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Coyote Chronicle

COYOTECHRONICLE.NET

Vol. LI, No. 2

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2015



Assisted suicide stirs controversy, [pg. 5](#)



Celebrity worship epidemic, [pg. 9](#)



Geographer makes it quake, [pg. 12](#)



U.S. Soccer team takes hit, [pg. 14](#)

4 out of 10 college students graduate without workforce skills

By **MARVIN GARCIA**
Staff Writer

New college graduates are entering the workforce unprepared.

This is affecting their eligibility for white-collar jobs based on study results collected by the Council for Aid to Education organization (CAE).

The CAE did this through their Collegiate Learning Assessment Plus test (CLA+).

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, the CLA+ is intended to measure the intellectual quality gained by students throughout their four-year college learning, and reflect the student's level of critical thinking, analytic reasoning, document literacy, and written and verbal communication proficiency.

CSUSB Public Relations Professor Donald Girard believes there is some truth in the situation, and added that students should treat the educational process as a two-fold enterprise where they are given the knowledge in their field to succeed in their chosen profession and to prepare them for the highly competitive nature of today's job market.

In a similar report by Ryot News, there are several assumptions about the reasons for recent graduates, which includes the current status of the economy, this generation's work ethic practice, or colleges focusing too much on social aspects and less on academic criteria.

Moreover, the subject is also related to college graduate unemployment, where a recent study by the Economic Policy Institute revealed that about 8.5 percent of graduates between the ages of 21 and 24 are currently unemployed and about 16.8 percent in the same age range are underemployed.

Another survey commissioned by the Association of American Colleges and Universities found about 91 percent of employers find the capacity to think critically, communicate clearly, and solve complex problems is far more imperative than a candidate's undergraduate major.

According to a *Wall Street Journal* report, Jassalyn K. James, who oversees the CLA+, said that even when students have proven remarkable growth during their four-year college learning, they fall on a low-point start where they may not be proficient in such skill sets by the time they graduate.

This is especially true with important transferable skills that are applied nowadays in many white collar jobs.

Girard has continuously built writing standards into each of his courses and stresses the benefit of going to the Writing Center in University Hall, for further improvement.

Students at CSUSB see things differently when judging their educational quality.

"The quality of education I receive here is good. Everything so far in my time here has been great for what I need to know and do for my field [P.E. instructing] and I will be able to use it once I get my job," said student Christian Lara.

Student Melanie Marcias expressed her satisfaction with the education offered here and is confident that she will be able to retain and be proficient in the skills required to obtain as well as succeed in whatever career she chooses to set her sights on.

"My marketing professors relate a lot to the real world corporations, and they apply lots of concepts from the books, and that has helped me in narrowing my choice on what I want to be once I get out," said Marcias.

The CAE is committed to helping educational institutions aiming to improve the learning outcome of students.

Below Grade

Percentage of students scoring at each level in CLA+, an assessment designed to measure critical thinking and written communication



Note: Results based on 31,652 students at 169 participating institutions. Figures may total more than 100 due to rounding.

Source: Council for Aid to Education

The Wall Street Journal

Out of the 31,652 college students who were tested, they were ranked into three categories based on the skills they showed within the test: below basic, basic, and proficient or higher.

Students respond to MyCoyote changes

By **JOCELYN COLBERT**
Staff Writer

On Dec. 18, 2014, a brand new MyCoyote portal was launched at CSUSB.

E-mails notifying the campus community about the revamped program were sent out before the launch.

"The university has begun the process of planning for a complete redesign of the csusb.edu website. The process will take 18-24 months, will be pursued in phases, resulting in a complete redesign of the website that will be dynamic, user-friendly and focused on prospective students, par-

Continued on Pg. 4



Jocelyn Colbert/ Chronicle Photo

CSUSB student attempts to learn new MyCoyote program.

CCBriefs:

By **DAVON DEAN**
Staff Writer

Cal Fire and emergency medical response team will be sued (Jan. 21)

Cal fire will be sued by the City of San Bernardino due to the agency not coming to an agreement with the city.

City officials had no choice but to pursue a lawsuit against Cal Fire, forcing the agency to come to a decision to bid on providing fire and EMS services for the city.

Police fight to get no-knock warrant approved (Jan. 21)

Controversy rose on whether or not the "no-knock warrant" will be beneficial for residents and law-enforcement officials.

According to Carrie Mills, a retired Atlanta police officer who is currently a union rep for the international brotherhood of police officers, feels that based off her experience with warrants this one will be most beneficial for law-enforcement officials.

"No-knock warrants helped close a lot of cases while I was an officer, if we knocked and announced, all evidence is going to be destroyed," said Mills.

Man beats girlfriend with puppy (Jan. 21)

A man who struggles with prior assault charges injured his girlfriend and killed their three-week-old dog.

The girlfriend, Monique Thomas, tells CBS she feared for her safety after her boyfriend was given six months of jail time for beating her and killing their dog.

"All I did was walk behind him, and all of a sudden I turned around and I'm being thrown up against the closet wall, the closet door," Thomas said.

Scientists slow light to below light speed (Jan. 22)

A team of Scottish scientists have slowed photons—individual particles of light—below the speed of light by sending them through a special mask.

The mask forced the photons to change shape, which is what caused them to slow.

Everyday practical use of the discovery has yet to be discovered.

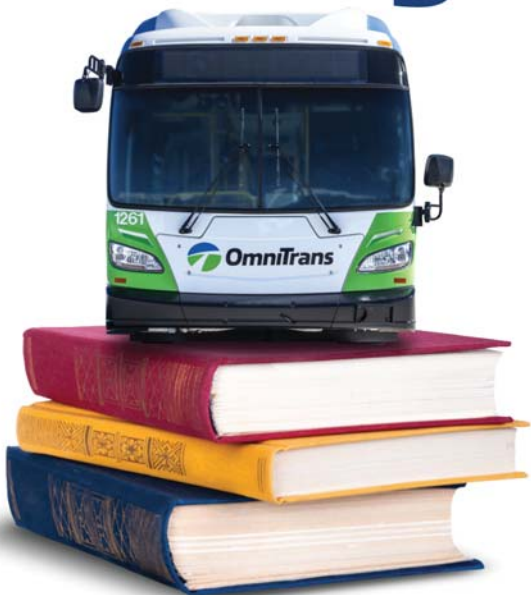
U.S. officials claim 6,000 ISIS fighters have been killed (Jan. 22)

U.S. diplomatic officials have claimed that approximately 6,000 ISIS fighters have been killed.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel wouldn't confirm the exact number, merely stating that thousands were killed.

U.S. intelligence estimates that ISIS has access to 9,000-18,000 fighters but can draw on thousands of other soldiers from allies according to CNN.com.

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State of the Union coverage

- The New York Times* - President Obama claimed credit on Tuesday for an improving economy and defiantly told his Republican adversaries in Congress to “turn the page” by supporting an expensive domestic agenda aimed at improving the fortunes of the middle class.
- The Guardian* - When Barack Obama looked out into the audience of his State of the Union speech on Tuesday, he was met with a truly historic sight. No Democratic president in the last century has addressed a Congress dominated by so many Republican lawmakers.
- The Wall Street Journal* - President Barack Obama on Tuesday night declared an end to the U.S. economic crisis as he made the case to Americans, and a skeptical Congress, that now was the time to focus on resolving the most stubborn impediment to a full-fledged recovery: lagging progress among the middle class.
- Los Angeles Times* - President Obama’s State of the Union address Tuesday didn’t contain any surprises, but it did unveil the clearest picture yet of the strategy Obama has adopted for the final two years of his presidency.
- The Chicago Tribune* - President Barack Obama on Tuesday unveiled an ambitious State of the Union agenda steeped in Democratic priorities, including tax increases on the wealthy, education and child care help for the middle class and a torrent of veto threats for the GOP’s own plans.

Coyote Chronicle

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Student tracking app hopes to improve grades

By **DANNI YBARRA**
Staff Writer

There is a new app on the market designed to increase retention rates and improve grades at colleges by tracking student attendance.

The program, Class120, created by Jeff Whorley and his team at Core Principle, seeks to “help students succeed in college,” as stated on their official website, by tracking student attendance and sending notifications to parents and/or school officials when students skip class.

The app uses GPS to pin-point a student’s location. If they are not within range of a certain area, within a certain period of time, the app then considers the student to be skipping class and sends the notification to their parents or officials.

“Schools are under pressure from tax-

payers and parents to increase retention and graduation rates,” reports *The Wall Street Journal*.

“Of the first time freshmen who began in Fall 2008, 47 percent of them completed their bachelor’s degree within six years,” stated CSUSB Director of Institutional Research, Dr. Muriel Lopez-Wagner. “Our current retention rate is 88 percent,” added Lopez-Wagner.

CSUSB’s retention rate is greater than the national average reported by the Institute of Educational Sciences (IES), which currently stands at 79 percent for four-year public universities.

However, the national graduation rate reported by IES is averaged at 59 percent for four-year public universities, which CSUSB falls short of.

Through research (where they found that 25 percent of students they surveyed

miss a year or more of classes throughout their college career) the Class120 team decided that the solution to raise these numbers was to “go to class,” which is now the motto for the app.

