six appearances, all in relief, for the Coyotes. He went 0-0 with a 4.26 ERA in 6 1/3 innings, and had four strikeouts and four bases on balls. He only allowed seven hits and did not give up an extra-base hit.
Bats make noise as pitchers deliver

By SPENCER HIRSCH
Asst. Sports Editor

There were several noteworthy player performances in the Coyote’s four-game road series on March 2–4 against conference opponent CSU Stanislaus.

Cory Caruso was first in line, as he delivered seven solid innings in the series opener. Unfortunately, he took the 2-1 loss in a hard fought pitcher’s duel.

The Coyotes came up strong, sweeping the double header on March 3. In the first game of the doubleheader, Paul Eshleman smashed a three-run homer in the top of the fourth to bring the Coyotes’ bats to life.

“It was a turning point in the team’s mentality to get after it,” said Eshleman.

Matt Winn hit a monstrous solo home run in the first game of the doubleheader, as he pitched in three Urban Development League RBI World Series while playing for the Urban Youth Academy team.

He took home MVP honors in 2009 and 2011, highlighted by a complete game against the Tritons last season at home, ending their historic season. To lose at such a compelling time took a serious toll on them.

With vengeance on their minds, the inspired Coyotes came out motivated to come away with a victory.

The Coyotes practiced with an edge, working day in and day out to ensure they would come out victorious against the Tritons.

“For the returners last year, it was like a big revenge for the team,” said third baseman Alex Mitchell. “It was a big let-down to go that far into the playoffs and to come up short in our own house.”

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The team is looking to get back to their winning ways in hopes of making a deep playoff run come May.

Softball splits series against bitter rival UC San Diego

By BRITNEY CARTER
Staff Writer

After a troublesome start to the season, the CSUSB softball team may have finally turned things around.

Last weekend they came out with a well deserved victory against rival UC San Diego, with a hair splitting 5-4 win on March 1.

This win was like no other for the Coyotes after having lost a crucial game to the Tritons last season at home, ending their historic season. To lose at such a compelling time took a serious toll on them.

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This is just the beginning for the struggling softball team. With an 8-13 overall season so far, the ladies are confident that they have nowhere to go but up from here on out.

“Coach Duncan really talked to us about making this out U-turn of the season,” said Mitchell.

“I have confidence in each and every one of our girls on the team. We have a lot of weapons this year as far as speed and power.”

Although the ladies may have made a huge break-through with their victory, there is always room for improvement.

Techniques, as well as plays, still need to be polished and perfected in order to continue on the path they have begun this season.

Previously, ground balls were a main focus for the ladies and now it is making sure they pay attention to the “now” instead of the future.

“We try and think two steps ahead instead of focusing on the task at hand,” said Mitchell. “We need to focus on one thing at a time.”

Focusing on themselves, as opposed to worrying about what the opposition can potentially do, is a point of emphasis that the ladies must concentrate on.

As insignificant as the small things may seem, they can have the greatest effect on the outcome of a game.

Fielding a simple ground ball can be the difference between an easy inning and an offensive explosion by the opposing team.

The ladies are finally realizing this and they are not willing to let it keep them from reaching their goals.

Even though the ladies have made a few errors, the significant improvement of the team has become evident to the players, as well as to the public.

“We played real tough defense and definitely cut down on a lot of our errors,” said Mitchell. “We should be able to coast the rest of the season if we continue to play strong and tighten our defense.”

It is evident this is not the last triumph for the CSUSB softball team. There is no doubt they can beat any team in the league.