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ASI presidential race begins

Michel’le Jones
By ALEXIS FIGUEROA
Staff Writer

ASI is gearing up for the upcoming elections and presidential candidate Michel’le Jones is eager to make a change.

Jones expressed her desire to make the voice of the student population prominent in all of the decisions making if elected president.

Jones plans on getting students more involved in any future activities produced by ASI by setting up meetings once a week and checking in with her fellow students as well as making decisions with their input in mind.

“I want students to have a say in the motions that are passed instead of just passing something without their input. I want to work with them by giving them the clubs they want and work with the feedback they give me,” said Jones.

Jones has many ideas on how to improve ASI; first and foremost she wants to make ASI well-known on our campus.

Jones believes that she has the necessary skills to tackle some of the main issues here at CSUSB.

James Walker
By MECEDES WINCHESTER
Staff Writer

Time to vote! ASI elections will be held May 2 and 3 and presidential candidate James Walker is counting on your vote. Walker’s first step will be expanding the Lobby Corps which started in ASI this year.

“Having a strong and hardworking Lobby Corps is a great way to get the voice of the student out to our local leaders. Most of the other schools have Lobby Corps set up, and over the past few months I have been learning how I can expand ours, once I win. I love events, and we will be sure to have those, but the benefit to the students is so much more if we can get the CSU funded again, and a great start to that is having a strong relationship with our legislators, and a Lobby Corps for them to work with,” said Walker.

James is aware and understands the issues that face the CSU system such as the budget, the CFA, the unions and tenure. He decided not to point the fingers, but instead has been proactive about these situations.

“I have been to the monthly California State Student Association meetings, and I’m doing the best I can to get them to work together. Just this last weekend I was in Sacramento meeting with our local assemblymen and senators. I spoke with many of them to make sure that they understand how important the funding of the CSU is to not only the student, but California. Developing a long lasting relationship with the legislators that represent us is a very important start to a long road,” said Walker.

James believes that he is the best person for the job. He’s not in it for the money, so he isn’t getting paid. “We

Samira Haidarnia
By JONATHAN NG
Staff Writer

Samira Haidarnia hopes to bring the campus together as a community through her past experiences with leadership.

Through the experience of being an ASI Board Member, the Ms. CSUSB pageant winner and the president of Make-A-Wish Foundation at her high school, she feels she has the necessary skills to tackle some of the main issues here at CSUSB.

“I am persistent, creative, genuine and I am good at making things happen,” said Haidarnia.

Haidarnia feels that a lot of the students here at CSUSB are not fully aware of what is currently happening on campus due to the lack of communication in our community.

Considering the current school budget, the potential California Faculty Association (CFA) strike and other events that go unnoticed on this campus, Haidarnia believes that it is her duty to bring those issues to light.

“Our job as ASI members is to let the students know about what is going on around us and be that bridge to information that is out there,” stated Haidarnia.

Haidarnia’s plan to communicate with the students more effectively includes building our community through better marketing practices, advertisement and greeting students face-to-face.

“Everything is centered around marketing. If we can market well to the students and raise awareness of what is going on around campus, we would have a much bigger support system,” said Haidarnia.

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Michel’le marches towards the finish line

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planned on doing so.

“I talked to a lot of the seniors that are about to graduate and they mentioned Future for Better Impact (FBI), which was a program on campus four years ago that picked people they felt would be good future leaders and potential ASI members,” said Jones. “FBI also gave students well rounded information on how to become better leaders, write resumes, and be professional in the workforce,” continued Jones.

Michel’le further expressed her intention to bring back FBI by adding that the program was beneficial because it gave back to the students. If elected, ASI president Michel’le added that she wants to be more developmental and provide students with the tools to succeed in the future.

Jones’ platform is also focused on enhancing ASI’s activities. If she were to be elected, Jones says she’d implement ways to make ASI fun for the students, like by bringing back Bloc Parties, which were a part of ASI three years ago.

With an education in communications and public relations and experience in program- ming, Jones feels her election will step up ASI’s status a couple of notches.

Jones said that her current experience as the academic development coordinator in charge of the resident advisors and stu- dents as well as her experience in manage- ment roles qualify her for the job of ASI president.

According to Jones, her involvement in various honor societies and in sororities such as Alpha Delta Pi will enhance her position if elected president.

Jones pointed to her current role as academic development coordinator as an indication of her ability to adapt to on cam- pus issues such as the budget.

“I am aware of how limited we are budget wise but I feel that in ASI they limit themselves because we do not have that grand budget which makes the cam- pus feel like it can’t put on big events such as bloc parties,” said Jones. “I do not feel we should limit ourselves. In my current position with housing, we put on a fash- ion show and with the help of various or- ganizations we were able to put on a great show with the help of their loans. There is always a way,” she added.

Jones continued on the issue of bud- get by expressing that a lack of resources should not hold the campus back from hosting events. She felt that in reaching out, there will be people willing to help and that there are ways to work around the budget.

The main message she wants to get across to voters is that she is on their side and that ASI is a program that works with students and for students.

“In getting my petitions signed I heard from students that they didn’t like how ASI is currently being run. If they want change I am the change they want to see,” said Jones. “I want students to know that I am coming from where they are coming from, from the outside looking in. I have the same concerns they do,” she concluded.

Voting will take place on May 2 and May 3.