There are two package types (basic and plus) and four different versions of the app—for colleges, athletic departments, parents and for students.

Depending on the package and version, Class120 provides real-time information regarding categories such as most missed classes, percentage of classes attended, countdown until next class time, and notifications sent.

Efforts to determine whether the app can be turned-off or go incognito from parents and officials turned up no results.

Universities such as Columbia College of Chicago, Georgetown University, UC San Diego, and many more have al-

ready tested the Class120 app.

“I feel if the students need the extra pressure to attend class regularly, then this would definitely be beneficial for them,” said student Melissa Dailey.

“Ideally all classes should be attended, but it is ultimately up to the student’s discretion... the parents don’t attend class, the student does,” continued Dailey.

However some feel differently.

“I think it’s an invasion of privacy,” said student Vladymir Gonzalez.

Harvard recorded classrooms without students’ knowledge to research class attendance patterns. While Villanova University in Philadelphia uses students’ ID cards to track attendance, according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

“Attendance is the most accurate predictor of success in a college class,” stated the Class120 official website.

Obama proposes free community college

By **JORGE CAMPOS**
Staff Writer

President Barack Obama has officially proposed to make community colleges “virtually free” for anybody who is willing to work for it.

This economic help will only benefit students who graduate high school with a GPA of 2.5 or higher. His plan, the America’s College Promise, will encourage students to maintain good grades and reach for a high school diploma.

“Given that this is Obama’s final State of the Union Address, it was likely that he was trying to define his presidential legacy with this speech. In theory, it is of course a good idea but if it increases national debt then I would give the plan a second look,” said CSUSB’s Political Science Professor Meredith Conroy.

A school containing over 40,000 students can be a problem. The federal government would pay 75 percent of college tuition, according to the *Los Angeles Times*, requiring the states to pay for the rest.

The plan, however, will take time to process. America’s College Promise will be included in the 2016 federal budget and will have to wait for congress approval, said White House officials.

The average student attending community college will save approximately \$3,800 annually which will provide the community colleges with higher graduation rates and push individuals into the middle class according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

The proposal will begin by having the first two years

of community college free and wait to see the outcome.

“A college degree is the key to getting in the middle class,” said Obama at the technical center in Knoxville, Tennessee. The president has also raised the Pell Grant award by \$1,000 for the working lower and middle class along with making loans more accessible with only 10 percent interest.

Access to a higher education is a necessity in today’s knowledge-based society. With this opportunity at hand, millions of high school graduates will finally have the opportunity to attend college and obtain a career with a high paying job, according to Quartz News.

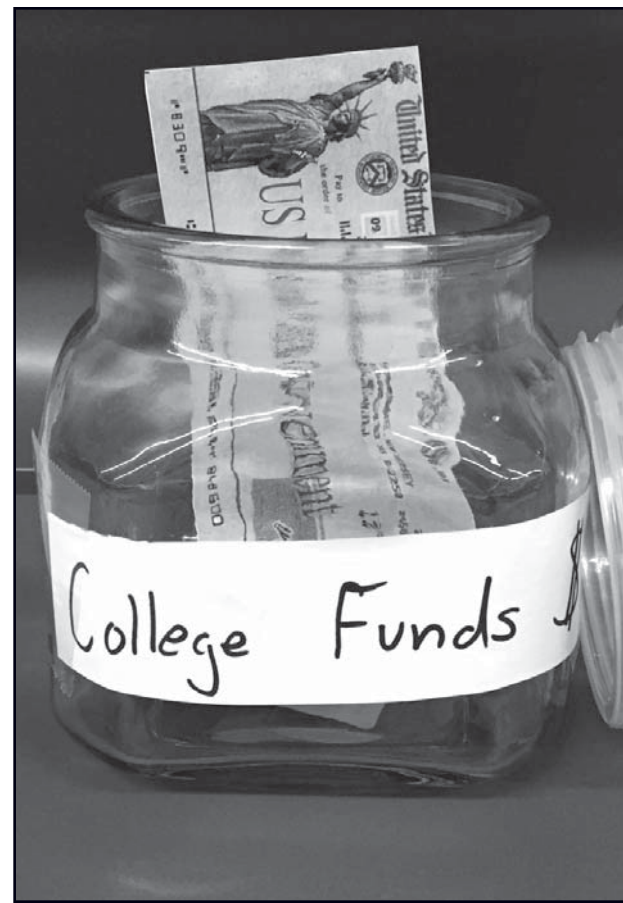
“This funding will benefit students because they will be provided with a new opportunity to better themselves and those around them and provide a better life for future generations,” said San Bernardino Valley College student, Adrian Keller.

Going to a community college will be the best way to earn a degree if the first two years are free, knowing that students won’t need to take out loans and pile up in debt.

This means that students will be encouraged to complete a bachelors degree at a four year school and the number of students applying for college will increase, according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

With more money being provided, the community colleges are also able to improve themselves.

They will have the money to purchase more supplies like books, computers, desks and have more ways to assist their students, according to Quartz News.



Jorge Campos | Chronicle Photo

Obama's plan could make tuition virtually free for community college students.

CSUSB sorority wins history journal award

By **TANIYA HARWELL**
Staff Writer

Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society was awarded first prize in the Gerald D. Nash History Journal competition for its student journal, “History in the Making.”

This marks the fourth year of academic honors for the history society.

The Alpha Delta Nu chapter of Phi Alpha Theta also took home the 2014 award for best student journal.

“History in the Making” is comprised of essays, articles and literature reviews written and edited by CSUSB students.

The journal, sponsored by Phi Theta Alpha, is published each spring.

“We are delighted to announce that

through a genuine department-wide effort, our students once again produced an award-winning journal,” said Cherstin Lyon, according to news.csusb.edu.

Dr. Lyon is a CSUSB professor of history and advisor to the editors of the publication.

The award was accompanied by a \$500 check that the society plans to use to further fund their chapter.

This is the fourth year the honor society has succeeded in producing a noteworthy journal with their 2012 journal taking second place and earning third place awards in 2009 and 2013.

“We are a professional society whose mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication and the ex-

change of learning and ideas among historians,” according to the Phi Alpha Theta mission statement.

The journal covers all topics of history from all over the globe. This includes African history, racial theory and a new section highlighting how world leaders are remembered after their deaths.

Producing the journal is a year-long process. An editorial board is selected every Fall quarter.

During winter quarter students submit work to the editorial board who approves or dismisses submitted entries.

Chief editors complete the journal in fall and it is sent off for review.

The entire process culminates in July when journals are reviewed and awards are given to different honor society chap-

ters.

Students that contribute their work to the journal, or donate their time to being an editor, do not receive course credit for their work. Instead students are given the prestigious honor of having their work published and are given the chance to win a nationally recognized award.

Dr. Lyon started the journal at CSUSB in 2008.

“The journal started as an experiment,” said Lyon.

This quarter, Phi Alpha Theta is back at work selecting student submissions to be in this year’s journal.

When asked what was next for the chapter, Lyon shared that she hoped to “continue to get awards and keep students excited.”



Smartphone users, all brands, “disadvantaged” when phoneless

By **MARLYN RODRIGUEZ**
Managing Editor

Smartphone users’ cognitive ability is impacted negatively when separated from their devices.

According to valuetalk.com, University of Missouri researchers ran a study where they separated iPhone users from their phones and found that this caused a downturn on mental task performance.

Lead study author Russell Clayton suggested that the technological advances incorporated into the iPhone have contributed to the possibility that some people see their phone as an extension of themselves.

Clayton also mentions that being separated from phones will not only lead to separation anxiety but will also cause negative effects on a person’s physiological state.

This study was only conducted on iPhone users. It did not attribute all smartphone users.

The journal, “Personal and Ubiquitous Computing” published an article in 2011 that states people are not necessarily addicted to their phones but are instead addicted to the habit of constantly checking for updates. This occurs as a cause of constant phone-use and is triggered by boredom.

USA Today reports that smartphone users continue to grow dependent on their phones and those numbers will continue to increase with the growing market of applications that allow you to shop and bank through your phone.

Phone companies are catering to this dependency by incorporating software that allows users to track their phone if they ever happen to lose or misplace it, reports USA Today.

Some may refer to people’s dependency to their phone

as an addiction and others as an obsession. The Huffington Post distinguishes between the two stating that addiction means wanting to fulfill the need of a learned pleasurable experience while obsession is an anxiety-based disorder.

According to The Huffington Post the need for smartphone interaction is better defined as an obsession since we check our phones to reduce anxiety versus checking it to gain pleasure.

A Baylor University study found that female college students spent an average of 10 hours a day on their phone while male college students spend an average of eight hours a day on their phone.

According to a article in the journal “Computers in Human Behavior,” “18–24 year olds text and call the most— 1299 text messages and 981 call minutes, on average, per month. Texting drops precipitously in subsequent age groups from 592 to 32 texts per month.”

The study was conducted on a total of 164 students and they found that the more prominent activities smartphones are used for are texting, e-mailing, checking Facebook and surfing the Internet.

The Washington Post reports that 90 percent of Americans own a cellphone while 70 percent check their phones compulsively.

