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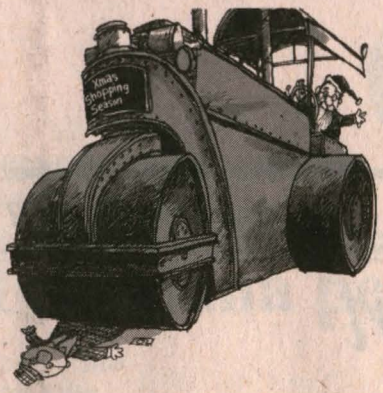
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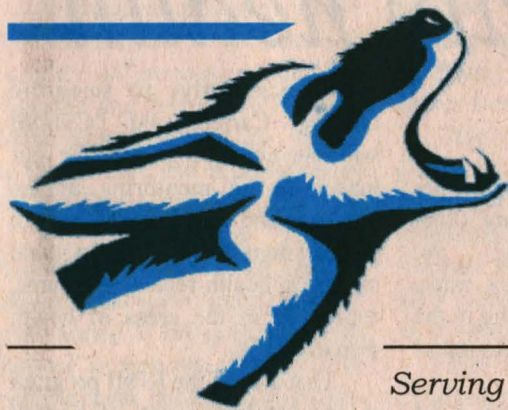
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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN BERNARDINO

The Coyote Chronicle

Serving the CSUSB campus for 41 years

Monday, December 3, 2007

Vol. 41 Issue 7

Students aid tax preparation

Nick De Leon
Staff Writer

CSUSB student volunteers recorded more than 8,700 hours last tax season with 99.75 percent accuracy in preparing income tax returns for some Inland Empire taxpayers.

From Feb. 1 to May 1, those volunteers processed a CSUSB record 2,523 tax returns for over 1,400 taxpayers earning them a collective sum of \$1,436,475 in tax refunds.

CSUSB's College of Business and Public Administration (CBPA) coordinates a tax preparation service program offered to low-income, elderly and disabled taxpayers within the Inland Empire free of charge.

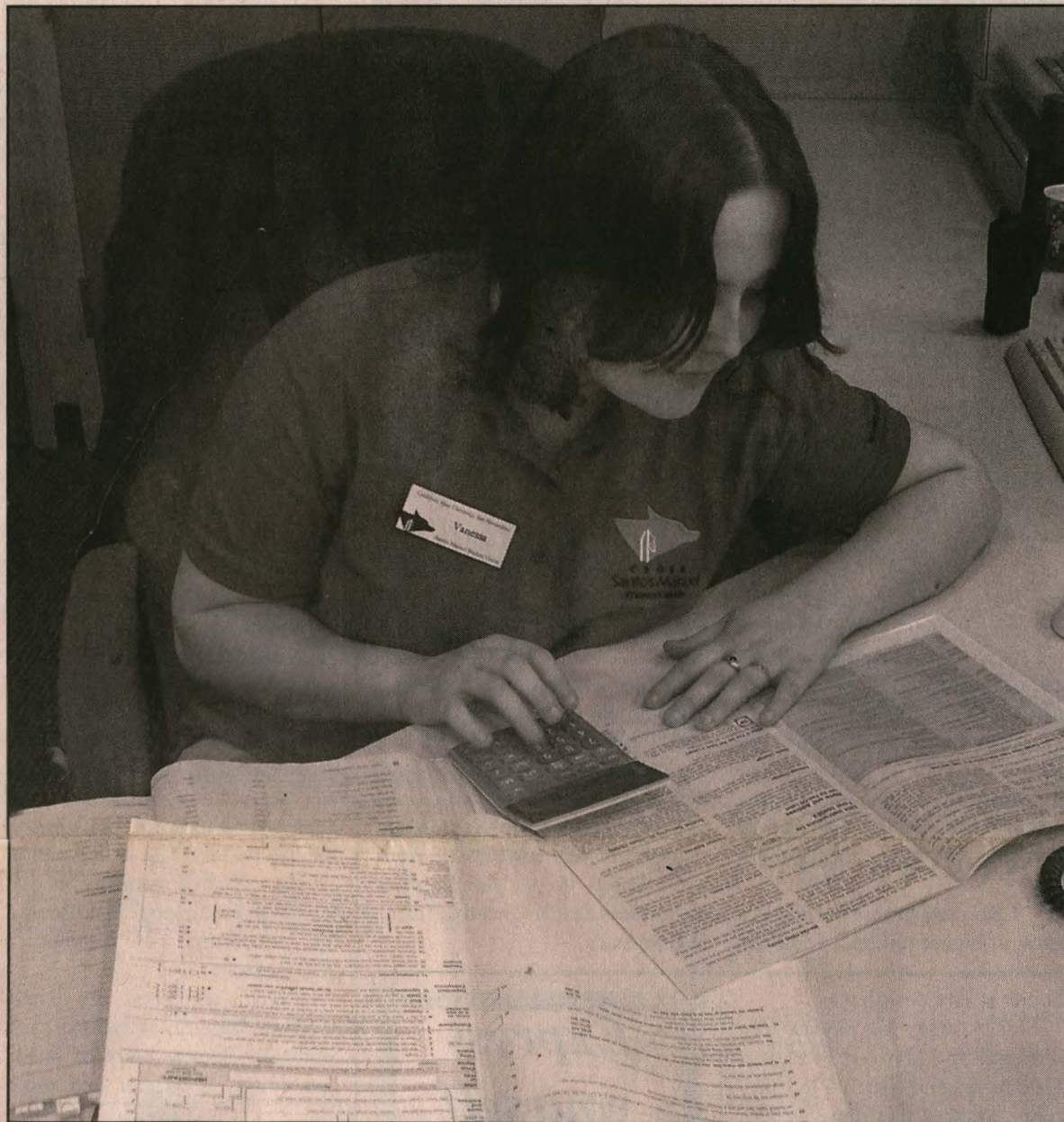
The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program's website states that the program is useful because, as the "Unemployment rate continues to fluctuate and the number of working poor increases, more income is available to be taxed. The tax law is complex and a growing number of taxpayers need a specialist to prepare their returns."

"Many taxpayers hold low-income positions and are unable to hire a paid preparer to assist them with their returns. The VITA Program offers a solution to this problem," according to the website.

Janet Courts, a lecturer for the Accounting and Finance department in the CBPA and coordinator of VITA, feels that the program brings advantages to the local economy.

"This is money that gets put back into the Inland Empire economy," Court said.

Court adds that Inland Empire taxpayers have been able to "receive more than \$590,000 in



Nick De Leon/Chronicle

CSUSB student and taxpayer Vanessa Greenwood works with tax tools. From Feb. 1 to May 1, student volunteers processed a CSUSB record 2,523 tax returns for over 1,400 taxpayers

earned income credit that they might have otherwise overlooked if they did not have the resources to pay a tax professional to prepare their returns."

CSUSB student and taxpayer Vanessa Greenwood thinks that VITA sounds like a "cool idea if they know what they are doing."

Those interested in volunteer-

ing must sign up for ACCT 595 during the winter quarter.

VITA requires all of its volunteers to fulfill two parts of the program: class and tax return preparation.

The coursework requires students to pick up their text books free of charge before the class begins, then attend four mandatory

class sessions held on Fridays and Saturdays starting before the winter quarter classes begin.

In addition, students will be involved with computer training and simulations with electronically filing returns, and they must complete and pass a take home exam before being able to begin prepar-

Continued on Pg. 2

Come here, go anywhere

Krystal McGee
Staff Writer

CSUSB claims that students can "come here, go anywhere."

This is true for students that are a part of the International Study-Abroad Program.

The International Programs (IP) was established by the CSU Board of Trustees in 1963 as a system-wide study abroad unit of the CSU system.

The Program's primary objective is to enable participants to gain first-hand knowledge and understanding of other parts of the world.

Students have the opportunity to increase their communication skills through participation in the language and culture of other countries according to CSU International Programs.

IP is affiliated with over 50 distinguished universities and other institutions of higher education in 19 countries; where you can pursue coursework for CSU resident credit.