Samira sprouts to secure president’s seat

Continued from Pg. 1

Haidarnia is very pas- sionate about her duty to serve students and is ac- tively involved with her community. At CSUSB, she works as a clerical assistant in the administration depart- ment in the student union, a board member for ASI, such as also a former volunteer for Ecofest and Coyotefest and works as an actress within the theater depart- ment.

One goal that Haidarnia is looking forward to next year is creating new clubs and organizations that help support the diverse needs and interests of stu- dents on campus, including a Make-A-Wish Founda- tion club, an Improv group and a Persian Club.

“I want the students to know that I have their best intentions in place. I will be happy to be a humble repre- sentant of the people knowing that I am doing something that is productive and mak- ing some one else happy,” concluded Haidarnia.

Haidarnia is interested in seeing some big changes in ASI as well. The first thing she plans on changing is how ASI allocates the money to other clubs and organizations on campus.

Thoroughly discussing and figuring out which or- ganizations should receive funds based on the needs of the students as well as the financial need of these organizations will be one of her priorities.

Another thing she says she wants to focus on is raising awareness of ASI among the students and market it so that people know the importance of ASI, what it does and what it is all about.

Lastly, she wants to pave the way for the next ASI president by building a strong student support system and creating different ways to do things more efficiently.

James jumps for position

Continued from Pg. 1

are the future of the country. I do it be- cause I have a brother who will probably go through this system and I will probably send my kids through this system.”

James plans on pushing principles of shared governance and making sure that the student’s voice is heard at this crucial time of hiring a new president. “I am sure that our new president will have lots of ex- perience, but even with that it will take a long time to get integrated into our culture and way of life here. As I stated earlier, one of the most important things for me will be the combining of our resources between the admin, the faculty and the students.”

He voted for the $14 increase to help out our athletics program and child care services. “I feel this fee was acceptable because it was proposed to the students, and the students were able to decide.”

James feels that childcare and sports better the experiences of students.
CSUSB’s Strike School inform students about increases in the upcoming Fall 2012 quarter

By ALEJANDRA ARANA  
Staff Writer

Students for Quality Education (SQE) held a Strike School workshop on April 26 to teach students how to strike and provide more information about the upcoming fee increase for Fall 2012.

Students from SQE shared their experiences of past strikes which allowed the other students that were there an inside look on how to protest in a way that will not harm anyone, but bring acknowledgment to their issues.

SQE has been active at CSUSB since 2001 and has been a part of sit-ins, strikes and negotiations with the Chancellor’s Office to their issues.

“SQE is committed to the California Master Plan for Higher Education principles of an affordable, accessible, quality education for the CSU System,” as stated on the SQE website.

SQE is demanding “the elimination of all 23 campus presidents’ housing and car allowances,” according to the Enough is Enough flyer, in order to keep more money in the school system and help students out a little more with fees.

Students are accumulating more loans with and without interest but they are adding to the student loan debt that is nearing $1 trillion according to finaid.org.

SQE is active on campus and welcomes anyone to attend their events and become aware of what is going on in our campus.

Clothesline Project gets students to connect and overcome obstacles today.

By NIN GARCIA  
Staff Writer

Back in the day when laundry was hung on clotheslines to dry, many women took the opportunity to meet and share stories through the wire, airing out their dirty laundry.

The Women’s Resource Center (WRC) is taking a modern approach to this old idea to provide closure and peace for the women of today.

The WRC held its annual Clothesline Project April 16-20 to encourage all survivors, students and friends who have been affected by domestic abuse to try their hand at an artistic outlet.

The t-shirt workshop encouraged participants to design a shirt with any writings or drawings of personal feelings in order to get closure and move on from the obstacles they have endured.

In the process of making the shirt, I felt like I was finally getting out the bottled darkness out of me. I didn’t feel so ashamed.

I felt really at peace with myself and with the painful memories I have kept locked inside,” said one participant.

Another participant said that when she heard of the event, she was too embarrassed to make a shirt, but that after seeing others making one she didn’t feel so alone. She also mentioned that she made some new friends from the experience, and she didn’t regret taking part.

“Working with the CFA and these activities, I became closer to my professors and understood that they are also struggling, they are people too being effected by everything that is happening,” said student Francisca Aguilar.

Students can relate with other students about the fee increases and the extra loans they have to take out.

But the faculty and staff is forgotten. They make a living working here so if they are one of the ones chosen to be cut, they no longer have a source of income provided to them.

“The event is a good way to raise awareness about personal issues such as rape, battery, domestic violence etc. It promotes female empowerment by letting other women know they aren’t alone and it also lets out deep dark secrets,” said Marissa Wollard, programming assistant.

The Clothesline Project started in October 1990 by a coalition of several different women’s groups. The project has grown from 31 shirts in one city in 1990, to 500 projects in five different countries, and an estimated 60,000 shirts today.

The project aims to honor survivors and victims of domestic violence and offer a therapeutic way for survivors to express their experience.

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Allowing students to vote on campus fees is a bad idea

By SARA NYDAM
Staff Writer

The State Senate Education Committee is considering a new bill that I believe would waste a lot of your time and money.

If SB-960 is passed, it will create the first student elections allowing students to vote on campus fees. Mandatory fees are determined by a Fee Advisory Committee and “at least half of the members must be students,” according to the CSU Budget Office.