CSUSB alumni Jennifer Lakner said, “I totally do [depend on my phone]. Like no one ever calls me, but the moment I can’t have my phone for a few hours during the day I convince myself I’ve missed something really important.”

Lakner is referring to the phenomenon referred to by researchers as “FOMO” or “Fear of Missing Out.”

This information suggests that people are not only using their smartphones continuously, they are also becoming dependent on them.

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Students comment on new website

Continued from Pg. 1

ents and community constituents,” said Samuel Sudhakar, vice resident and chief information officer at CSUSB.

Due to aging equipment and older technologies, MyCoyote has migrated to a newer platform that Web 2.0 supports.

The project started in February 2014 and was released to the campus community in late September 2014.

“MyCoyote was migrated from PeopleSoft portal to an open based, cloud hosted solution powered by CampusCloud and Liferay portal,” said Sunny Lin, lead operating systems analyst at CSUSB.

The Information Technology Services (ITS) team, responsible for creating the brand new MyCoyote, is located in the Wedge, which is located by the main entrance.

The entire new portal was created in six months, led by Tiffany Chiang, PeopleSoft campus solution technical lead and Anthony De La Loza, MyCoyote portal administrator.

“We adopted this new technology to include several flexible layers within the portal,” said Chiang.

“Everything was moved to the Cloud for this big-scope project,” said De La Loza.

MyCoyote focus groups were aimed at testing every part of the new portal, said Lenora Rodgers, director of administrative computing and business intelligence at CSUSB.

“Now everything is organized and

information is easier to access, whatever the student or faculty desires,” said Rodgers.

“The campus community now has a convenient gateway to single sign on applications. Several focus groups were brought in to test the new portal, insuring a place for community success,” added Rodgers.

However, students and faculty gave mixed reviews about the new MyCoyote.

“MyCoyote gave me a headache until I got used to it,” said student Diana Lee.

“As a professor it’s a lot better. You can get things you want quickly, making it a one-stop shop for professors and students,” said Dr. C.E.Tapie Rohm.

MyCoyote is created in phases. The phase one task was to create a portal that connects to other applications such as e-mail and blackboard. PeopleSoft functionality was provided with one click.

Phase two is the feedback. Various IT departments want to know what the campus community wants to see, and will provide enhancement to the site based on the feedback.

During the coming phases, other functions will be added and any other applications that the community needs.

“We’ve created an 85 page ‘How To’ for MyCoyote, including an index. When you log on to MyCoyote, click student or employee, then on the right hand side of the page, click the Self Service link in the ‘How To’ box,” said Chiang.

Login to your MyCoyote account to view the “how to” instructional guide detailing the changes.

Instagram lacks #hashtag security

By **ANGIE BURKHART**
Staff Writer

Instagram needs stronger regulations on dangerous and offensive self-harm content.

Hashtags have become a recognizable symbol, yet have given rise to some dangerous trends.

I will point out that I fully support freedom of expression, but I believe there comes a point when we need to draw the line on explicit material that is shared on social media outlets.

A popular Instagram trend has surfaced in which users post graphic photos of self-mutilation, ranging from cutting and burning themselves to severe anorexia and bulimia, and tag phrases such as #selfharm and #selfhate.

“I don’t think at the moment we fully understand the role social media plays in the rise of self-harm among young people,” stated Caroline Kolek, spokesperson for the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, in an article titled, “School’s Struggling to Cope with Student’s Self-Harming.”

I believe these images become dangerous as they become exposed to the younger users who are accessing this material, and how it may suggest that self-harm is cool or trendy.

“Recent research suggests one-third to half of adolescents in the United States have tried some form of non-suicidal self injury,” stated author Kirsten Fawcett in her *U.S. News* article “Myths and Facts About Self-Injury.”

In my opinion, these statistics should be enough motivation to better regulate the sharing of this content among users.

Facebook has taken initiative in banning certain self-harm content, seen in their terms and conditions, which states they remove any promotion or encouragement of self mutilation, eating disorders or hard drug use.

It seems to me that Instagram has fallen behind in regulating this type of content, as the materials are still easily available to their users via hashtags.

“If they ban nudity, they should definitely ban photos like these,” stated CSUSB student Desiree Contreras in an e-mail.

Instagram policies state that you may not post violent, nude, partially nude, discriminatory, unlawful, infringing, hateful, pornographic or sexually suggestive photos or other content via the service.

Though the rules are very clear, I would argue that they are not regulated nearly as much as they should be.

For example, the tag #selfharmmm generates over two million images on Instagram, many of which are graphic and seem to overstep their rules about violent and hateful material.

This particular hashtag in which the spelling has been modified is just one example of the methods individuals have used to avoid having their content removed by administrators.

When parents permit their children to use social media platforms, it seems that they would assume that the policies stated in the terms and conditions would be upheld and unfortunately, that’s not the case.

If people remain passive about content that encourages or promotes self-harm, the issue will only progress and we may end up carrying some of the accountability.

If you happen to come across Instagram content which promotes self-harm, please report these images so that we may help even a single person from inflicting self-harm.

By reporting dangerous content we can prevent harmful trends from becoming popular.



Angie Burkhart | Chronicle Photo

Instead of paying attention to hashtags on Instagram that feature dangerous content that is easily accessible, we should promote non-harmful images and videos.

Patients have right to choose

By **JACOB COLLINS**
Staff Writer

Terminally ill patients should have the ability to decide for themselves whether or not they want to wither away in a hospital or pass away slowly in their own home.

Physician-assisted death is legal in three states and may soon be legal in California as well.

On Wednesday, Jan. 14, a bill was introduced to California state legislature that, if passed, would allow physician-assisted death with the following conditions: a prognosis of six months or less to live is given by two doctors, the medication is self-administered, the patient is mentally competent to make their own medical decisions, treatment options such as hospice and pain-management are discussed, two oral and a written request are made 15 days apart, and that two witnesses attest to the request according to *San Jose Mercury News*.

The bill includes exclusions for Catholic hospitals, which choose not to offer the “right to die” for terminally ill patients that fall under the criteria.

The option for patients that are suffering from their terminal illness to end their own life should be a right.

We control our own bodies and should be able to decide how we want to live the rest of our lives, whether that means dying painlessly at home with loved ones or slowly in a hospital.

The main argument against physician-assisted death is that it is unethical or immoral,



and that it diminishes the “sanctity” of human life.

However, I do not believe in “objective” morality or absolute morality. What is moral to one individual may be immoral to the other, which is apparent in society by separation on various issues such as abortion, or gay marriage.

I think that forcing other people to endure pain and suffering at the end of their life is immoral, and that people should be able to end their life on their own terms. It’s no different than “pulling the plug” on patients with life support.

“I completely am for it. Why would you prolong suffering to someone instead of allowing someone to be at ease?” said student Joshua Segura.

Other objections come from a religious standpoint, mainly Catholicism, which according to the *Sacramento Bee*, the only problem is that you cannot and should not conflate religion with laws that are imposed on all of society.

Catholic hospitals can outright refuse the medication to offer to their patients, but not everyone in the state of California practices Catholicism, therefore this law should be regulated by the state.

The right to die should be an option available for those who want it.

Voters who don’t have a terminal illness will never understand the pain, suffering, and diminished quality of life that the victims of terminal illness go through everyday of their life.

Instead of legislating morality, which I am vehemently opposed to, the decision should be left to the individual to make their own decision.



Jacob Collins | Chronicle Photos

The medication is self-administered and allows patient to slowly slip into unconsciousness until they are legally dead.

Cultural appropriators are wrong

By **ESSENCE DENNIS**
Staff Writer

Cultural appropriation is an issue that warrants discussion, and students should be aware and informed.

Cultural appropriation is taking another person’s culture and making it into some sort of trend or otherwise belittling it whether for personal or popular reasons.

In some cases, people are more interested in taking advantage of the culture to generate profit, rather than having respect for the people that are a part of the culture.

For example, Lana Del Ray caused quite the uproar when filming her “Ride” music video, adorning a Native American headdress and waving an American Flag, singing the lyric, “I believe in the country America used to be.”

Many took this to be the glorification of a genocide in a pop music video.

“You can be culturally diverse if you want. You should be able to wear and do whatever you want to yourself, it’s your body not your whole culture’s body,” said junior student Francisco Godinez. While I do believe in being an individual and doing what you want, I disagree with some choices that people make regarding cultures simply because they believe “it’s cool.”

I have seen many Caucasian students sporting matted dreads that have been made to resemble the locs of people showing their allegiance to Rastafarian culture.

Also, people who use African American Vernacular English (AAVE) such as Madonna, who called her white son the N-word, according to NY Daily News, and was not aware of the subtext behind it, or Pharrell Williams wearing “red face” on British Elle magazine, or Iggy Azalea claiming Miley Cyrus stole twerking from her.

“Cultural appropriation is disrespectful,” said sophomore Sergio Hernandez.

Could it be that our generation is desensitized to other people’s cultures and what they believe in? Or are we absolutely in the dark about what’s going on in the world?

“I think that whoever is in charge should take some action,” said junior Andre Gil-dore, about informing students about the consequences of their appropriating behavior.