The countries include but are not limited to: Mexico, Israel, Ghana, Korea, Spain and Denmark.

Students must select a country and fulfill different requirements for each one before they will be accepted into the program.

IP provides international academic opportunities in the framework of a CSU degree program.

With a focus on academic year studies, IP offers several study options related to specific degree and career objectives.

Many of the students in the program have different majors and come from different backgrounds. Sally Smith's hometown is

Moreno Valley.

Because she is pursuing a degree in French, she chose to study at the University of Paris, France.

Caitlin Lamb of Redlands will be studying anthropology at the University of Uppsala, Sweden.

Charlette Casimiro of Riverside, a criminal justice major, will be attending the University of Ghana.

The CSU International Program is available to any current student and to students eligible to transfer from a California Community College.

The application deadline for most programs is February. There is no application fee.

Applications are available from your IP Campus Coordinator in UH-235.

Applicants should meet with their IP Campus Coordinator to go over the application procedures.

A complete application consists of an IP Application, two faculty recommendations and official university transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.

All applications are reviewed at the home CSU campus by a local selection committee.

The local selection committee makes its recommendations to the Student Affairs Committee of the Academic Council on International Programs (ACIP).

The ACIP takes final action on all candidates.

Selection is based on academic, linguistic and personal qualifications and on the appropriateness of the students' proposed plan of study to their degree objective.

Applicants will be notified of the final decision in early April.

CSU makes students transparent

Adriana Vargas
Staff Writer

The California State University (CSU) will implement

a web-based template called "College Portrait" as part of what it describes as its "Voluntary System of Accountability" (VSA) by fall 2009.

"Each 'College Portrait' will provide information on student characteristics, including age and ethnicity, retention and graduation rates, financial aid, student experiences and perceptions, and student learning outcomes," the CSU stated.

"It is a good system. It provides more information to the public, demonstrates accountability, and facilitates national comparisons among higher education institutions," Clara Potes-Fellow, CSU spokesperson said.

"The VSA will provide data, comparable across institutions, of how much students learn in college. It adds a focus on outcomes. It will measure critical and analytical thinking, information literacy, communications skills and progress to degree," Potes-Fellow added.

"It shows to the public the value added to students from the moment of entry to college. Data may help future students and parents select a college to attend," Potes-Fellow said.

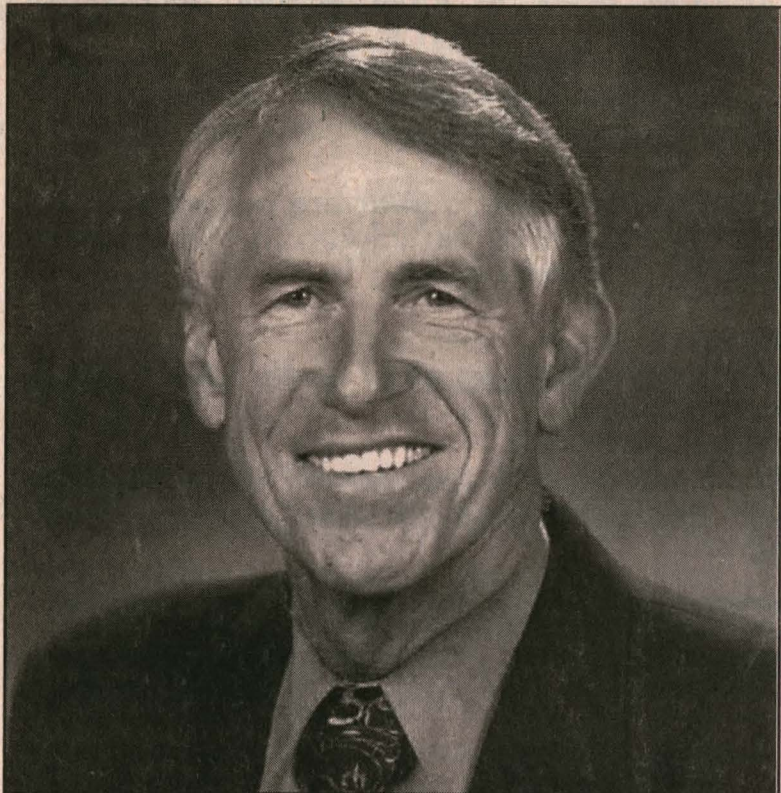
Although the CSU's attempt to provide what they call "accounta-

bility data" is referred as a "good system" by the CSU, The audit did not deal with ethnicity concerns, rather with the secrecy of compensation packages.

In addition to the "College Portrait", the CSU will also add a "public good" page on each CSU's web page.

"Included in the CSU 'public good' page is information on total degrees awarded, the contribution of the CSU students to the workforce, number of Pell Grant recipients, average tuition and fees paid per student, and the average loan debt for CSU bachelor's degree recipients," the CSU stated.

"The Voluntary System of Accountability and CSU's 'public good' page represent an unprecedented effort in higher education to provide the public with data about the total student learning experience, and together promise to hold universities accountable for delivering on their mission," said John D. Welty, president, California State University, Fresno, who represented the CSU on the national initiative.



Courtesy of www.csufresno.edu

California State University, Fresno President John D. Welty.



Viet Nguyen/Chronicle

CSUSB student Chioma Okpara holds study abroad brochures.

One hike too many

Joshua Gutierrez
Staff Writer

A 94 percent fee increase in student fees over the last five years was apparently tolerable for Lt. Governor John Garamendi because he never spoke up.

However, after a request for another 10 percent fee increase for the 2008-2009 support budget, Garamendi of the CSU Board of trustees said, "It's time to say enough is enough."

In a proposal put before the CSU Board of trustees, Garamendi requested to freeze fee increases for UC and CSU for the 2007-2008 school year.

"We have seen a dramatic shift in our state's priorities over the past decade, reducing state funding for higher education and balancing the state's budget on the backs of our students," Garamendi said.

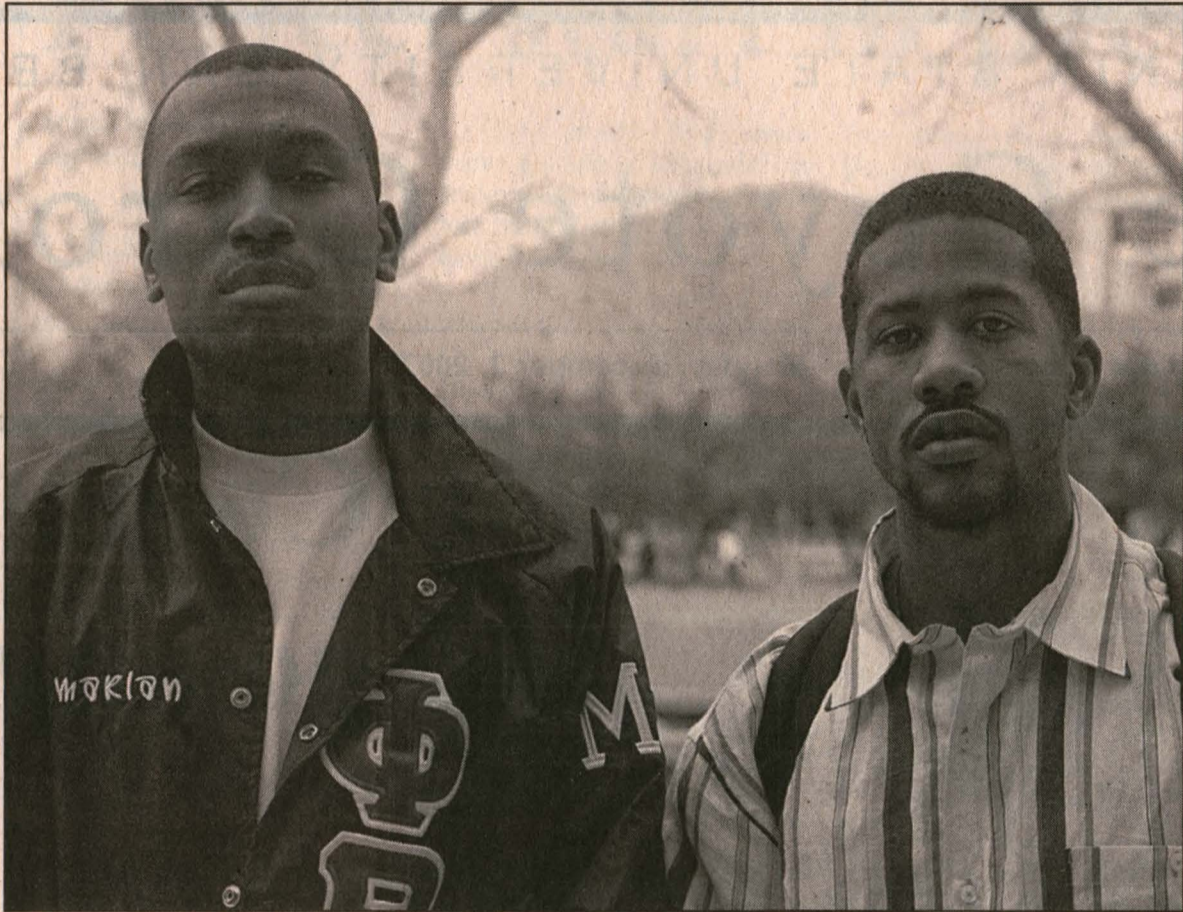
Fees for CSU students have risen over the past five years, from \$1,428 to \$2,722 since 2002, and more than doubling for graduate students, according to a Garamendi press release.