The committee has given the right to make these decisions for a reason, which is why I believe we should let our treatworthy board of fee advisers continue making these hard decisions for us.

I think students that support this bill are being selfish rather than looking at the big picture. Elections could be time-consuming and cost $25,000 on average, according to The Daily Californian. I believe issues that may be urgent cannot withstand an entire election process when a decision must be made in a timely manner. It could take a full quarter to get the information to voting students.

If this bill is passed, it will be especially difficult to collect votes effectively when not all students are on campus daily.

Another issue is the cost of holding an election open to the entire student body.

Predicting the cost at around $25,000 per election it is a large amount of money that will be coming out of our pockets. Of course students could care less about that money because they do not realize the money is being taken out of their taxes rather than their tuition.

Students need to be aware of what may be a huge obligation as well as a huge mistake. We all know what happens when power is put in the hands of the wrong people.

“The bill would go too far to restrict the administration’s authority,” according to The Huffington Post. If this bill is passed, power will be taken away from the committee. I am fearful that if all power is taken from the committee students will not have access to the amount of knowledge necessary to make decisions that will directly effect our entire campus.

I do not believe I will have enough time to research into these matters with all of my current obligations and neither will you. If SB-960 is passed, CSUSB would have to pay to hold costly elections for the entire student body, which could be even more costly for students.

In any type of vote people never have the necessary information to make an informed decision. If this bill is passed, students will have the right to make a decision that will affect the fees of the over 17,500 students who are enrolled here.

Another issue is the cost of holding elections failing student body. Passing this bill would just eat up more resources that I don’t think we can afford to lose.

CHRONICLE EDITORIAL

ASI presidential elections failing student body

By COURTNEY SIMS
Copy Editor

With problems such as a lack of university involvement, campaign funding and endless red tape, this election may not be able to meet its purpose.

ASI candidates are forced to obey strict rules handed down by the Board of Directors, if any candidate is in violation of the rules and bylaws, they will be stripped of their candidacy.

For example, ASI has strict rules when it comes to running for a position in office off our campus. Candidates are given only one week to campaign for the election. Presidential candidate James Walker finds this rule to be most annoying.

“In my opinion there is too much regulation on what candidates can and cannot do, and how they can campaign. It has become a bureaucratic nightmare to obey all of the rules, and make sure that you don’t incur violations,” said Walker.

I agree with Walker; one week is hardly enough time to make an informed decision based on brief campaign trails, which seem to only extend from UH to the SMSU.

Students need the university to become more involved with the ASI elections; the lack of support sets a poor example for the students.

“If the school played a larger role in the process, more positions would compete, thus make a more exciting race which would then intrigue more students to participate.”

Because each candidate receives a $300 dollar credit towards their campaign, this puts them all on an “equal” playing field.

I propose the idea of students funding the nominees. I know it may seem reprehensible, but the students are the ones that truly win elections, not those who run for them.

Haidarnia expressed a similar notion.

“My gains are the student’s gains. It’s not about me or what I will gain, it’s more about what I can offer the CSUSB students. People associate leader with power, but I see the president as a servant to the students where their needs are first and the president’s needs come last. If anything, I hope to gain happiness and satisfaction with myself to know that I am helping my peers by using my great skills to lead them to success,” said Haidarnia.

But candidate Michel’le Jones said she feels money only benefits the student with deep pockets, and taints the real reason behind campaigns. “Money, shouldn’t be an issue. Whoever has the best model and the best solution should win. It should come down to how effective your ideas are, not the shiny posters. It’s ultimately about reaching the students,” said Jones.

With such a focus on who can run the best campaign, rather than student issues and positions of the candidates, it’s becoming less likely that students will get what they need. The ASI presidential elections should really be about: choosing a leader who has students’ best interest in mind.

Voting takes place on May 2–3.

“Any type of vote people never have the necessary information to make an informed decision that will affect the fees of the over 17,500 students who are enrolled here.” — student Cassylna Tulleys. “It would be nice for students to feel like they have a choice but it might be counter productive.”

You may know some information on the topic but that does not make you qualified to make a decision that will affect the fees of the over 17,500 students who are enrolled here.

I believe the committee, consisting of students and staff, is capable enough to make decisions for the student body.
It’s unfair that Congress is considering doubling our student loan interest rates.

Congress is set to pass a bill doubling interest rates on student loans. This decision is taking place this summer, according to the LA Times.

I’m a college undergraduate student dependent on loans. How am I going to pay back these ridiculous loan rates after I graduate?

What’s interesting to me is that both Obama and Sen. Mitt Romney (R-Mass.) agree that Congress shouldn’t increase the student loan rates, according to Yahoo! News.

It bothers me that Romney doesn’t have a clear plan.

I would like to know how Romney plans to help out low-income undergraduate students.

Romney supports the increase because of extraordinarily poor conditions in the job market.

The impending bill will increase interest rates from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent, as reported by the LA Times.

The change in federal loan interest rate will affect middle and low income undergraduate students like myself, according to Yahoo! News.

In this tough economy, I’m not so certain that a bachelor’s degree will make my life easier.

Students are going to college for the potential of getting a good job, but this increase will make it harder for students to do so.

As a CSUSB voter, I think Romney should have a clear plan on how to rectify or change this growing issue. Obama has developed a three state tour to rally young supporters on a solution to this problem.