The media seems to perpetuate such ignorance, so a lot of students may think this kind of behavior is acceptable.

For instance, in January 2014, students at Arizona State University hosted and participated in an MLK-themed party, which received a lot of criticism from civil rights leaders.

“Many people don’t know what cultural appropriation is and one way of remedying this issue is with education. It is key to educate people on other cultures such as traditions and practices,” said Communications Professor Basemeh Rihan.

In my opinion, cultural appropriation is a problem, and our campus is not immune.

As students we should educate ourselves about “borrowing” or imitating traditions from cultures apart from our own because our behavior and actions can be offensive.



Joaquin Junco Jr. | Chronicle Illustration
Appropriators ignorantly “borrow” certain traditions of different cultures without acknowledging cultural significances.

American Sniper Chris Kyle fuels controversy

By **DOMINIC INDOLINO**
Staff Writer

Imagine living a day in a war zone.

Chris Kyle was a Navy Seal sniper recognized as the greatest in all U.S. military history with more than 160 confirmed kills.

After completing four tours in Iraq, Kyle wrote a best-selling novel, titled “American Sniper”.

This novel inspired patriots across the states to venerate Kyle as an American hero.

In 2013, Kyle was killed by a fellow veteran, whose motive was unclear, according to Erath County sheriffs.

Less than a year after Kyle’s death, Clint Eastwood directed a film adaptation of Kyle’s autobiography dedicated to the fallen sniper. Bradley Cooper portrays Kyle.

“It is important to have a symbol out on the battlefield.”

Andrew
Veteran Marine

The release of Eastwood’s film was met with massive backlash from critics, stating that Eastwood glorified Kyle.

Alex Horton from *The Guardian*

quotes excerpts from Kyle’s autobiography, in which he states, “I hate the damn savages,” and “I couldn’t give a flying [expletive] about the Iraqis.”

Apart from his prejudices, Kyle was notorious for stretching the truth.

He bragged about killing a robber in Texas for trying to steal his truck and about punching Jesse Ventura in a bar. Dan Browning of the *Star Tribune* reported that Ventura later won a \$1.8 million settlement for defamation.

The omission of Kyle’s lies, prejudices, and bad behavior have concerned critics like Scott Foundas of Variety magazine.

In his article, Foundas states that Kyle had strong distinctions between good and evil, but Eastwood portrays Kyle as only seeing in “shades of gray.”

These creative liberties have prompted critics to question if “American Sniper” is actually an American propagandist film.

I have to disagree.

Andrew is a veteran attending CSUSB who served for five years during the Iraq War as a marine and asked to keep his last name anonymous.

“I had heard of Chris Kyle before [and] that he was the greatest sniper,” said Andrew. He thought the movie did Kyle justice and did not have any complaints.

What concerned critics though was not the plot, but Kyle’s identity, and that Eastwood was wrong in glorifying him.

I believe that it is only natural for every soldier to show some amount of ani-

mosity towards his enemy. In my opinion, Kyle allowed that hatred to spread to include all Iraqis and Muslims.

Eastwood shows the turmoil Chris goes through when returning from each tour, “which happens to all of us,” Andrew remarked.

In “American Sniper,” a soldier tells Kyle that “the boys feel invincible when they know you’re out there.”

“It is important to have a symbol out on the battlefield,” Andrew told me. It is something to keep them fighting and that is

what Kyle represented.

Eastwood definitely glorifies Kyle, but “American Sniper” is not a propaganda film.

There is no call to arms nor shouts for the heads of our enemies. It is just another dramatized film created to tell a story of someone’s hero, but Kyle was no saint.

I believe that Kyle served as a symbol for courage during hardship, although knowing who he was diminishes that symbol. Maybe the old saying is true? Never meet your heroes.



Considered to be both a saint and a devil, Chris Kyle, the notorious Navy Seal sniper is recognized for his astounding 160 confirmed kills during his service career. Since his completion, Kyle was surrounded in controversy regarding his honest statements about being a silent killer trained to eliminate threat.

K-FROG meets Coyote

Coyote Radio prepares student for professional work

By ANNA GONZALES
Staff Writer

Coyote Radio helps student Anthony Donatelli become a Disc Jockey at K-FROG.

Donatelli is a senior at CSUSB who transferred from Norco College, majoring in Communications with a concentration in Mass Communications.

Donatelli got his start at Coyote Radio by volunteering to read a sports recap during a student's radio show.

Penny Drake-Green, professor of Coyote Radio, approached Donatelli and offered him his own on-air show. He gladly obliged.

Shortly after enrolling in Comm 243B, he co-hosted a morning sports show, addressing current sports news, interviews with CSUSB coaches, and players from professional sports teams, such as the Anaheim Ducks.

After Donatelli sent a hopeful Tweet to K-FROG morning radio show host Scott Ward, he was invited to the station and given a tour.

Donatelli was interviewed for a position and was hired just a few weeks later.

I had the pleasure of sitting down with Donatelli to ask him about his journey through radio.

Donatelli aspires to work in TV, hosting award shows and a late night show like Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon. Long live The Don.



Student Anthony Donatelli (pictured above) one of our very own Coyotes, is employed at K-FROG Radio as a disc jockey.



Photos courtesy of Anthony Donatelli

Student Anthony Donatelli aspires to host a late-night television of his own, similar to Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon.

Q: What sparked your interest for radio?

A: Wow. Originally, I was into journalism and writing newspapers at my community college and then when I was transferring here, I kind of noticed that newspapers were becoming obsolete. I was looking at a whole bunch of things that communication majors can do and I thought of radio. I've always loved listening to baseball games and I've always wanted to be like a play-by-play guy.

Q: Does the decline of radio worry you at all?

A: No, not so much. It is almost on the same route, but you look at the invention of the iPod, Pandora Internet radio, and other music apps and radio is still there. [Radio] is going to be in cars forever.

Q: How did Coyote radio help you with your start at K-FROG?

A: Coyote Radio is the total reason why I am at the FROG. Without them, I would not be there. Lacey Kendall and Penny Drake-Green are two of [my] biggest influences. I've got a lot to owe to them and the whole Coyote Radio program. They provided me with real world experience and expertise that helped me make a smooth transition into my position.

Q: What does your job at K-FROG entail?

A: At K-FROG I am on the air speaking as a DJ on Monday mornings from 12-5 a.m. I am also a board operator which entails controlling the music and commercials that you hear. I also make sure that all of the sound levels are good, and I take calls from listeners.

Q: What is your favorite part about working in radio?

A: Being on air is definitely fun, because I can listen back later and think, wow that is me on the radio?! I'll hear from my parents or my friends that morning, stating that they heard me on the radio and I think its surreal. [Radio] doesn't feel like a job to me. Here [at K-FROG], I work with the most supportive team that I could have ever asked for. Everyone is so nice and so helpful and the communication is great.

Q: What are some of the challenges/rewards of working in radio?

A: I think a challenge is when you become a figure on the radio and are heard by a ton of people, they may want to give you their feedback and some of the time, it might not be the nicest. One of the most rewarding things is that you feel more self-worth . . . I feel more accomplished because I know that this is what I've been working towards for quite some time.

Q: Is there any advice that you would give to students who want to venture into radio?

A: Coyote Radio would be a great place to get their start. Also, if you work really, really hard and you are kind to people amazing things can happen. Straight up, those are the words that I live by and that's what I've learned for so long. Give people the time of day and don't be a jerk. Smile, look presentable and network. If you want something really bad you have to work for it and make it your top priority. This goes for radio, or any other profession.

Anthony Donatelli

Features

BOOK REVIEW:

FREE WILL

By **DANIEL DEMARCO**
Copy Editor

Were you free not to read this review? Author Sam Harris would say “No.”

Surely, you’re not being forced to read my review of Harris’ book, “Free Will”; but even though you are reading this as a result of a conscious decision, you were not the author of the thoughts and intentions which preceded; thoughts emerge in the conscience as a result of neural events in the brain.

Maybe you’ll decide to stop reading now, just out of spite to prove a point that you are indeed free not to read my review. That decision though, would too be the result of thoughts and intentions arising in the conscious mind completely out of your control.

“Free will is an illusion,” states Harris in, perhaps, his most controversial book so far.

Harris is most known for his harsh criticisms of religion as a whole, both as a best-selling author and public figure. As polarizing as that topic is, Harris’ stance on free will divides even non-believers who tend to stand behind Harris on any other subject.

Harris has said that perhaps the only thing which brings more worry to people than the idea they have no free will, is the certainty of death and the uncertainty of what follows, if anything at all.

This is a high status to be attributed, and I don’t think it is unjustified. As people, we feel that we are in control of ourselves, we feel that we make decisions and choices to shape our lives; to consider the idea that we are not in control of who we are and what we do is alarming.

But, as Harris points out rather well, taking a few moments of

strict self-examination, you’ll find you no more choose your next thought than you choose what I will write next.

Harris has an unusual way of approaching complex intellectual subjects and communicating them in a manner that can be widely understood—simple and to the point.

This is typical of Harris, who does this in all his writing, as well as in public speeches and debates.