"Even though the fee increases don't affect my tuition costs, I am definitely paying for them through on-campus housing," CSUSB Junior Sindy Sanchez said.

"My tuition is paid through scholarships and financial aid, but it is really difficult to live on campus because it is so expensive," Sanchez said.

Along with halting fee increases for this school year, Garamendi has proposed to only raise tuition fees with inflation.

According to a 2007 report by the California Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, higher tuition rates have the potential to steer students



Students Marlan Parker and Brian Tezeno have both experienced the effects of tuition hikes during attendance at CSUSB.

away from college. The report stated that the tuition rates have discouraged as many as 1.6 million U.S. students from attending a four-year university during the 1990s.

It is estimated to prevent another 2.4 million students from earning their bachelor's degree this decade.

"I've been a Cal State student since 2003 and have seen the tuition hikes," CSUSB senior Marlan Parker said.

"Tuition has gone from \$700 a year to \$1300 plus. Parking fees have gone up. They seem to keep making paying for college harder and harder, especially for those with backgrounds where financial

problems are prevalent," Parker said.

The constant fee increases continue to take place during an important period of job placement in California.

Out of the 4.5 million California jobs that will be available in 2025, a total of 3.5 million will require a bachelor's degree, according to the Public Policy Institute of California.

According to their report, the current capacity of higher education institutions shows that the state will fall short by this need by more than 3 million college graduates.

"CSU students are hurting as a result of higher tuition, overpriced

books, gas, and housing," chair of the board of directors for the California State Student Association, Dina Cervantes stated.

"Many students are working multiple jobs, and not all students who need financial aid qualify for subsidies," Cervantes stated.

"I have seen so many students discontinue their college educations because of tuition fees and the costs of books," CSUSB student Brian Tezeno said.

"It seems that inflation keeps rising from year to year, so I don't even know if we should raise tuition fees that frequently either," Tezeno said.

Focus on minority health

Melanie Hunter
Staff Writer

The U.S. spends more per capita on health than any other industrialized country, yet American life expectancy ranks 30th in the world, according to the 2006 Human Development Report.

CSUSB was awarded a \$4 million grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH) to create a center to promote research and training on health inequities found among differing racial, economic and ethnic groups in the United States.

The five-year grant is part of a Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions (RIMI) program. It is designed to help minority-serving universities build research programs aimed at reducing health inequalities.

"Because of the award's impact on the research competitiveness of faculty and graduate students working in the health-disparity arena, the RIMI grant may prove to be one of the most valuable ever received by the university," CSUSB President Albert Karnig said.

The program will also provide students and faculty with training for careers in health disparities research. CSUSB professors Sybil Carrère and John Haddock will be the co-directors for the program.

"The RIMI grant will allow our faculty to become leaders in their field by working with established researchers from other universities and by growing their own lines of research. In addition, the funding will increase collaboration between faculty members in different departments, maximizing the expertise on campus," Haddock said.

"NIH developed the RIMI program because a racially and ethnically diverse body of scientists brings a broader and more

robust perspective to scientific inquiry," Carrère said. "CSUSB will become recognized for our leadership in mentoring undergraduate and graduate students to pursue doctoral and biomedical careers in health-related programs, especially in the areas of health disparities."

One aim of the RIMI program is to develop a set of shared resources for CSUSB faculty and students, including video conferencing, human performance networked laboratories and a center for promoting clinical interventions with young children.

Another aim is to establish a CSUSB graduate student scholarship program in health disparities to provide research training for traditionally under-represented minority students.

"The RIMI program will help CSUSB become the nucleus for research in health disparities in the Inland Empire by addressing health inequities among specific groups, such as the high rate of diabetes in Latinos and low birth weight in babies born to low-income families," Carrère said.

"My bias is that if we could do something about the higher obesity rate in several minority populations that would go a long way toward helping some of the biggest health inequity issues in society," Haddock said.

According to the National Center for Disease Control (CDC), an estimated 23.3 percent of Californians are obese.

"The focus on health-disparity research is particularly meaningful to CSUSB's two-county service region, which is larger than 10 states in area, contains more population than 24 states, and is one of the most ethnically diverse in the nation. I'm delighted that the grant will promote research that has broad, national importance and also have meaningful applications in our own region," Karnig said.

Continued:

Tax assist

ing tax returns.

VITA also states that the program is helpful for students who are interested in breaking into the accounting field or even just developing skills in such areas as critical thinking, analysis and communication skills to assist

them in any discipline they choose.

VITA encourages those interested in the program to visit its website www.cbpa.csusb.edu/vita.

Those interested in volunteering should send an email titled "I want to Join VITA" with their name and contact information indicating the type of enrollment they saw on the website that they might be interested in to Janet

Courts at vita@csusb.edu.

VITA states that anyone who is or will be a taxpayer is encouraged to become part of the program, whether they have experience or not, if their major doesn't fit into the accounting field.

There are no prerequisites needed.

VITA handles basic W-2 and 1040 tax forms, among others, yet they will not prepare such forms as estimated taxes for the following year as well as separate returns for married couples.

VITA is sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Franchise Tax Board (FTB), and provides those interested in participating with "training to prepare and electronically file income tax returns."

Classifieds

House for rent

4941 Alta Drive San Bernardino, community swimming pool, \$1500/month. Call 909-754-4947

Apartment for rent

Spacious two bedroom/one bath, water/trash paid, carport parking, near Cal State, \$950/mo. Month to month leasing. Contact Sandra 880-8563

Join the party of God

Hamid Aghili, alumni student, is asking all of you to call him at (909) 754-4947 to join the party of God.

Timeshare for sale

Do you like to travel? Monarch Grand Resort timeshare for sale. Resort info at www.monarch-grandresort.com. Contact: Michelle at mckay@yahoo.com

Express yourself
Enroll in Comm 243A and write for the paper.



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- Connect with your off-campus community

Applications for the 2007/2008 academic year are currently being accepted. You must be approved to participate in the program and complete the application process below:

- Complete the FAFSA
 - Apply online at <http://finaid.csusb.edu>, under Job Listing, click on Program Application
 - Enroll in ESEC 545 or Math 499
 - Pass a background check with the school district/agency
- The applicant will be reimbursed for this expense when placed in the program

For additional information or questions regarding the America Reads/Counts Program, please contact the Student Employment Team at (909) 537-5226



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Chronicle Contact Information

California State University, San Bernardino
University Hall, UH 037
5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, CA 92407
Office: (909) 537-5289
Advertising: (909) 537-5815
Fax: (909) 537-7585

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The Chronicle reserves the right to edit all editorials submitted to the paper.