Although Romney’s plan is still in its infancy, he has no definitive strategy. It’s important that he addresses this issue if he wants our votes.

Presidential candidates should be clear and concise, especially when dealing with college students if they want our vote.

We are America’s future; therefore America should not hold us back by racking up our bills and increasing our debt while we’re still in school.

“53.6 percent of college graduates who had bachelor’s degrees and were under age 25 were unemployed—the highest level in more than a decade,” according to the LA Times.

This bill is unfair to me. Why is Congress raising student loan interest rates when they can get money elsewhere, like CEO salaries?

“I don’t understand. It feels unfair because it came out of nowhere. It’s taking advantage of those who need [loans],” said student Ciara Lightner.

“I don’t like that fact that we have to pay for education and other countries go for free, like Cuba and England. It makes me not want to come to school,” said student Viviana Hernandez.

If Congress chooses to pass this bill this summer, there will be an even bigger gap between the rich and the poor in this country.

This is an election year, so it’s imperative that we take note on what’s best for us college undergrads.

We can make a difference by carefully selecting who we elect to government positions.

We should vote for the presidential candidate that has a clear plan that can help the economy without hurting students.

By educating ourselves about ongoing issues and with the power of our votes, we can make change a reality.
Disk jockey Walter Martinez balances school and work as he focuses on achieving his goal of entering the music industry.

Student DJ Wall-E pursues promising musical career

By DESIRAE CONTRERAS

Being a disk jockey is not just about music. It’s about knowing yourself, multitasking and knowing how to please a crowd.

Disk jockey Walter Martinez not only juggles his responsibilities as a full time student studying mass communications, an AV tech, a DJ for the Santos Manuel Student Union and a member of the Underground Music Society, he even works with Student DJ Wall-E as a musical duo and some videos reach nearly a million views. The popularity continues to grow every year.

Newlywed YouTube sensations Michael Alvarado and Carissa Rae perform their music at the Santos Manuel Student Union Events Center as part of the Filipino-American Jam event.

“People ask us if we make videos to become famous,” said Alvarado. “But really we just want to connect with people through music in hopes that they will say ‘I can relate to that’ or ‘I can relate to that but it’s still good.’”

“They were able to raise money and awareness for a cause that is close to their hearts as Filipino-Americans. There’s no telling what big stars the club will acquire for next year’s Fil Am Jam, but one thing is for sure; the show’s popularity continues to grow every year.”

Lubos PASO fundraises for the Philippines

By GABBI CORRAL

C-USUSB musicians took the stage in the Santos Manuel Student Union Events Center (SMSU) to raise money for the Philippines.

Lubos PASO, the Filipino-American Student Organization, held their annual Fil Am Jam (Filipino-American Jam) on Thursday, April 26 in the SMSU Events Center which attracted more than 150 students and residents of the area.

“This event is a great way to give back. We try our best to do what we can,” said Lubos PASO member Neann Genato. Rising singers, rappers and musicians took the stage, showing off the music they had spent so much time preparing for the Fil Am Jam benefit show.

The event raised money and awareness for the Filipino-American Santos Manuel Student Union (SMSU) to raise money for the Philippines who need education and proper farming land.

“We just got married today and we’re so excited to celebrate with you all here tonight,” said Alvarado. The couple played a set of love songs telling the story of how they met and their journey to where they are today as married musicians.

Alvarado and Rae receive an average of 100,000 views per video on their YouTube account as a musical duo and some videos reach nearly a million views. The following artists, we just want to connect with people through music in hopes that they will say ‘I can relate to that’ or ‘I can relate to that but it’s still good.’”

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Features

Child Care center in danger of closing

By KIM DAILEY
Staff Writer

On July 1, CSUSB’s Children’s Center may have to close its doors.

“Governor Jerry Brown is trying to cut all subsidized care from all student parents,” said Children’s Center director, Barb Kirby. “He wants to have a ‘Work First Program,’ which is not going to help the 98 percent of students who either receive full or partial subsidized help from the government to have their children in the Children’s Center.”

The Children’s Center (CC) is a Title 5 state funded program and is also a National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Accredited, which is the highest honor any child development center can receive.

The program is funded by the state, ASI, State Affairs, State and Food Program, Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) fundraisers and parents’ fees, including partially subsidized and full tuition, which the state determines by family size and income.

“As part of CSUSB staff, I pay full tuition for my child to come to this program. It is worth every penny to keep her here. It helps me keep my job and helps me become a better parent by offering such a great place for my child to come to,” said Mary Ulatan, administrative support assistant II.

The program offers a comprehensive educational program for children ages 3-5 and an educational after-school program for 6-12-year-olds as well.

“The program focuses on each individual child through development then academics,” said Kirby.

The center is very resourceful and uses whatever it can get its hands on, even bringing in real cow tongues, night crawlers, plants and other things to have a hands-on learning experience.

“My son goes around the house saying my bladder hurts or my brain hurts and he is only five and is pointing to where they are located. This program is giving my son opportunities that I can’t give him,” said student Yessenia Yorgesen. The CC is not just an education program for the children who attend, but it also benefits many other students and programs here on campus.

The human development, nursing, kinesiology departments as well as child development students use the CC to study, to observe and research the children while being in the right type of environment.