A major part of the reason Harris accomplishes this is that he only requires common sense, reason, and scientific evidence at his disposal.

One might expect to hear plenty of philosophy and metaphysics considering the topic, but Harris actually ends up confronting some of these arguments rather than supporting them—persuasively, in my opinion.

“Free Will” may be Harris’ best testament to the simple, yet utterly effective, style I have ascribed to him, as he presents his entire argument in a mere 66 pages.

So yes, the subject is approached in a simplistic manner, the book is about as thick as a pencil; yet it is a remarkably effective means of presenting his case where most authors would take hundreds of pages and require a heavy vocabulary to make the exact same point.

Some of you will finish this fascinated and eager to read the book yourself, some will think it is a crock and dismiss the whole idea, some will fit somewhere in the middle.

Are you free to decide which category you fit in? No, the choice has been made for you just as it was for me when I was introduced to the book.

As Harris wrote: “Am I free to change my mind? Of course not. It can only change me.”

Students blasé over fees

By **MACKENZIE VIERA**
Staff Writer

Coyotes in their junior or senior year seem to lack interest in the mandatory campus fees for the services they may or may not use. CSUSB falls into sixth place of the cheapest colleges in California with an average tuition cost at \$18,040, according to collegecalc.org.

However, after briefly interviewing students on the cost of attending CSUSB, many were not aware of what exactly they are paying for.

Let’s do the math. According to csusb.edu, the tuition fee per quarter is \$1,824.

Below the total tuition, students seem to overlook the small print that states “mandatory campus charges.”

Multiply that amount by three quarters and you have \$16,416. Leaving a mysterious amount of \$1,624--most CSUSB students have no understanding of its allocation.

“Up until my junior year, I never knew what I was paying, or rather, what financial aid was paying for,” said student Jasmine Jett.

When logging on to mycoyote.edu, students are given the option to view their financial activity that explains where money goes.

For students who are well informed, they don’t need much explanation.

“Have you seen the gym? Even the walk to the gym looks mighty pricey,” said Vivian Fernandez. “Don’t get me wrong, the aesthetics of the campus are really nice, but



Anna Gonzales | Chronicle Photo

it’s just unnecessary. I don’t need a hand scanner to get into a gym I never use.”

Some of the most discussed mandatory fees are the gym fee, \$32.88, and the Student Union fee of \$122.50. On the contrary, some students don’t mind the fees, and are actually motivated to use some of the facilities they are paying for.

“I use to pay sixty bucks every month to work out at Gold’s Gym,” said Eddie Palmer. “I didn’t know exactly how much I was paying for the school gym, but I guarantee it’s cheaper than what I use to pay.”

Students who were in favor of paying for the gym ad-

mitted to not using it, but plan to.

The Rec Center is a valuable resource that students should take advantage of, whether it’s running on the field, using weights, or even participating in intramural sports.

“I didn’t know we could play sports without actually being on the school team!” said Valerie Rose. “That’s actually cool. I would rather do that than pay for a new Vitamin Water fountain machine.”

Rose said she would prefer the money spent on Student Union fees to go towards resources that are more “productive.”

“There aren’t any healthy options in the Student Union, so I might as well go and do something productive that I’m foolishly paying for,” added Rose.

Although Rose claimed there are not any healthy options on campus, CSUSB has recently added The Market Place.

The Market Place, located next to the Social and Behavioral Sciences building, offers fresh coffee, healthy snacks and meals on the go.

Considering the students interviewed were juniors and seniors, not many expressed concern but rather focused on the fact that they wouldn’t have to pay them for much longer.

“They’re called ‘mandatory charges,’ what else are we suppose to do? We can’t refuse to pay and if we did, what? Are we going to be banned from the SU?” said Palmer.

Though we can take pride into being one of the cheapest colleges in California, many students feel misinformed and in some ways, ripped off.

Coyotes deny celebrity worship

By CAMILLIA DABABNEH
Staff Writer



Photo courtesy of designtrend.com

While some Coyotes deny engaging in hero worship of the rich and famous, maybe they do.

“I don’t think I objectify celebrities but I do not consider them regular people in comparison to myself,” said student Amelia Murillo. “Their lives are more luxurious which makes them different in a way.”

Celebrities often have fans aspire to be like them or idolize them.

“Society loves the idea of having their own desires and goals visible,” said Lisa Brown, student at Los Angeles Pierce College.

Most of the people that invest so much time into celebrity’s activities seem to fantasize about leading a similar life.

“People wish to be rich and famous so they spend a lot of their time focusing on celebrities who live the rich lifestyle so they can feel connected,” said student Lukas Montes.

However, some people become extremely invested in their lives because they may feel that they can relate in many different aspects—more personal problems, like their love lives or family issues.

“I have always followed Kim Kardashian, but now it’s even more interesting because she has a daughter which is a few months older than my own,” said Brown.

Coyotes agree that spending time following these celebrities is considered more of an escape from reality.

“People want to escape their average lives and fantasize that maybe one day they can live the life that they live,” said Murillo.

Celebrities aren’t only seen and followed on television or film.

Some might even be social media famous for like Viners or bloggers.

Social media celebrities may be perceived as normal to a majority, so it may be easier to relate to their everyday advice.

“I follow social celebrities like Jennifer Stano and Egries Gjergjani because they are great bloggers and give great mommy advice,” said Brown. Adding, “Their success and fabulous lifestyles are also great.”

Many students may follow at least one celebrity on social media accounts such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr.

“More than half the people I follow on Instagram are celebrities, bloggers, fitness experts, and designers,” said Brown. “Some of them I follow because I am fascinated by the marketing.”

Celebrities are portrayed as beautiful and perfect, which is perpetuated by the media, as it displays constant, air-brushed magazine covers and coverage at events like the Golden Globes and the Emmys.

“People have become so invested in the lives of the rich and famous because to them they seem perfect,” said Sarah Al Farah. “They are all so beautiful which makes society think that it is all real and people get caught up in that.”

Society is always feeding into media outlet stories, whether the stories are positive or filled with drama. I personally love both, but drama stories are my guilty pleasure.

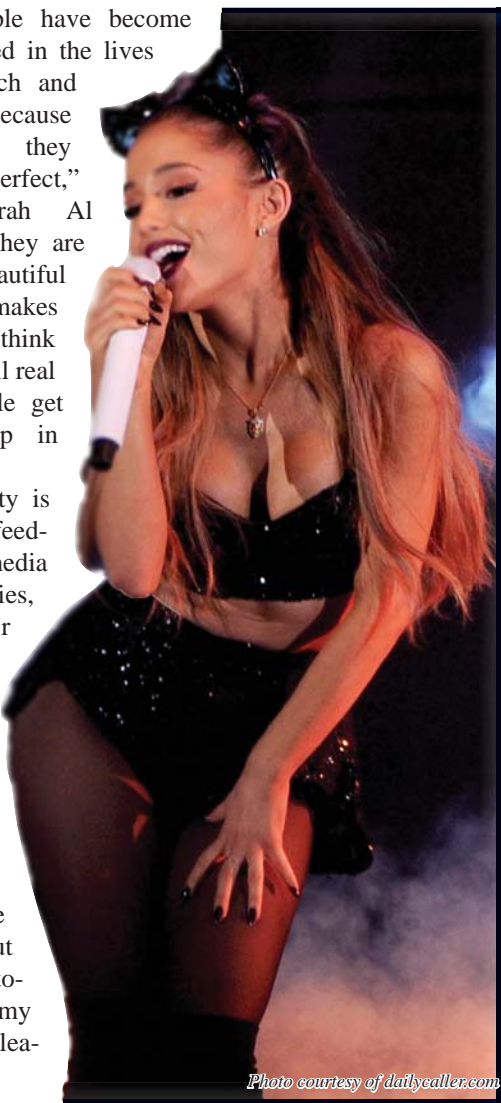


Photo courtesy of dailycaller.com



Kim Kardashian @KimKardashian
OMG 20 MILLION FOLLOWERS! ARE U KIDDING ME!!!! THANK U SO MUCH!!!! I LOVE YOU GUYS!!!!!! XOXOX ALL I REALLY WANTED WAS 20MIL & A BAD B.....

Mixed feelings about police presence



Photo courtesy of reddit.com

By SAMANTHA ROMERO
Staff Writer

The general populace doesn’t seem to think of police officers in amicable terms. “Police make me feel uncomfortable because I feel like they are always watching and they make you feel like you are doing something wrong, even though you might not be,” said student Annette Carlos.

The police force is intended to protect and serve the community. They investigate and arrest criminals, doling out karmatic retribution to that speeder who almost took your car out to justice.

They can make you feel safer walking to your car at night—or perhaps not.

Despite all this, not everyone thinks of the police force this way, at least with the Ferguson protests and social media hash tag campaigns, such as #ICan’tBreathe and #BlackLivesMatter.

“Whenever I see a police officer, I do tend to tense up and feel kind of anxious,” said student Brandon Adkins.

Most of the younger generation have joined forces to support one another during these consistent riots.

This feeling of unease causes obvious problems for both the police force and the public, particularly because some individuals feel it’s time to “get back” at the police.

There seems to be a lack of respect for authority among the community—with that sentiment in place, the police force cannot perform their duties to the best of

their ability.