Finals stress? Not here

Pablo Garcia
Staff Writer

It's that time of the quarter again, finals are around the corner. Students are starting to run around in a frenzy trying to finish papers and study for exams. The library is open till midnight and actual classes are over.

It is a time when students get stressed and overwhelmed with all the work they have to do. It is not unheard of for students to stay up all night while studying and going on nothing but pizza and coffee.

Students wait for the very last minute to get started on that 15 page paper.

Stress can be good in small amounts it can make the body become more alert and make people focus more. Bodies can also be negatively affected if they are overstressed. Stress can weaken the body and cause physical illness like weaken stomach, headaches and elevated blood pressure.

"I have four finals to worry about and two fifteen page papers to turn in before finals week is over," said senior Michelle Oregano. Finals can also be more

stressful if a student has other worries like money, family and relationship problems. Stress management can help students get through the difficult time of finals.

"I always break out during finals because I stay up all night studying" said Senior Feashea MacLauchlan. Students also pick up unhealthy habits like smoking and drinking to alleviate the stress. Students often eat only junk food like pizza and chips during this time.

There are some helpful tips for students to avoid being over stressed for finals. Planning in advance is always and good idea and avoid procrastinating. Waiting till the last minute is a big stressor so starting on that eleven page paper early is a good idea.

Students should find a quiet place to study like the library and should avoid noisy places. Students should also leave 15 minutes early for class to avoid stress if a mishaps.

Eating right is also important in not becoming over stressed avoiding caffeine is also important.

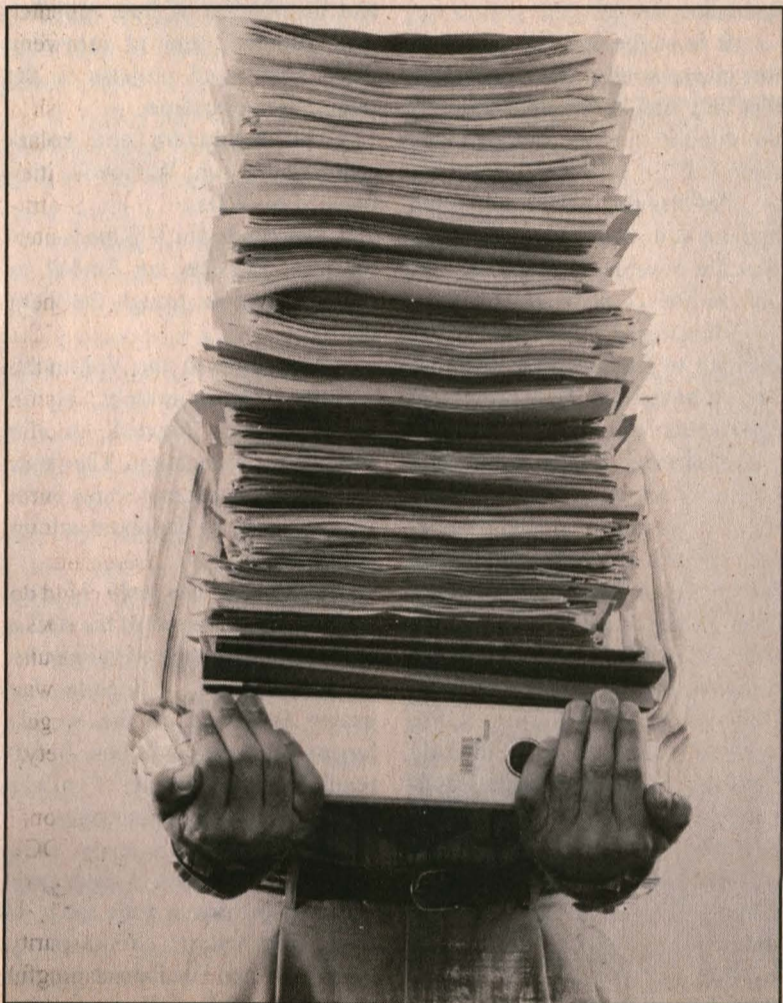
Additives in food can cause additional stress. It is also important to not skip meals.

Exercising can also help reduce stress levels while students are in finals week.

Laughing or crying can also be a great stress reliever.

If a student is overstressed they should take a 30 minuet time out to just relax and gather thoughts.

If students become over stressed and feel they need help dealing with stress they can contact the health center to set up an appointment with a counselor.



Viet Nguyen/Chronicle

A Sig Ep brother collecting a donation to help educate and protect young adults from HIV.

Sig Ep raises cash for AIDS

Stephanie Salvador
Staff Writer

Every fifteen seconds another person between the ages of 15-24 becomes infected with HIV/AIDS.

With the help of media and partnerships from various companies and organizations, Youth AIDS is able to educate more than 600 million of the world's youth about HIV/AIDS.

In 2005 Sigma Phi Epsilon partnered up with Youth AIDS to create a campaign geared to create awareness among college campuses. Sigma Phi Epsilon is the only national fraternity actively involved with helping to stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

"I feel proud to be a part of this fraternity during this campaign" current Sigma Phi Epsilon president Joshua Gutierrez said.

"Raising money for the youth aids foundation is an incredible feeling because of their efforts to educate America's youth on HIV/AIDS"

Youth AIDS is a non-profit organization that works to educate and prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and works in more than

60 countries across the world stop the epidemic. Currently Sigma Phi Epsilon is taking part of the "kick me" campaign.

According to the Youth AIDS website, the "kick me" campaign is based on the prank of someone sticking a kick me sign on someone's back with their knowledge.

This is a reflection of the 90 percent of people infected with HIV/AIDS who may not know that they are a carrier of the virus.

"Youth AIDS is turning that practical joke into a practical lesson" stated the Youth AIDS website

The Brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon are carrying around the kick me signs on their backs that contain various statistics about the virus to help raise awareness of HIV/AIDS.

Nationally, since 2005, the fraternity has raised over \$250,000 to benefit Youth AIDS.

"It is great that students are doing their part to help educate and stop the spread of HIV/AIDS," CSUSB junior Scott Norbhryn said During the winter quarter, the CSUSB chapter will host a pageant called "The Queen of Hearts" involving sorority girls.

The event will be a weeklong engagement and is expected to be a success in raising money for Youth AIDS.

All the proceeds of the event will go to the Youth AIDS foundation.

Not only does the CSUSB chapter host events to raise money but several of the members are walking around campus with a cup asking for donations, which will go directly toward Youth AIDS.

According to Youth AIDS, a donation of just \$10 can help educate and protect a young adult from HIV for an entire year.

Currently, there is no cure for the HIV/AIDS virus, so the Youth AIDS foundation mission is to help stop the spread. The Youth AIDS foundation feels that the generation most at risk is the today's youth, or in other words our generation.

"It is important for people to give their time and their effort help the Youth AIDS foundation," CSUSB Junior Kimberly Lopez said. "I would feel more than happy to donate to the fund when I can because HIV is something that affects people just like you and I everyday"

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Winter offers new beginnings

Leslie Sevillano
Staff Writer

Santos Manuel Student Union will host several events during the Winter quarter for CSUSB students.

"First, Adult Re-Entry center will host Piano in the Bay where students will be able to enjoy some refreshing snacks in a comfortable environment while listening to live piano performances.

Various students will perform piano skills. A follow up from the Andres Segovia Coffee House series, Wed, Jan 16, 2008," graduate assistant of the Adult Re-Entry Center Jesse Felix said.

"Winter Mixer," is a great opportunity to socialize while listening to the creative and energetic sounds of hobo jazz." Friday, Jan. 25, 2008 Said Felix.

"Women's Resource Center will host, 'Reconstructing Barbie,' an interactive exhibit that chronicles how the Barbie doll has shaped how people view gender and body politics in pop culture Tuesday Jan. 29, 2008, in the event center," graduate assistant of the Women's Resource Center Dolores Montoya said.

Pride Center will host bowling night Jan. 22, 2008 from 9pm-11pm at the Del La Rosa Lanes.