The Work On Real Careers (W.O.R.C) program for the developmentally disabled students help them gain work experience and they also benefit from the CC being kept open.

The W.O.R.C helps San Bernardino Unified School District former students obtain the work experience by helping not only at the CC, but also around campus. At the CC they earn the experience by cleaning the pets cages, organizing toys, keeping the facilities fixed and raising the flags.

“If the program closes it’s going to hurt the enrollments here because if students don’t have the place to leave their children and feel comfortable then they will lose out on the opportunity for their education,” said Debbi Fox, a grandmother of a child in the program.

People who wish to support the CC can attend some upcoming fundraisers.

“May 9 is going to be a Bike-A-Thon where the children will be riding their bikes for exercise in front of the Children’s Center and you can go up and give money to a child,” said president of PAC Valerie Tapia.

You can even simply walk into the CC and donate money in a jar located on the front counter and while you are there you can sign the petition which will be sent to the governor’s office.

Parents have already been writing and sending letters, petitions and calling Gov. Jerry Brown at 1-916-445-2841.

Parents and the staff could use your support by either calling the number listed or by typing in your zip code at legislature.ca.gov/cgi-bin/memberinfo which will direct you to a closest legislative office to address your written letters.

Coyote Karma encourages philanthropy

By ANGELA E. RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

CSUSB is preparing for its first Coyote Karma event focusing on giving back to our campus and highlighting student unity.

Coyote Karma will take place in front of the John M. Pfau Library Thursday, May 31 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Office of Student Leadership and Development and Associated Students Inc. are teaming up with the Department of Communication Studies’ public relations class to encourage students to donate their campus.”

This event will feature different forms of entertainment such as live music by student bands and DJs. Coyote Karma will also offer food from many local vendors.

“There’s going to be a lot going on, especially with opportunity drawings,” said president of Coyote Karma’s work team, Annette Verdejo.

Greeks, along with other organiza-

Over 2,500 students and faculty members of CSUSB can participate in Coyote Karma. Students offer their time to help around campus giving chances to show their gratitude.

“May 31 is an opportunity for all students from different organizations to be united and show love for the campus that supports them in their higher education.”

The idea of Coyote Karma is to encourage students to step forward and give back to the school that has helped them so much.

The percentage of CSUSB students receiving some form of financial aid is 82 percent. Annually, CSUSB financial aid has a disbursement of $160 million. This number is broken down into three groups of $85 million for state and fed grants, $74 million for loans and $1 million for work study.

According to the Coyote Karma pamphlet, CSUSB is state-funded, but has run out of its monetary resources.

Coyote Karma’s focus is on showcasing students by featuring different departments on campus giving chances to show how much donations can be raised.

Verdejo explained how students don’t need to donate a lump sum of cash but can at least sacrifice that $5 coffee for at least one day.

“Students don’t have to give a large quantity of money. It can be a minimum donation of $1. It’s as easy as giving up your Starbucks latte for a day,” said Verdejo.

The majority of funds that are donated to CSUSB are from private donors and alumni.

As of now, CSUSB does not have a student campaign program and is hopeful in initiating a student and integrating it with incoming freshman students.

According to the Office of Student Leadership and Development and ASI, students are 10 times more likely to contribute and give back to their alma mater as alumni when they engage with the university of their choice as early as their freshman year of college.

Being the first event on CSUSB’s campus with such strong intentions for financial advancement, there is hope for success.

Remember, what goes around comes around!

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Performance artist transfixes CSUSB

Transgendered activist Rebecca Kling brings her one-woman show to SMSU

By MARISSA MOONEY
Staff Writer

The Pride Center at CSUSB welcomed Chicago-based artist Rebecca Kling to the Santos Manuel Student Union on April 25 to present her one-woman show on her identity as a transgendered woman.

Kling presented “Allusion: Illusion: A Day with Rebecca Kling” and a performance of Trans Form at the SMSU Theater.

Gabby Sandoval, a student at the Pride Center, introduced Rebecca right before her multimedia performance that included video, story-telling, movement and acting. The start of Trans Form was a live-action theatrical production with sound effects and lighting.

In one notable moment, Rebecca ran around the stage acting like a young boy playing Cops and Robbers.

“The bad guys transform me into a girl, but rescuing me doesn’t transform me back into a boy,” said Kling.

From her child-like behavior, she transitioned into a monologue explaining her struggle of self-discovery and gender issues.

“The audience interacted with questions and curiosities. ‘Is there a transgender role model out there?’ one student asked. She answered by saying that Ariel from The Little Mermaid was her role model, admiring the Disney character’s transition from a mermaid to a human.

Periodically she would chime in to define the word “transform” as she stood center stage. Long pauses were held as she moved the chair she sat on from left to right on the stage and acted out key moments from her childhood, college and adult life.

One defining moment was when she came out to her parents as a young boy. Her mother told her, “We will accept you no matter what.”

When she finally decided to go to the DMV to get her name and picture changed, the DMV told her she needed a medical note to change her gender from male to female.

Rebecca ended up going down the street to another DMV and told her she needed a medical note to change her gender from male to female.

The incident led her to begin a tour called No Gender Left Behind as a result of her experiences.

“But it’s also a show about how we all transgress gender in our own little ways, how transgendered rights are fundamental to everyone’s rights,” said Kling.