“I believe the public has perceived me in a variety of ways, based upon my assignments, areas I worked, calls I was dispatched to, scenes/incidents I responded to, and the hours I worked,” stated an officer who asked to remain anonymous in an e-mail.

“The media’s presentation of law enforcement officers has affected me in a negative way,” added the officer. “The media, whether print, radio, or television, depend on ratings to remain profitable and relevant, so I take everything that is presented with a grain of salt.”

As a free society, it is easy for us to question, berate and criticize those who keep us safe.

We tend to forget that they are regular

people too, who are just trying to make the world a safer place for everyone, as well as for their own families.

The officer’s wife also stated via e-mail that officers’ spouses have to deal with the trials that officers face.

“These officers have seconds to decide what to do and then are questioned over and over again about that decision. I tell my husband to do whatever he has to do to come home,” added the officer’s wife. “I know that may sound insensitive, but remember he is not only an officer but also a husband, a father, a son, and a brother.”

The goal of police officers is to serve and protect and create a stronger community, but some feel that there are political issues that complicate the way the job is done.



Jasmine Turner | Chronicle Photos

Black Butterfly: Before metamorphosis

By **JASMINE TURNER**
Staff Writer

CSUSB presents a remarkable tale in “Black Butterfly”, written by Luis Alfaro, a story of six Latina girls growing up in the gritty streets of East Los Angeles.

The story takes you on a journey into the teenage mind filled with anger, humor, adolescent angst, American slang, and Spanglish.

These young girls are at a weird stage in their lives, where they are not children, not teenagers, but not quite women

The play’s timeline is set in their middle school through high school years, which shows their journey to womanhood.

I attended a dress rehearsal on Nov. 20 at the Theatre Arts building, where actors successfully re-enacted the lives of young Latin ladies growing up in East Los Angeles.

Each character interpreted their life stories through a series of monologues, music, poems, and dramatic scenes.

While waiting for the dress rehearsal to start, I got to sit down and interview Johanna Smith, the director of the project, to get some insight on what the play is about and see why she chose this particular play.

“There are a lot of young women from super diverse cultures but it’s hard to find plays with characters of young women of different ethnicities, especially Hispanic,” said Smith.

“We like doing shows that are diverse and we’re moving forward with doing shows that reflect our students.”

When the rehearsal began, lights became dim and then entered Raquel, played by Patrice Horton, a young girl who expresses her dreams to be a writer but ponders whether if her ordinary life is an appropriate subject.

Inspired by a close person in her

life, she then makes the decision to use her memories as inspiration for her writing, which is the vocal point for the entire play.

“I write how I walk, one step at a time...” said Raquel.

Raquel isn’t the only one telling stories but five other characters chime in and interpret diverse attitudes of young Latina adolescents.

Each character was dressed to their individual character’s personality and their acting was relatable.

The atmosphere of the play was fun with funky and Latin music between transitions of scenes. The actors were energetic, portraying their characters well.

When I interviewed the actors, I asked them if they learned anything from their characters.

Ofelia Fuentes, who played Sylvia, a character who struggles with self image issues, shared that, “In the last scene, the girls come to self realization that they are beautiful inside, not magazine outside.” This is a message every girl needs to hear.

In my interview, I asked Smith what message she wanted the audience to get from the play.

“I want everyone to know that you have a story to tell and it’s worth telling,” said Smith.

At the end of my interview, I asked Smith what she would say to someone who wants to join theatre.

“I encourage everyone to come get involved. There’s plenty of things you can do in theatre besides acting. We have something for everyone, not just for theatre majors,” said Smith.

She also encourages everyone to come out to see the upcoming shows “Family of Mann” and the musical “Once On This Island.”



A young lady trying to find her way to womanhood through music. Each character used their life stories as inspiration.

Celebrating the life of fellow ‘Yote



Photo Courtesy of Diana Reyes

By **BREE REYES**

Staff Writer

The CSUSB Music Department and Coyote Music Society will host a benefit concert in memorial for Danny Ramadan, a CSUSB trumpet player and graduate who passed away last summer.

The proceeds from the concert will go to creating a scholarship under Ramadan’s name, upon which a CSUSB student majoring in music, who possesses stellar academic achievement, work ethic, and musical talent will be eligible to receive.

“I think we all felt collectively as a faculty, and as students that we wanted to do something,” said Dr. Erik Jester, director of bands at CSUSB.

“And being musicians, we perform music...I’m glad that the students and his friends that are alumni are finally able to do something in his honor. I think that has been kind of a universal sentiment that everybody has had. We want to do something. We want to play music. That is what Danny would have wanted to do,” continued Jester.

According to police and reported by the *San Bernardino Sun*, Ramadan was taken off life support at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton after a head-on collision on Little Mountain Road in the Summer of 2014.

The 21-year-old had just graduated in the Spring of 2014 with high honors from the music department.

Girlfriend, Leslie Gonzalez, was badly injured. According to the *San Bernardino Sun*’s report, police said the driver, 30-year-old Jose Luis Zacarias, “crossed the road’s double yellow line and hit the car Ramadan was driving. He was killed in the crash.”

“He was legendary,” said Robert Treen, a fourth year trumpet player and close friend of Ramadan. “It was such a shock when the news hit.”

The concert is a celebration of Ramadan’s life in music, and the music being played will reflect that celebration.

Almost all students from the CSUSB music department will be performing, along with some alumni and guest soprano Dr. Stacey Fraser, who will be performing with the CSUSB symphonic band.

According to Jester, the pieces of music were selected to “strike the balance between reflective of Danny’s life but celebratory.” CSUSB’s chamber singers will perform a tune that Ramadan sang, the brass ensemble will be performing two pieces that Ramadan personally arranged for the group during his time at CSUSB, and the symphonic band will perform “Somewhere” from “West Side Story” and “Irish Tune” from “County Derry”, whose lyrics include the phrase “Oh Danny Boy.”

“When there are no words left, we turn to music,” said Jester. “In this case, we are turning to music, not only to express our sense of loss but to absolutely celebrate his life, and that is what this concert is all about.”

The benefit concert will be held in the Santos Manuel Student Union Event Center on Jan. 31 at 6 p.m. tickets are \$10 and free parking will be provided in Lot D.

Feed the bookworm in you

By **ALEJANDRO CARDENAS**

Staff Writer

Bookworms at CSUSB agree on their favorite contemporary literature recommendations.

Although finding students that read novels for entertainment was a daunting task, avid readers find stories of struggling love to be the most appealing.

John Green’s “The Fault in our Stars,” and Anthony Doerr’s “All the Light We Cannot See” are the top two recommended books by CSUSB students.

These fictional novels were the most popular, according to an on campus survey asking, “What novels would you recommend to other CSUSB students?”

“The Fault in our Stars” continues to shine with popularity, even though it has been three years since the book was released and over six months since the film hit movie theaters.

“Anytime that Hollywood takes a book and turns it into a movie, it seems that the book goes on a second run of popularity,” said CSUSB student Alfredo Rojas.

This book is no exception. Its love story during tragic circumstances has made it the most recommended book, according to a sample of CSUSB students.

The book brings together elements of despair, romance, anger and humor, with a plot that follows Hazel, a 16-year old cancer patient, as she struggles with falling in love, knowing the inevitable pain that her death will bring to her love interest.

In a close second place was “All the Light We Cannot See,” which takes place during World War II and follows the entangling lives of Marie-Laure Leblanc, a blind girl from Paris with a strong bond to her father, and Werner Pfennig, a young electronic-savvy German soldier.

The author uses numerous instances of coincidence to intertwine two very different stories into a single tale of love during dangerous circumstances.

“I really loved this book and could not stop myself from reading it,” said CSUSB freshman, Anna Sandoval.

Honorable mentions from this survey included the Divergent series by Veronica Roth, “The Longest Ride” by Nicholas Sparks, “The Martian” by Andy Wir and “The Alchemist” by Paulo Coelho.

“Divergent” was mentioned by many of the younger students, and is centered on the dystopian, post-apocalyptic city of Chicago when Beatrice Prior, a young girl with unusual traits, fights to protect her

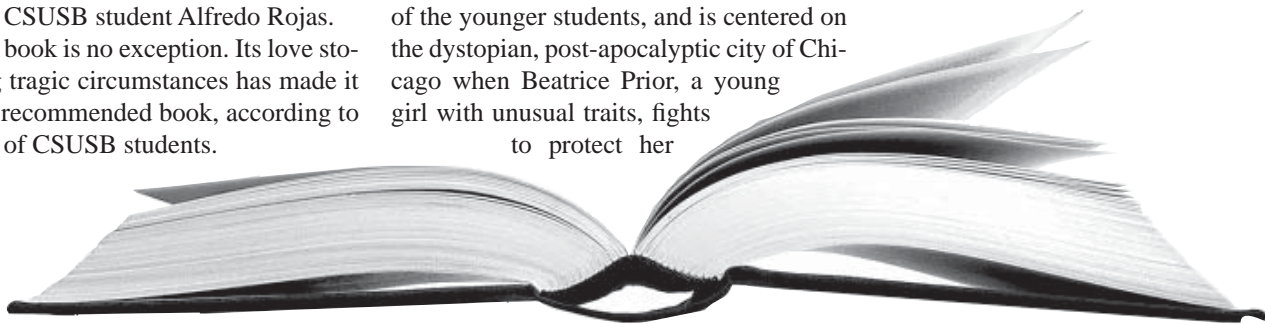
loved ones from a corrupt government takeover.