They will also host Drag Ball Jan. 23, 2008 from 7-10pm.

Also be sure to check out "Queer movies" an all day movie

series in the Pride Center Jan. 24, 2008.

Finally, the Cross Cultural Center will have their Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Jan. 22, 2008 in the Cross Cultural Center.

They will also host the "Dating Doctor" where students interact and socialize with snacks.


This upcoming school year, the Santos Manuel Student Union has plenty of events in store for CSUSB students to enjoy.



Courtesy of www.theculture.net

WRCs "Reconstructing Barbie" is one event in store for winter.

WIKIPEDIA

<p>English The Free Encyclopedia 500 000+ articles</p>	<p>Deutsch Die freie Enzyklopädie 210 000+ Artikel</p>	<p>Français L'encyclopédie libre 90 000+ articles</p>	<p>Polski Wolna Encyklopedia 60 000+ haseł</p>
<p>日本語 フリー百科事典 105 000+ 記事</p>			<p>Español La enciclopedia libre 44 000+ artículos</p>
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Courtesy content.answers.com

Wikipedia entries are available in many different languages, as shown in Wikipedia's logo.



Courtesy www.nataliedee.com

Wikipedia users can feel like they contribute to the greater good. But don't forget the little guy!

It's a Wikipedia world

Jenna Barath
Staff Writer

Wikipedia is a great resource, but it comes with a warning. Not all of the information is accurate.

With more than 2.1 million articles in English, this interactive online encyclopedia has at least some information on almost any topic.

The nature of the website allows for information to be added quickly on new topics. All content on the website is user-generated and user-regulated. This leads to very fast updates and a large wealth of information, but it can also lead to inaccuracies.

The word Wikipedia stems from the words "wiki," which means a type of collaborative website, and "encyclopedia" which means a set of articles on various topics which cover all branches of knowledge.

Wikipedia is what remains of a project that was originally referred to as Nupedia. Nupedia, which has since been abandoned, was intended to be a free Internet encyclopedia.

Compiling articles from highly qualified contributors for Nupedia was an extremely tedious process.

In searching for ways to expand the pool of prospective contributors, Nupedia was abandoned and Wikipedia was born in 2001.

The content on Wikipedia is contributed by anyone and everyone. Anybody can log onto the site and post information on any topic. Of course, that information is subject to approval and editing for space and accuracy.

Wikipedia estimates that there are more than 75,000 active contributors. The large contributor base has both pros and cons.

The ability to openly add and

edit articles leads to a tremendously large and diverse amount of information and content. Plus, the cultural diversity among contributors helps to remove regional and cultural biases.

However, it can also lead to problems with bad information getting posted and promoted through the website. Wikipedia does have editing guidelines and, according to their website, claim to have over 1,000 volunteer administrators that work to maintain the quality of the site's content. Editors are constantly watching pages and creating software to find and correct faulty information and bad edits.

It is suggested that contributors cite sources of the information that they add. If the information is not cited it runs the risk of being removed.

Articles that have been edited and are void of incorrect information are considered to be as reliable as Encyclopedia Britannica.

However, it is sometimes very difficult to tell the good information from the bad. Less prominent information can sit on the site for weeks or even months before it is edited for accuracy and corrected.

For example, in 2005 someone created a fake biography on the prominent American journalist John Seigenthaler. The biography stated that Seigenthaler "was the assistant to Attorney General Robert Kennedy in the 1960s. For a short time, he was directly involved in the Kennedy assassination of both John, and his brother Bobby."

This information, which was completely fabricated, remained online for four months until a family friend of the journalist caught the mistake.

The fact that these problems occur should make people think twice before they use Wikipedia as

their primary source of information for school assignments.

Wikipedia is a valuable reference source because it is extremely easy to access and does provide lots of information on an enormous range of topics.

For the most part, the information is very reliable, but you should use other sources to make sure the information is accurate.

Wikipedia is financially supported by the Wikimedia foundation, Inc.

Wikimedia states on its website that it is a non profit charitable organization dedicated to encouraging the growth, development and distribution of free, multilingual content and to providing these wiki-based projects to the public free of charge.

The bandwidth and server required to run Wikipedia was donated by Wales.

The funds for Wikipedia and its sister projects are funded by public donations through the foundation.

According to the Wikimedia website, approximately 31,124 people have donated to the Wikimedia foundation. The foundation has tax-exempt status in the United States so donations are tax deductible.

Wikipedia has only 12 paid staff member, the rest of the staff is made up completely of volunteers.

Since 2001, Wikipedia has grown into one of the world's largest reference websites. It currently contains around 9 million articles in over 250 languages.

For those who enjoy using Wikipedia, there are 8 sister projects that provide a wide range of free information. Wikitionary, Wikiquote and Wikibooks are just a few examples of the free services made available by the Wikimedia foundation.



Gabriel Lobato/Chronicle

Fraud is prevalent during the holiday season. Writer's advice: always pay with cash.

Keep your money, keep your life

Gabriel Lobato
Staff Writer

It's a terrible thing when someone steals your money or valuables, but people need to remember that their identity is a bigger target now than ever before.

According to Brian Hogan, a CSUSB senior and the Loss Prevention lead at a Sears's department store, "People look to take advantage of others, by stealing credit information or merchandise they bought in the store. Keep your private information close so nobody behind you can see."

The holiday fraud expense can be expected to reach over \$3 billion this holiday season. In 2005 it was over \$300 million.

Identity theft has increased over the years with widespread popularity of the internet and wireless devices.

Many scams go on throughout the year, but www.msnmoney.com presents a few holiday scams that are used often during the holiday season:

1. Naming a star. Real stars can only be named through International Astronomical Union and they're not for sale.

2. Fake charities. People with the colors of the Salvation Army and same style of writing, but are spelled differently than the real thing.

3. Spam solicitations. If you get anything in an email that requires personal information that you didn't send for, don't give any.

4. On-line auction scams. Sites that resemble e-bay may look legit, but make sure to research the site and email other users prior to giving out information.

These types of scams seem simple enough to avoid but many Americans forget when they are in a rush and in search of the best deal. The old saying goes, "if it seems too good to be true, than it probably is."

Web based transactions can be done through company's websites and they may have great security to fight against electronic/identity theft, but even their security may fail. The consumer should pay attention to company's website protection and find out about the company's fraud protection and liability policies.

Technologic advances in our time are great and make our lives a lot more convenient, but every