The Rebecca challenges her audience to face the issues on gender and help them to understand.

By the end of Trans Form she had an open discussion with the audience.

Many of the students were impressed with Rebecca’s multimedia performance and felt proud enough to advocate Rebecca’s tour on different college campuses across the United States.

For more information on Kling, visit her website at rebec-kling.com.

Transgendered performance artist and speaker Rebecca Kling performs one of her monologues.

Percussion pair is pitch perfect

By PRINCESS RUSSELL
Staff Writer

CSUSB experienced an eclectic fusion of original American music created by percussion-based duo Loop 2.4.3 April 24 in the Performing Arts Building.

The duo, comprised of Lorne Watson and Tom Kozumplik, had an intimate one-hour performance that showcased their interesting sound. Loop 2.4.3 has an undergound sound with a mainstream edge using a unique mix of electronics and percussion.

“The easiest way to describe our sound is classical and percussion,” said Watson.

Each performance’s transition from instrument to instrument occurred very naturally. It’s apparent that both Kozumplik and Watson are extremely comfortable with their craft.

In fact, Kozumplik was so comfortable on stage that he performed shoeless during the show.

“We are influenced by everyone over the map, from Bok to Slayer, even Afro-Cuban sounds,” said Watson.

One of the highlights of the performance was the song “As a Child” off their new album American Dreamland.

“As a Child” was different from the other songs in the showcase, with a lyrical component and a chorus that deviated from the rest of their instrumental songs.

The song could be described as a progressive lullaby, with the words “She loved me as a child / But when it’s gone” repeated softly throughout the song.

The last song performed, “American Elder,” seemed near and dear to Watson, incorporating the use of Native American influences and drum techniques as well as a wooden flute.

Watson wrote “American Elder” while teaching music on an Indian reservation.

During that time, he had the opportunity to learn how to play the Native American flute he uses from a local chief.

“Trans Fix” had the most upbeat tempo. Kozumplik and Watson used the entire drum in this song as if they were not going to let a melody or tune go to waste.

By integrating the use of the side and bottom of the drum, as well as substituting their hands for drumsticks, they were able to manipulate and increase the complex sound of the drum.

The camaraderie between Watson and Kozumplik is very genuine. They regularly used nonverbal signals like head nods and huge smiles as signs of encouragement.

Kozumplik and Watson met at Central Michigan University and have been playing together for over seven years.

“If you were part of the loop at Central Michigan then you’ll always be in the loop,” said Watson jokingly.

CSUSB student Jennifer Wong heard about the performance through her music class and came out to see the duo perform.

“It’s not what I expected it to be,” said Wong. "I liked the mix of electronic and percussion.”

The new album American Dreamland incorporates abstract ideas and a wider variety of sounds and techniques.

It is available now on iTunes, CD and 12” vinyl.

For more information about this dynamic duo visit their website musicstarts-fromsilence.com.
Santigold makes a masterful comeback

By GESELLA MARTINEZ Staff Writer

Santigold is who she is; she doesn’t sway her artistic vision under the waves of pop music. Her sophomore album, Master of My Make-Believe, is fresh, funky, unique and mixes genres from new wave, electronica, hip-hop, pop and reggae fusion.

“The title is pretty much the theme of the record, and its message is that of each of us are the rulers of our own reality,” said Santigold in an interview with 7digital.com. “We can decide what we see for ourselves and for our world, and make our vision a reality.”

You will fall in love with the album as the songs are soothing with fresh beats and deep lyrics. The reggae beats combine well with the intriguing electronic elements.

Santigold’s 2008 album Santigold established her internationally as one of the most exciting and fearless artists to emerge in the last decade. The album was widely praised by blogs and critics alike for its genre-defying sound and instantly memorable melodies. The album hit best of 2008 top 10 lists across the globe.

Santigold has collaborated with Jay-Z, David Byrne, Major Lazer, Beastie Boys and many others. Her musical reach allows her to collaborate with artists from different genres.

“Disparate Youth,” the album’s first single, has badass beats and powerfully deep lyrics. The chorus of the song is mind-blowing:

“Oh, we said our dreams will carry us / And if they don’t fly we will run / Now we push right past to find out / How to win what they all lost / Oh-ah, Oh-ah / We know now we want more / Oh-ah, Oh-ah / A life worth fighting for.”

“I think it’s an evolution of where I left off. It’s still what I like to call ‘callage music’: a cut-and-paste style of music-making, taking influences from all over and piecing them together in an artful way,” said Santigold.

“But I was a bit more ambitious this time around. The songs are complex and multi-layered. I tried some new things, like my song “The Riot’s Gone,” which is my version of a ballad.”

Santigold’s musical inspiration consists of old pop songs that had a world musical tinge like Peter Gabriel, Kate Bush and Malcolm McLaren.

“I was also listening to some African music, like Fela Kuti, Amadou and Mariam, old dancehall from the 90s, old new wave. A lot of the same stuff I always listen to,” said Santigold.

In her interview with 7digital.com, Santigold said that when she is making a record she likes to listen to old music because she likes the sound quality of the past better. She also listens for mostly sound inspiration rather than song ideas.

Four years after her first album, Santigold is back and better than ever with her amazing fusion of tribal and urban influences that makes Master of My Make-Believe a hit.