“The Longest Ride” follows the converging lives of two couples from very different generations and was a popular recommendation among female readers. The author, Sparks, is most famously known for writing the popular romance “The Notebook.”

“The Martian,” by Andy Weir was also highly recommended, mostly by male readers, and centers around the fictional story of an astronaut that gets left behind on Mars after the rest of his crew believes he is dead.

Older readers often recommended “The Alchemist,” a book which follows Santiago, a young boy who sets off on a journey after believing a recurring dream in which he finds a hidden treasure is true.

Students looking for other book recommendations can check out goodreads.com. “It’s a great place to find out which books are popular and which books other readers suggest,” said Stacy Magendanz.



Get groovy with Belle & Sebastian

By **DALAL MUSEITEF**

Asst. Features Editor

Right beside The Weeknd, Jack White, and Hozier, Belle and Sebastian have reached the ultimate high by debuting their ninth album for the 2015 Coachella lineup.

Stuart David, Stuart Murdoch and Mick Cooke make to be the three longest members of the late 90’s band from Glasgow, UK.

After adopting vocalist, Sarah Martin, the indie band released a series of EPs including, “Dog on Wheels,” “Lazy Line Painter Jane,” and “3..6..9 Seconds of Light,” which individually only featured four tracks.

The groovy-esque band has released EPs and albums since 1996. Jeepster Records signed them after their first record. They later released their third LP, “The Boy with the Arab Strap,” in 1998. It reached staggering numbers on the UK charts, also consistently gaining positive reviews from the *Rolling Stone* and won Best Newcomer at the Brit Awards, according to BBC Online.

Although lead vocalist, David, left the band from 2000-2005 to pursue his passion in writing and filmmaking the band was left still for some time.

The band managed to continue their legacy in 2010 for their first UK gig in almost four years to a crowd of around 30,000 at Latitude Festival in Henham Park, Southwold.

Bella and Sebastian have released, “The Party Line”, a single off their ninth album, Girls in Peacetime Want to Dance, with a new creative video to grasp their concept different from their usual work.

The single was produced and mixed by Ben H. Allen III, best known for his work with Gnarl Barkley, Animal Collective, and Raury, with a dance-party element, “The Party Line”, incorporates synthesizers and pop culture vividly throughout the album.

The video begins with shades of black and white then switches to an all-color dancing routine with the male and female characters.

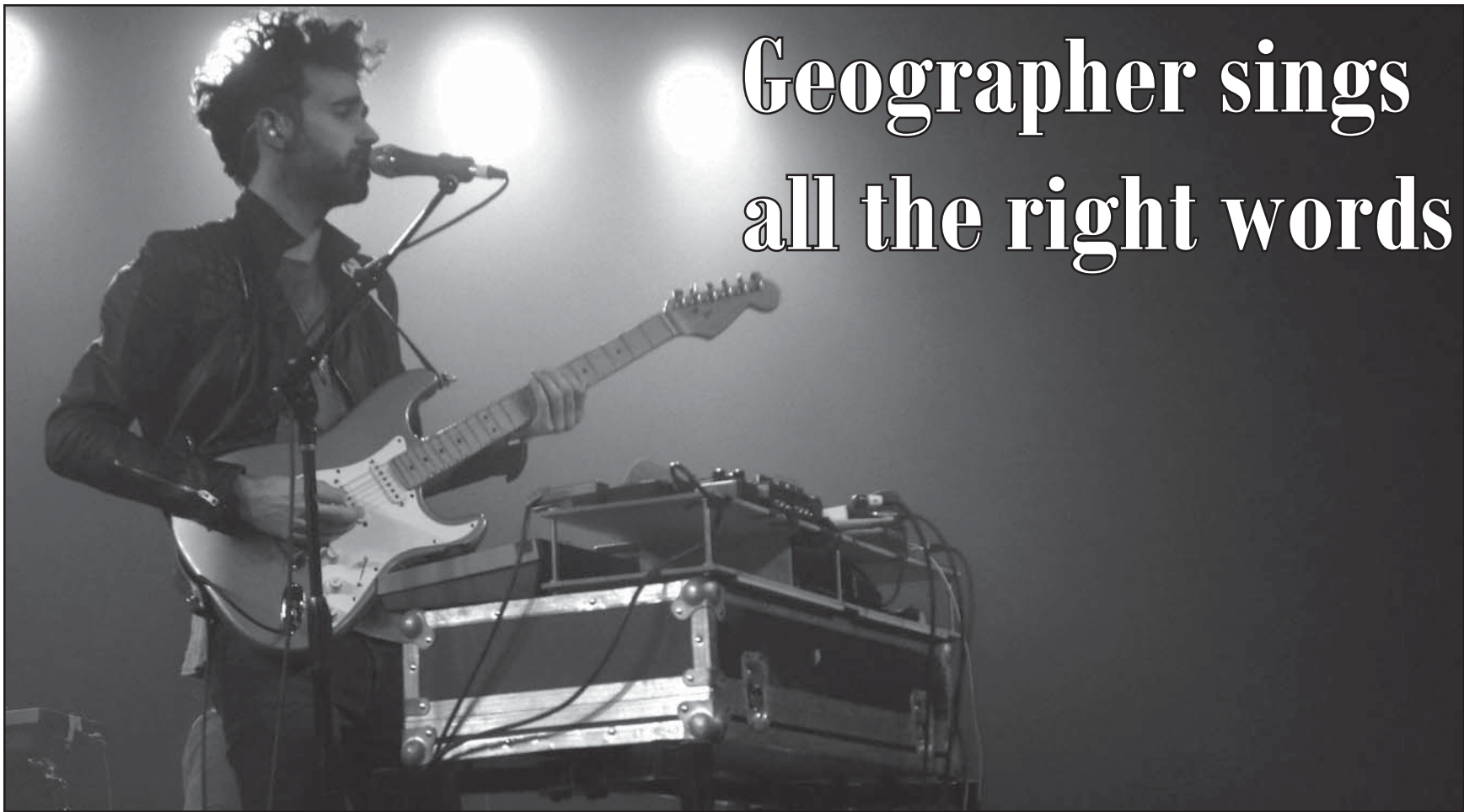
The female is slightly afraid to step out of her comfort zone by dancing, which pertains to the lyric, “Jump to the beat of the party line/There is no one in here but your body, dear.”

The “jumping to the beat” is just talking about dancing and letting your dance moves take control of your body.

Band member Murdoch’s most personal song ever, “Nobody’s Empire”, touches on his bouts with chronic fatigue syndrome in its beginning stanza: “Lying on my bed, I was reading French/ With the light too bright for my senses/ From this hiding place, life was way too much/It was loud and rough round the edges.”

Surrounded by shimmering pianos, bright synths, and a crisp studio sheen, the song emerges as one of the most intimate and triumphant of the band’s career.

“Even the artwork is different. This is their first cover that doesn’t use a monochromatic photographic,” stated Matador Records. For a fun upbeat record, you can scout their album on iTunes and in limited stores today!



Geographer sings all the right words

Mike Deni causes a roar with his confident persona portrayed on stage, creating a memorable night for many. Geographer remind fans of their allegiance.

Nadia Ahmad / Chronicle Photo

By **NADIA AHMAD**
Staff Writer

Indie-rock trio, Geographer, performed an exciting show in Pomona on Friday, Jan. 16 that included new music and new fans.

The Glass House is a small venue in Pomona that allows for an intimate show for fans.

Members of the crowd were screaming out the band's name as they waited for the San Francisco-based band to take the stage.

"I had the option of seeing them at the El Rey Theatre in Los Angeles but I chose to see them here because I knew it would feel much more special," said Becca Chavez, one of the screaming fans.

The lights dimmed and the crowd roared as a handsome Mike Deni, the band's frontman, appeared on stage.

If I could describe Deni in just three words, they would be tall, dark, and handsome.

I was mesmerized by Deni's appearance and once his haunting lyrics escaped his mouth, I couldn't contain myself.

The band opened with "Verona", a single off their first album, and my personal favorite.

I find it safe to say I wasn't the only one who couldn't contain myself.

Almost all of the fans were enthusiastically jumping up and down and shouting lyrics.

"The fans really set up the perfect atmosphere. It made my experience that much more enjoyable. Sometimes the crowd is just as important as the music," said Jacob Wright, another fan in the crowd that night.

I agree with Wright when he says that the enthusiasm of a crowd can sometimes

be just as important as the music.

At one point in the show, I took a moment to take in the energy of the fans around me and a feeling of happiness took over me.

After the first song, Deni took time to notice that there were many more fans in the audience than the first time they played.

Geographer has played at various music festivals, such as Outside Lands in San Francisco and First City Music Festival in Monterey.

The band has also seemed to gain a lot more recognition after going on tour with Tokyo Police Club and being featured on a few MTV shows.