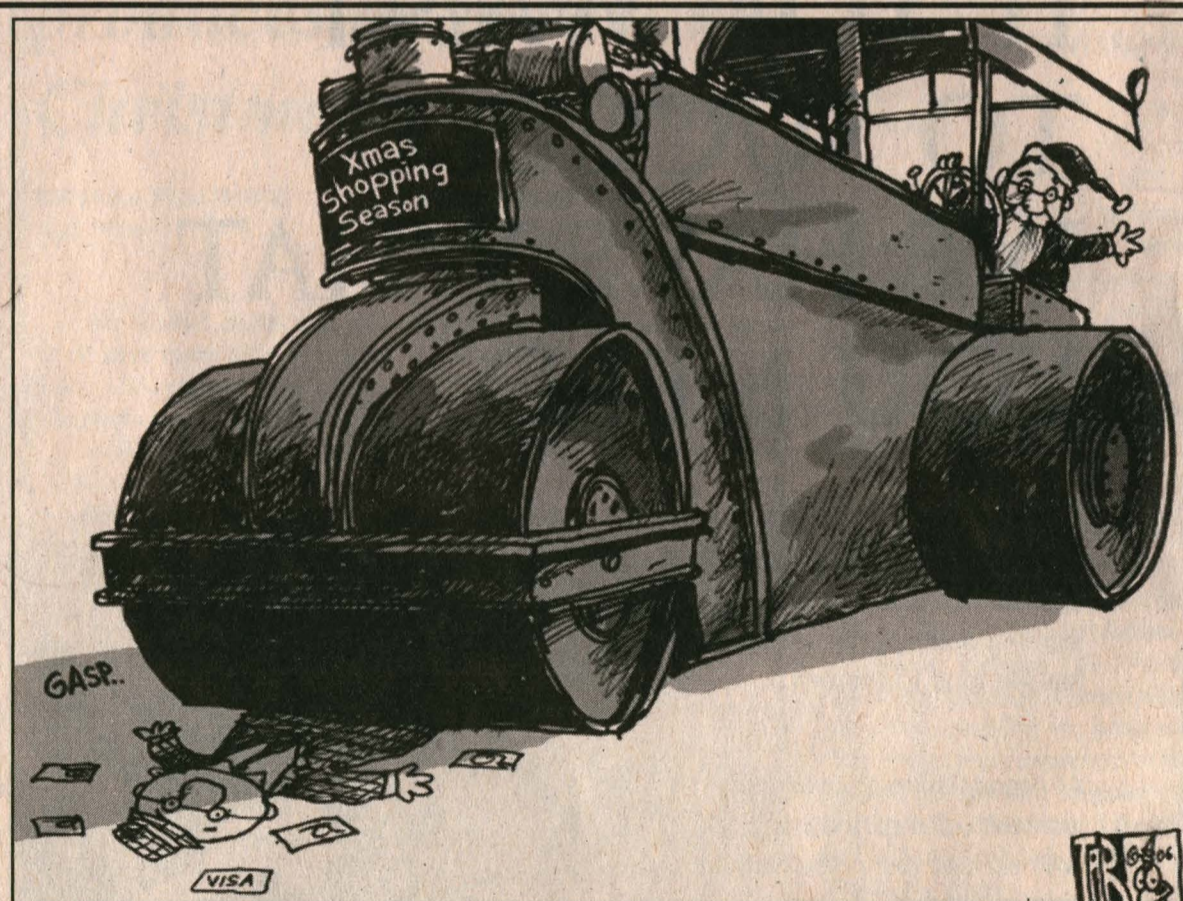
good thing has a bad side. Sometimes the bad has the potential to outweigh the good.

People can find all kinds of advice on how to be safe with their money and identity, but it comes down to an individual's knowledge.

A majority of banks and credit companies offer fraud protection up to a certain dollar amount. Some banks offer protection at no cost and others offer it for a small monthly fee that can save you piece of mind.

The commercial that shows everyone using their VISA card as they simply swipe, it and are on their merry way is a funny commercial, but the reality is that using cash is much safer and there is no information for someone to steal other than your money. Cash may take a little longer at the register, but there is no potential for your identity and credit information to be stolen from your dollar bills, or cash receipts.

There used to be a time when people had to only worry about getting their cars broken into, now people must worry about their personal information being stolen electronically.



Courtesy www.caglecartoons.com



Courtesy www.caglecartoons.com

No Country falls short

Erin Ramirez
Staff Writer

"No Country for Old Men," is one of the Coen brothers more violent and gory films. Unlike movies like "Fargo" and "The Big Lebowski," the film is more somber and there is little to no comical scenes, unless you find senseless killing comical.

While movie critics such as Emanuel Levy and Roger Ebert give this movie a spectacular review, I found it to be slightly disappointing. The main killer of the film murders relentlessly and has no reason or motive other than to flip a coin to decide the fate of a person's life.

It seems the Coen brothers' characters didn't have any development so they turned up the gore to make up for it.

"No Country for Old Men" is about a hunter who finds \$2 million dollars in cash, stacks of heroin and a bunch of dead guys in the desert near the Rio Grande.

Llewelyn Moss (Josh Brolin) is the hunter who finds the dead bodies and cash.

When Llewelyn decides to keep the money, a psychopathic killer, Anton Chigurh (Javier Bardem) decides to hunt him down.

The whole movie consists of Llewelyn trying to get away from Anton, while Sheriff Ed Tom Bell (Tommy Lee Jones) is hot on their tracks.

At the very beginning of the movie we are introduced to Anton. The audience isn't aware of who he is but we see him kill a cop while bound by handcuffs and then escape.

Once Anton enters the picture again to hunt down whoever took his money in a drug deal gone awry, we know Llewelyn is in a lot of trouble.

The movie had much dialogue and little to no music which made the movie slow paced and at times boring.

The movie took place in Texas and the cinematography was excellent. It mostly took place in the desert and those scenes were majestic.

The cast had incredible actors. Javier Bardem gave one of his best performances. Josh Brolin also did a good job as playing the badass who wasn't going to give up.

The movie, at times, seemed to play mind games with the audience as Anton decided the fate of a person by making them choose heads or tails when he tossed a coin into the air.

One of the best scenes in the movie was when Anton entered a gas station and flipped a coin to determine the fate of a gas attendant. The suspense built up as the

gas attendant refused to call heads or tails until he knew what he was betting on.

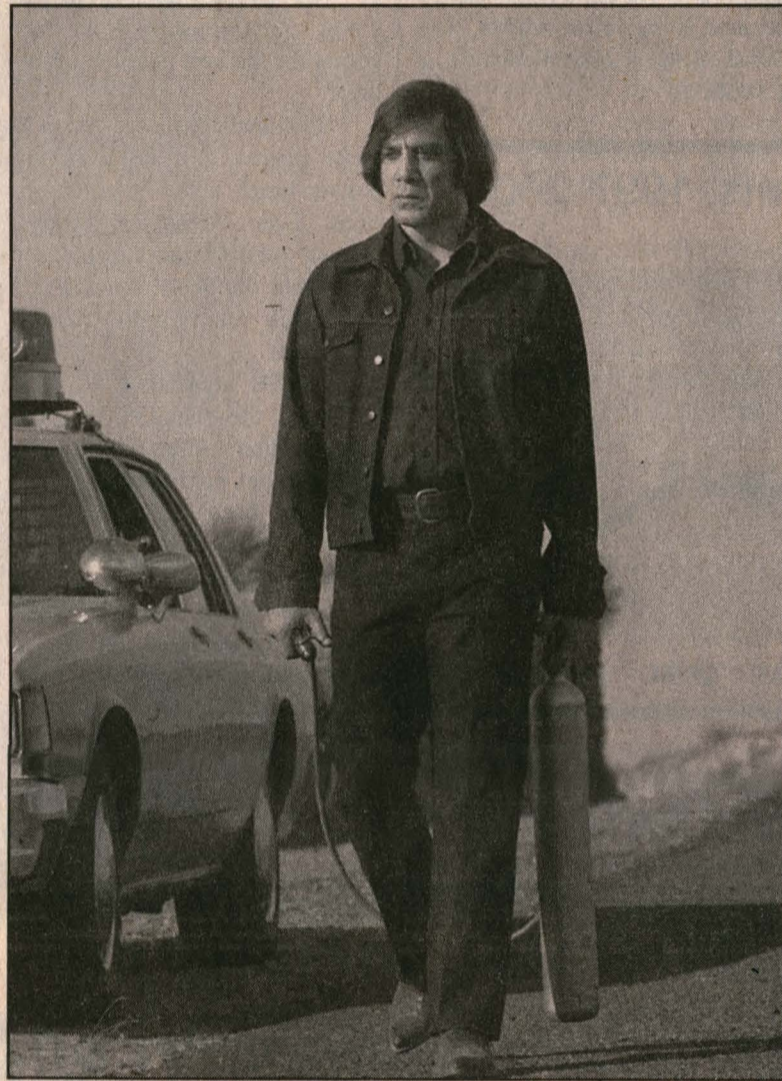
The scenes were graphic and intense.

I expected some of the scenes to be somewhat impressive but all the action scenes were well done.

Quite possibly the biggest disappointment in this movie was its ending. Tommy Lee Jones closed out the movie with a soliloquy and it left the audience feeling like there was no real conclusion.

"No Country for Old Men" was directed by Ethan and Joel Coen and based on a book by Cormac McCarthy.

It's rated R for strong graphic violence and language.



Courtesy of iwatchstuff.com
Javier Bardem is killer Anton Chigurh in the Coen brothers new movie.