Funny rom-com has tons of Hart

By MANAL MUSEITEF Staff Writer

The star-packed comedy “Think Like A Man” brought viewers to tears of laughter from beginning to end.

The movie showcases the story of six friends who realize the women they’re after seats.

The happily married, the big kid and the mama’s boy, the average dreamer, the 21st century.

The cast performs their roles perfectly making the characters keep supporters of the film in which he adapted the story of six friends who realize the women they’re after seats.

Director Tim Story took a great approach to the film in which he adapted the story of six friends who realize the women they’re after seats.

It’s safe to say the women of the film started choking on their popcorn.

Another aspect of the movie that kept you seated.

There were many surprise cameos throughout the movie such as Chris Brown, Wendy Williams, Kelly Rowland, Tony Rock, Keri Hilson, Sherri Shepherd and much more.

Another aspect of the movie that added to the storyline was the narrations by both Harvey and Hart. When the film focused its attention on the point of view of the men, Hart narrates or as the movie focused on the women Harvey narrates, the viewer, man or woman, has a more personal connection with the film.

The soundtrack also played a huge role in the film as it set the mood for each scene. Tracks featuring artists such as John Legend, Jennifer Hudson, Ludacris, Keri Hilson, Earth Wind & Fire, Ne-Yo, Rick Ross and many more accent the film to a point where the song playing in the credits kept you seated.

The constant stream of comical antics left movie-goers either spitting out or choking on their popcorn.

Here is another hint: take a trip to the restroom to empty out the tank before the movie starts.

Yes, it’s that funny.

Santigold's musical inspiration consists of old pop songs that had a world musical tinge like Peter Gabriel, Kate Bush and Malcolm McLaren.
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Tony Guerra is making his name as a pitcher for Coyote baseball. Not only is he finding success in college athletics, but he’s taking control of his future here at CSUSB as well. Guerra began attending CSUSB in September after getting his Associate of Arts at Western Nevada College in Carson City, Nevada.

According to Guerra, he learned a lot from that experience and was taught what it meant to work hard. He will be getting his bachelor’s degree in Psychology sometime next year. Guerra attributed people’s behavior to his interest in the field.

Guerra grew up in San Pedro, Calif., where his biggest influences were his mother and brother.

Having seen a lot of things growing up that scared him, he wanted to go in the right direction. Soon he was introduced to baseball.

Guerra has his brother to thank for introducing him to the sport. His brother, who is older than him by ten years, always played ball in the neighborhood sandlot. He used to go watch his brother and his friends play, and that’s when his love for the game first began. Guerra started playing baseball at the age of five and hasn’t stopped since.

What he loves so much about the sport is the competition and all the chances he has to interact with diverse groups of people.

He realized his actual love for baseball when he was nineteen, after he had his Tommy John surgery, also known as UCL reconstruction. This is a common surgery for lots of collegiate and professional athletes, especially in the game of baseball. Guerra needed the surgery so he could continue to be a pitcher.

After the surgery, he said he saw the true meaning of the game.

When I asked Guerra who it is that inspires him the most, he answered, “Myself.”

He explained that everybody is always doing the same thing, just working and working and living a repetitive life just to get by.

“Do I want to work? No, I don’t. I want to do something better. I want to do what I want to do,” said Guerra.

Guerra hopes that once he graduates with his bachelors degree in psychology that he can open up his own clinic.

“Have you seen the movie “Gridiron Gang”?” That’s kind of what I want to do,” said Guerra.

“Gridiron Gang” stars “The Rock” Dwayne Johnson, and is about working and helping out adolescents who are juveniles and on probation.

Guerra now 23, makes sure to take control of every opportunity that is thrown his way. With his passion and his drive, he is sure he can succeed in doing something to help others.

Having faced much adversity, many tribulations, there is no doubt that Guerra will handle whatever obstacles life throws his way.

The Coyote Athlete Profile

**Guerra’s ambitions extend beyond the game**

By AMY CUTILLO Staff Writer

Tony Guerra is not looking to settle for less, as he has ambitions to become a psychologist and one day own his own clinic.

Guerra’s ambitions extend beyond the game. From an outsider’s perspective, many would see the 8-21 loss as a complete failure, but the true victory lies in the team’s ability to overcome the massive obstacle of never losing heart.

Trusting each other and having the mental fortitude to continue fighting in the midst of hopelessness shows that the team’s foundation is in camaraderie rather than the need to win.

Being able to overcome a loss and continue to fight through shows great strength and heart. That’s one of the main reasons I love about this team. They are all about learning and never giving up,” said Reneker.

While the CSUSB water polo team struggles to inspire its fans through wins, they are certainly worth admiring for their refusal to back down.

The struggles of this season only empowers them to come back even stronger than ever, with their eyes set on a strong 2013 season.

It will be these lessons that the team remembers as they look towards the future. It is through failure that growth can blossom.

As the German football hero Austin O’Malley once famously stated, “If you learn from a loss you have not failed.”

The team moves forward, taking their courage and strength with them to their next challenge at the WWPA Conferences in La Jolla.

With the season about to wrap up, the Coyotes look to finish on a winning note.

Through the trials and tribulations that they have endured throughout the grueling season, this unique group of girls have found a way to focus on their positive achievements, and will continue to look towards improving themselves individually, and as a team as well.