After pointing out new fans, Deni introduced and performed a new song titled "I'm Ready."

I absolutely fell in love with this new song.

The melody of the tune sounds similar

to the songs on the band's first album but more optimistic.

It seems as though they are sticking to their roots but branching out and adding a few style touches.

Some artists don't succeed in introducing new music during their shows because fans can't sing along and lose a connection but the new song really got the crowd going.

Geographer seemed very confident and friendly on stage and interacted more with the audience than I've seen in previous shows.

Deni was kind enough to meet with fans after the show to take pictures and sign autographs.

I was really impressed that he took the time to get to know his fans.

I felt grateful to be sharing an experience that was clearly making so many people happy. I can thank Geographer for that.

Blowing the lid off homophobia

By **ALANA ROCHE**
Staff Writer

Characters who play homosexual roles are becoming more common in mainstream television with the help of Fox's show, "Empire" which has quickly risen to fame with an increasing fan base.

The show has received a lot of attention, which includes its star-studded cast, Terrence Howard and Taraji P. Henson, but has received even more because of its producer Lee Daniels.

It's a T.V. series about a man named Lucious Lyon, played by Howard, who owns a top record company. He just found out he has a fatal illness and wants to choose one of his three sons to inherit and run his thriving company.

His middle child, Jamal Lyon is a young man who is gay but his homophobic father is against him.

As a child, his father saw him trying on his mother's high heels and he angrily placed his son in a trash can.

During the show, Jamal tells his partner that "there is too much homophobia in the black community" for him to be ac-

cepted to be the next CEO of his father's company.

When Jamal talks to his father about his sexuality, his father says "your sexuality, that's a choice, you can choose to sleep with women," which shows how ignorant his father is about homosexuality.

Throughout the show, Jamal continues to be unable to please his father and feels like he will never be able to live up to his father's expectations.

When asked about the show, Daniels told Fox News, "He wants to blow the lid off homophobia" in the African-American community.

During his interview, he talks about how "his own father's hostility toward gays frightened him and he knows the

same attitudes are being passed on from one generation to another in households around the world." Howard told Fox that he is aware of this problem within the African American community and said, "I'm

glad that I can show the African American community that this is what you're doing to your son, this is what you're doing to your nephew, this is what you're doing to the kid down the street."

Although "Empire" highlights homophobia in the African-American community, it is also seen everywhere else.

When I asked, Kirsten Wilson, a member of the Pride association on campus, said that this story automatically made her think of a picture she saw on Tumblr.

Wilson also believes that parents aren't properly prepared for raising homosexual children. "They shouldn't have a

child if they're not ready for how it comes out," said Wilson. She believes it's positive for "Empire" to be on air promoting homosexuality on television and it is "good to add to media and normalize it."

The issue is that society still hasn't fully accepted homosexuality.

Another member of the Pride association Ambur Wilkerson agrees with Howard's view that homophobic people need to see what they are doing.

Wilkerson added, "People connect to what they see on television, seeing something touchy makes you connect [...to the character] and makes them think."

Although CSUSB does have a successful Pride Center, Wilkerson believes that there is homophobia on this campus.

"Some people don't want to come in [...to the pride center] because of their homophobia," said Wilkerson.

Throughout the Pride Center, there are several signs that prohibit homophobia and keep the room a safe zone.

The show "Empire" is helping make homosexuality a norm for television, making its everyday characters more relatable to what's happening in society.



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Hope's new troubles

By **SHELBY HANCOCK**
Staff Writer

The domestic violence charges against U.S. National Women's Soccer goalkeeper Hope Solo have been dismissed, according to NBC Sports.

During the trials, the Seattle Reign F.C., a soccer club that Solo currently plays for, didn't take any action or release a statement.

"The Team will await the legal outcome of the case before making a final judgment," according to *The Seattle Times*.

The U.S. Women's National team, however, did show their support. "Based on that information, U.S. soccer stands by our decision to allow her to participate with the team as the legal process unfolds," said Jim Caple.

On June 21, 2014, Solo was arrested for domestic violence charges against her two younger relatives.

Solo and her mother Judy Solo had been drinking, possibly causing light intoxication, according to ESPN reporter Jim Caple.

According to the Kirkland, Washington Police, "the male caller stated that a female at the residence was 'hitting people' and they could not get her to stop or to leave the house."

Officers reported visible damage to the nephew's jawbone, nose, ear, and arms. Her sister tried to intervene and suffered a

swollen cheek bone, said the Police department.

When asked for a statement, Solo not only denied the allegations, but claimed she was the victim of her nephew, who she said hit her with a broom, reported Jim Caple.

Solo was arrested on two counts of domestic violence assault in the fourth degree and was held without bail in the South King County detention center, according to *The Seattle Times*.

On June 23, 2014, Solo pleaded not guilty in the Kirkland Municipal Court and "City prosecutors asked for a bail of \$5,000 and no-contact order between Solo and the alleged victims," according to *The Seattle Times*.

Before wrapping up the case, Solo was advised by the judge to watch her alcohol consumption. The judge then set future court dates and released Solo.

On Jan. 13, 2015, the Kirkland Municipal Judge released Solo and dropped all charges against her, after the alleged victims refused to be questioned by the defense attorney, according to *The Seattle Times*.

Solo verbalized her relief in a statement released on her website: "Today's decision brings closure to what has been one of the most difficult and emotionally draining times of my life."

"I always had faith that once the facts of the case were presented, I would be cleared of all charges and I am so happy



Photo courtesy of ESPN

The United States National team has suspended star Goalkeeper Hope Solo for thirty days in light of a recent incident.

and relieved to finally have it all behind me," stated Solo.

No statements have been released from the Reign in regards to the new rulings in the court. The Kirkland Court expressed their disapproval about the ruling.

"The City of Kirkland takes domestic violence very seriously. We do not agree with this ruling and will be filing and appeal of this decision," stated in *The Seattle Times*. In more recent news, Solo is facing issues with the U.S. National Team because of her misconduct.

"We feel at this time it is best for her to

step away from the team," said head coach Jill Ellis.

"I accept and respect the Federation's decision, and more importantly, I apologize for disappointing my teammates, coaches and the Federation, who have always supported me," said Solo.

Solo has been suspended 30 days from the U.S. National Team, according to USA Today, due to an incident happening early Monday, Jan. 19 regarding driving under the influence.

More details regarding the incident continue to come out.

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Jacques Lee | Chronicle Photos

Taylor Statham show how important strength and support are when performing in athletics

Player of the Week

Coyote men's basketball guard Taylor Statham gives students the inside scoop

By **JACQUES LEE**
Staff Writer

Hard work and the desire to win can easily be seen on the basketball court from Taylor Statham, but behind the face of the fierce warrior is a humble young man.

Statham, a 22-year-old Los Angeles, California native is in his senior year and captain of the 2014-2015 men's basketball team.

After graduating Golden Valley High School in Santa Clarita, Statham attended California Baptist University on a full basketball scholarship.

After a year of playing with the Lancers, Statham transferred to CSUSB, feeling it would offer him an opportunity to play more minutes per game.

When asked about the transition from the Lancers to the Coyotes, Statham said, "It was easy. It was a lot different though. Cal Baptist has like a lot more rules and here they are more relaxed about stuff so it was pretty easy."

Statham reminisced about how he grew up with basketball as both his parents played collegiate basketball on a scholarship; so, at a young age Statham knew he wanted to continue on the tradition and play.

"I was deciding between that and football, and once I hit high school my football coach said you have to choose, and at the time I just loved basketball more," said Statham.

His role models are his parents.

"If anyone had taught me about life, about being strong, and just everything, it would have to be my parents," said Statham.

Before each game, Statham tries to relax and stay as calm as possible without any outside distractions.

"Once we're in the lay-up lines and I see all of my friends in the crowd, I start feeling the music and started getting too hyped," said Statham, speaking of how he gets pumped for game day.

Statham also expressed some of his feelings on this year's basketball season.

"I think it's just uphill from here. I feel we got off to a slow start. I feel like our team just keeps getting better because now everyone is starting to buy into it, and everyone is starting to figure out their role, figuring out coach, and working hard as a team," said Statham.

Statham is a business major and approaching graduation. After he graduates, Statham has plans to pursue his basketball career overseas.

"Once I graduate, I'm planning on going overseas to play professional basketball. Yeah, I already have a few offers to countries like the Philippines and then I'm talking to a few scouts in Spain," said Statham.

On his down time, Statham enjoys hanging out with his brother and close friends while watching his favorite basketball team, the Los Angeles Lakers.

If you catch him around campus, you will probably see him in Kobe shoes with a Gatorade and basketball in his hand.

"I was deciding between that and football, and once I hit high school my football coach said you have to choose, and at the time I just loved basketball more."

Taylor Statham
Senior Guard

THE INSIDE SCOOP:

Facts about Taylor Statham

- Appeared in 29 games for the CCAA champion and NCAA Tourney-bound Coyotes
- Averaged 6.4 points per-game in 15.6 minutes of play
- Scored in double figures five times
- Breakout game vs. No. 5 Western Washington in Las Vegas