Mixed genres impact Inland Empire metal

Elizabeth Tomzik
Campus News Editor

With a fan base that ranges from high school to college kids, Portrait of a Killer is breaking into the IE band scene with out holding back.

Influences from heavy metal, hard core and 80's metal give Portrait of a Killer a distinct sound. With this in hand, their future as one of the Inland Empire's leading deathcore bands is bright in the scene.

The band is backed by graphic lyrics written primarily by lead vocalist Tyler Hinkley, who originally was a guitarist.

"I tried singing one day and apparently it was a lot better than my guitaring skills," Hinkley said. "Anyone can vouch for that."

Heart pounding instrumentals are given from guitarist Mike Gamboa and Frank Landazuri, bassist Zakk Olds and Randy on drums.

The bands lyrics aren't the least bit sentimental and instead play out graphic visions of zombies that are sprinkled with vulgarities merely for shock value.

The band is often characterized as deathcore by is hardcore dancing fans who immediately move when Hinkley instructs them to begin the mosh pit.

Bass player Zakk was added

after alleged musical differences with the former bassist.

"(We) wanted to create a different type of music than what he was going for," the band said.

The band is backed by a crew of supportive family members, girl friends and close friends who've been there for almost every second.



Courtesy of myspace.com/vitaminR
Guitarist Mike Gamboa thrashes at the Whiskey in Hollywood.

CSUSB gets jazzed

Monica Rangel
Staff Writer

The music department on campus welcomed guests as they presented "Au Privave" Jazz Ensemble Thursday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m..

The event was held in the performing arts recital hall where performers and guests were able to enjoy the smooth, upbeat sounds of jazz music.

"The music department usually holds a jazz concert every quarter," Music Department Publicist Jessica Isaac said.

"The ticket sales for this particular event have been good. It's been a really good turnout...it's better than usual," Isaac said.

The event was a mixture of upbeat Jazz music and jazz vocals performed by CSUSB's very own musicians and singers.

"Au Privave" is the newfound name the jazz night used partly due to music director, Robert Knop," Isaac said. "Since Robert Knop started directing the event, that was one of the changes the event underwent."

"It was such an entertaining night, especially for me and my mom," student Malorie Robles said. "We are huge jazz fans and try and listen to it live pretty much any chance we get."

The event kicked off with an opening number titled, "On Green Dolphin Street," and was

move a little. The song was really well performed."

Throughout the show, numerous performers were given their time to shine when they got the chance to perform solos.

Alto saxophone player Matt Cole and trumpet player Jose Aguirre led the solos when they performed "Late Arrival."

Other soloists included Drummer Shawn Mangerino and Christopher Kirbo who played the tenor saxophone in, "The Way You Look Tonight."

Soloist Tim Joyce and Morganne Swinson Wambaugh both baritone saxophone players did their solos in the song "Just Chattin'."

The night came to a close with the song, "The Longest Hour" and was wrapped up with a solo by Guitar player Rory Gormsen.

J.S. Bach Society, Beethoven Society and Schumann Society sponsored the event.



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Hate crimes jump 8 percent

Sylvia Sahawneh
Staff Writer

Hate crimes in the USA escalated 8 percent during the year 2006, with a total of 7,722 crimes, according to USA Today.

It is also expected that the number of hate crimes this year is likely to increase, due to recent immigration debates, concerns about terrorism and racial conflicts, according to Jack Levin, a sociology and criminology professor at Northeastern University in Boston.

But, certain groups such as people suffering from mental disabilities, Muslims, gay men, Lesbians and Hispanics, have experienced larger spikes in attacks, according to the FBI, the only agency that collects data on hate crimes.

A hate crime, also known as a bias crime, is a criminal offense committed against a person, property, or society that is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin, according to the FBI.

Many hate incidents occur on campuses because students become intimidated when they move from homogenous backgrounds to campus environments that celebrate diversity, according to Brian Levin, a criminologist and executive director of the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at CSUSB.

The majority of the offenders of hate crimes are white teenagers or young adults that feel the need

to strike back anonymously, said Brian Levin.

One of the motivations behind many of those crimes is the excitement or thrill that comes along with committing the crime, said Brian Levin.

African Americans, Jews, Latinos, and gay men are the most common victims of hate crimes, said Levin.

Anti-Muslim, anti-Catholic, and physically disabled people only make-up a small percentage of the victims of hate crimes, but the increase in those small numbers is what is worrying, said Levin.

Hate crimes have received more attention this year, especially after six African Americans were charged with attempted murder when they attacked a white class-

mate in Jena, La.

One of the recent high-profile hate crimes actually took place on Nov. 7 in California State University, Fullerton. Just after the "Jena 6" event, four nooses were found hanging in the school the night before a tolerance rally.

The nooses were hung alongside a display of T-shirts with messages of tolerance written on them.

The perpetrators of this crime have not been found yet.

According to abc7.com, this hate crime outraged many civil rights activists, who are now demanding the federal government form a national task force to combat hate crimes.

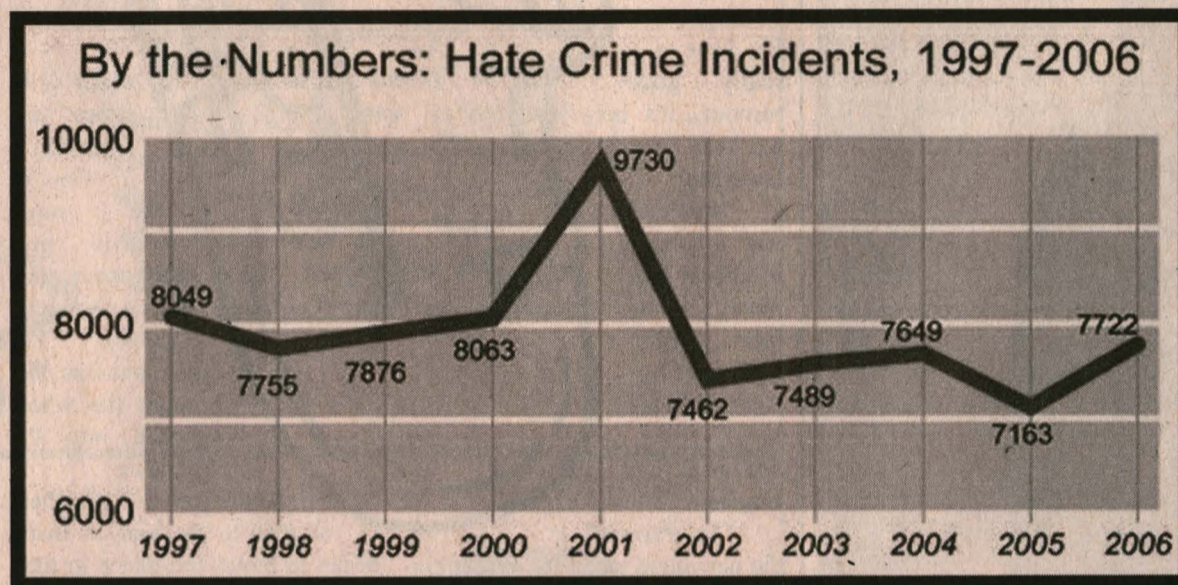
Nooses were not only found in several schools but also workplaces. A total of 40 were hung around the nation since July of this

year.

The Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007, also known as the Matthew Shepard Act was recently passed by the House of Representatives, but is still working its way through the Senate.

The purpose of the act is to empower the Justice Department to investigate and prosecute bias-motivated violence based on the victim's actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability, according to ucdavis.edu.

"What happened to Cal State Fullerton was shocking and unacceptable. It is so sad that a crime like this occurred at one of our schools," said Suaad Zeit, a current student at CSUSB.



Courtesy of www.fbi.gov

The number of hate crimes are expected to increase this year, due to immigration debate, terrorism and racial conflicts according to Jack Levin, a sociology and criminology professor at Northeastern University in Boston.

Commentary:

Voting to make history or the best candidate?

Tamara Florence
Staff Writer

Out of the eight democratic candidates running for president, only two have been receiving a sizable amount of press: Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama.

This brings one to wonder why.