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Coyote bats catch fire against SD Tritons

By JESSICA BRACAMONTES
Staff Writer

The Coyotes split their four game series on April 19–21 against the conference leading UC San Diego Tritons. After taking the first two games at home, the Coyotes looked to take the series by winning at least one game, in the doubleheader on April 21 at the Tritons’ home turf.

Unfortunately, it was just not meant to be. The Tritons won both of their home games as well, keeping their conference lead by one game when the weekend was said and done.

According to left hand relief pitcher Kerry Kelley, the team just had a bad day. “We weren’t clicking on all cylinders,” said Kelley.

First baseman Brandon Day explained how the Coyotes were able to strike first with a 3–2 victory in the series opener against the Tritons on April 19.

“We came out with a little more energy that day,” said Day.

The Coyotes got the early edge on the Tritons by putting two runs on the scoreboard in the fifth inning. Ethan Chapman ripped an RBI single through the right side in the inning to bring in Edwin Mendoza.

Later in the eighth, Day answered with an RBI single to right field that put the Coyotes up by two.

The Tritons responded early in the eighth and ninth inning by scoring two runs to tie the game at 2–2. The Coyotes did not lose their confidence, as they got two runners on in the bottom of the ninth and had their big bats coming up in Darren Dworak, who is leading the team with a .368 batting average, and Paul Eshleman, who is right behind Dvorak, with a .333 batting average.

The Tritons decided to take the righty on righty matchup, as they intentionally walked the left-handed hitting Dvorak to load the bases so that they could face the right-handed hitting Eshleman.

Paul Eshleman proved to be clutch, as he hit a walk off single through the right side to bring home Mike Newell for the 3–2 victory.

“I was looking for off-speed. They threw me a fastball away. I just went with it and hit it to right,” said Eshleman.

The Coyotes completely demolished the Tritons in game two of the series with a 14–4 win, as Eshleman came up big once again.

Scoring four runs in the third, Eshleman decided to put the game out of reach in the fourth. After scoring their fifth run earlier in the inning on a bases loaded walk to Dvorak, Eshleman came up with one thing on his mind: knocking in runs.

With one mighty swing of the bat, the slugger crushed a grand slam to left center to put the Coyotes up 9–0.

In the first two games, Eshleman delivered an astounding seven RBIs and had seven hits in just ten at-bats. Six of his seven RBIs came in the 14–4 victory, in which he had four hits in five at-bats.

“It was just a matter of getting a good pitch to hit. Its been going good for me of late. I feel like I am more relaxed and seeing the ball better lately,” said Eshleman.

“Eshleman has gotten into a groove. It feels like he will get a hit every time he steps up to the plate,” said Kelley.

The Coyotes traveled to the Tritons’ home field to wrap up the series in a double header on April 21. Unfortunately, both games went in the Tritons favor by scores of 8–4 and 5–2.

Though the Coyotes were not able to take the series from the Tritons after winning the first two games, Kelley feels good about the team’s overall performance, and he also feels they have the potential to have a very deep playoff run.

“We are doing good in all areas. We just need to keep up the way we have been playing. We are hot right now. If we keep it up, we will go far,” said Kelley.

Butler makes history, but Coyotes falter

By CHELSEA UNDERWOOD
Staff Writer

The Coyote softball team struggled at home in their last series of the season on April 20–21, dropping three out of four games against the ninth ranked CSU Dominguez Hills Toros.

The ladies struggled with the bats as they struck out 13 times in the 3–0 loss.

The Toros took the lead again in the second game, scoring two runs in the second and fourth innings.

In the sixth inning, freshman Alyssa Ramos and senior Alex Mitchell both ripped singles to bring the Coyotes’ bats to life.

The next hitter, junior infielder Britney Butler, stepped up to the plate and smacked a three-run home run to center field, giving the Coyotes their first lead of the game at 3–2.

That home run moved Butler into a tie for the school record for most homers in a single season with 14.

“This is always awesome to see one of your teammates clutch up and just hit a ball, making us come out ahead,” said senior Felicia Cervantes.

Butler’s home run proved to be just enough, as the Toros won by a final score of 3–2.

With their season coming to an end, the Coyotes had two more games to make a splash.

Unfortunately, the came up short in both games, losing by scores of 3–0 and 5–4 respectively.

In the first game, pitcher Courtney Wilhelms came into the game and served as a major hindrance for the Toros’ offensive attack and kept them at bay for most of the game.

However, the Coyotes’ bats were silenced, as they were unable to provide any run support for their pitcher.

The same game provided a heartbreaking defeat, as well as record breaking performance.

Britney Butler was able to hit a school record 15th home run in the second game of the doubleheader.

This game gave the Coyotes a comfortable four-run lead at the moment, but it also made Butler the Coyotes’ single-season home run leader.

While down, the Toros showed that they were definitely not out, as they were able to tie the contest at four in the fourth, and went on to score what would be the deciding fifth run in the seventh.

Head Coach Tacy Duncan admired her girl’s efforts, but realized that the Toros were formidable opponents who deserved a lot of credit.

[CSU Dominguez Hills] did a good job,” said Duncan.

“They are number 19 in the nation and we played with them every single game.” Although they failed to exceed their expectations, the Lady Coyotes’ graced us with plenty of highlights throughout the season.

With only four seniors, the Coyotes will have many hungry, determined players returning for what is expected to be a remarkable season next year.