The question is, are people voting to make history or are they voting for the best possible candidate?

"I believe people are voting to make history. For instance, my mother hasn't voted in past elections. Even though she knows Clinton's and Obama's names she calls them the White woman and the Black man," said Camille Rodriguez.

CSUSB students have even provoked the thought, that the 2008 election will have the largest voter turnout compared to previous terms because it refutes the societal norms of all white male candidates.

Even though race and gender shouldn't be an issue, this is the first presidential election that has a woman and an African American man.

This has caused some to worry because it is taking attention

away from important issues facing the nation.

"People need to pay attention to the issues at hand," said Feldman.

Others have noted that the reason for the focus on race and gender is due to how the media portrays the candidates.

Despite the focus on candidate's physical features, students are looking past this and basing their decisions on other criteria such as character.

"I would vote for Barack Obama because he is very honest about his past without trying to sugar coat it. He's realistic. He seems to be a real person," said Feldman.

Another student saw Clinton riding the coat tails of her husband.

"Hillary Clinton is running for presidential office in order to continue the Clinton legacy, in my opinion," said Adam Wynn.

Even though 30 years has passed since the civil rights movement, society still classifies people by race and gender.

However, it is not affecting everyone in their decision in the upcoming election. But the question is still there: are people voting for history or the best candidate?

American melting pot produces potpourri of Christmas expression

Abraham Pena Robles
Staff Writer

The United States and the world have many different traditions and ways to celebrate Christmas.

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, who is considered by Christians to be the son of God.

"In the West today, the real meaning of Christmas is often forgotten. It has become a non-religious holiday! More children believe in Father Christmas than in Jesus. Christmas Day is a time for eating and drinking too much and watching television," according to an online magazine homepage www.soon.org.

The United States is a blend of different cultures, therefore the holiday is not celebrated the same throughout the U.S.

This country has incorporated different elements in its celebration: Carols from England and Australia, trees from Germany, Santa Claus from Europe and parades from Latin America.

When people from different countries came to the U.S. they brought their own traditions with them.

In Mexico, Christmas is celebrated from December 12 to Christmas Eve.

According to the website whychristmas.com, Mexican children often perform "posada" processions. In Spanish, "posada" means "inn" or "lodging."

There are nine posadas. These celebrate the part of the Christmas story where Joseph and Mary looked for a room in an inn.

For the posadas, the outside

of houses are decorated with evergreens, moss and paper lanterns.

That tradition is celebrated in the U.S. by those families who came to live in the U.S.

People here like to decorate the outside of their houses with lights, statues of snowmen and reindeers.

"My family usually goes to church at midnight on Christmas Eve, then we go over my grandpa's house to open up our presents," said CSUSB student of Mexican descent Anna Aguilar.

Others celebrate Christmas to gather with the family.

"We throw a big family party on the second week of December, then my Dad gives us money to go shopping for Christmas presents," said CSUSB Sheona Celestine.

A great variety of food is made during Christmas time.

"We usually make the same food for Christmas that we made for Thanksgiving, plus my Mom's tamales," said Aguilar.

Others, like CSUSB student Tatiana Harris family cooks "duck, chicken, macaroni and cheese and sweet potato."

According to www.whychristmas.com, an Australia Christmas comes in the middle of the summer holidays. Children celebrate their summer holidays from early to mid December to early February, so some people might even be camping at Christmas.

In Nigeria, Children love to play with firecrackers at Christmas.

The church choir may visit the church congregation in their homes to sing Christmas carols to them.

Former CSUSB student named to Native American Heritage Commission

Beatriz Pena
Staff Writer

James Ramos was one of five tribal members from California selected to serve on the Native American Heritage Commission.

The Native American Heritage Commission works to preserve and protect ancient American Indian burial and archaeological sites.

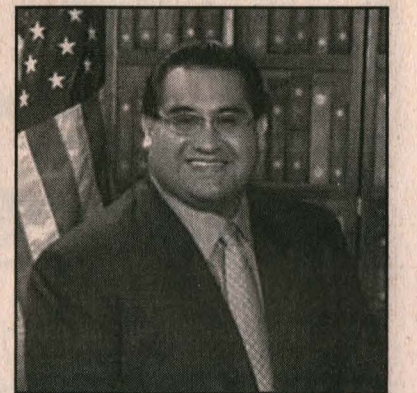
Ramos, 40, of Highland attended CSUSB and received his bachelor of science degree in business administration.

He is a tribal leader of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

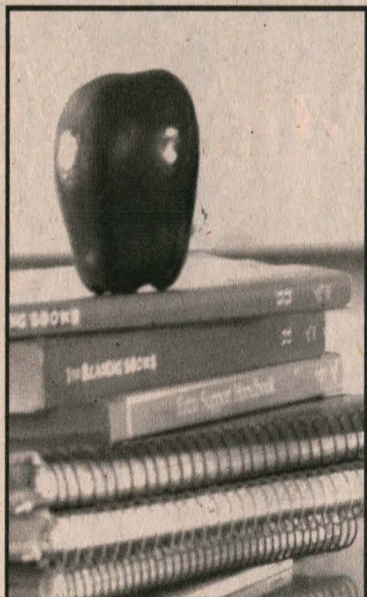
As a member of Native American Heritage Commission, Ramos is working on programs that will promote awareness of the history, culture and language of the San Manuel Band and the role of Indians of all tribes in California History.

Within the tribe, Ramos conducts cultural awareness programs such as Ya'mava in March and Yucca Harvest in May, where he teaches the picking of the plant and ways to prepare the food and produce fiber cordage from the leaves.

"I will take the knowledge gained working in the local area and apply it to the state of California by representing all California Indians with respect to the preservation of cultural resources," said Romo.



Courtesy of www.indnlist.org James Ramos former student.



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Louisiana penitentiary curbs violence

Shane Olguin
Staff Writer

A Louisiana prison may have found an antidote for violence and brutality in prisons nationwide. Violence and hatred run hand-in-hand, unless you're an inmate under the care and supervision of Warden Burl Cain.

The Louisiana State Penitentiary warden is the mastermind behind an entirely new program aimed at bringing hope and purpose to inmates. "The warden puts purposes out there for prisoners to attach themselves to, and that's what you need," said Angola, La. State Penitentiary inmate Lane Nelson.

Included in Cain's prison reform program is a television station that creates news and documentaries, a theology college aimed at creating prison chaplains, a wheelchair repair shop, an annual picnic for inmates and families and additional hospice care for old and dying prisoners.

Inmates inside Angola's penitentiary have the opportunity to earn additional special privileges that include arts and crafts and the right to participate in an inmate rodeo five times a year.

The prison also features its own newspaper called the "Angolite" that is one of the least-censored prison circulations in the nation, according to the Christian Science Monitor.

Cain is a former medium-security warden with strong roots in Christianity who believes that prisoners in the system must be handled strictly, but also fairly, according to Chicago lawyer and author Dennis Shere.

"He's not trying to make [Angola] into Disneyland. But he also believes that the men have made huge mistakes and their punishment is being sent to prison; their punishment is not what goes on in prison," said Shere.

The Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola is the nation's largest high-security prison facility, spanning more than 18,000 acres. It has over 5,000 inmates, many of whom are convicted murderers or sex offenders.

Since Cain's arrival to the prison 11 years ago, the number of escape attempts and stabbings has decreased significantly. Many people attribute the reduction in violence to Cain's new policies that allow inmates to live somewhat normal lives behind bars.

Not all people believe that the privileges and benefits that Angola prisoners enjoy are deserved. "I, for one, do not appreciate wardens giving 'easy and fun' time to hardened criminals when my colleagues and I work so hard to put them in prison where they belong," said an anonymous poster on an ABC News website forum.

It is understandable that those in law enforcement and correc-

tions institutions might have a slightly-jaded view on prison life, but in this particular situation there is more than what meets the eye.

"If it can help criminals get on a path to recovery or at least reduce violence among them I'd be for [having this sort of reform] in a lot more prisons," said San Bernardino resident Cheresse Gibson.

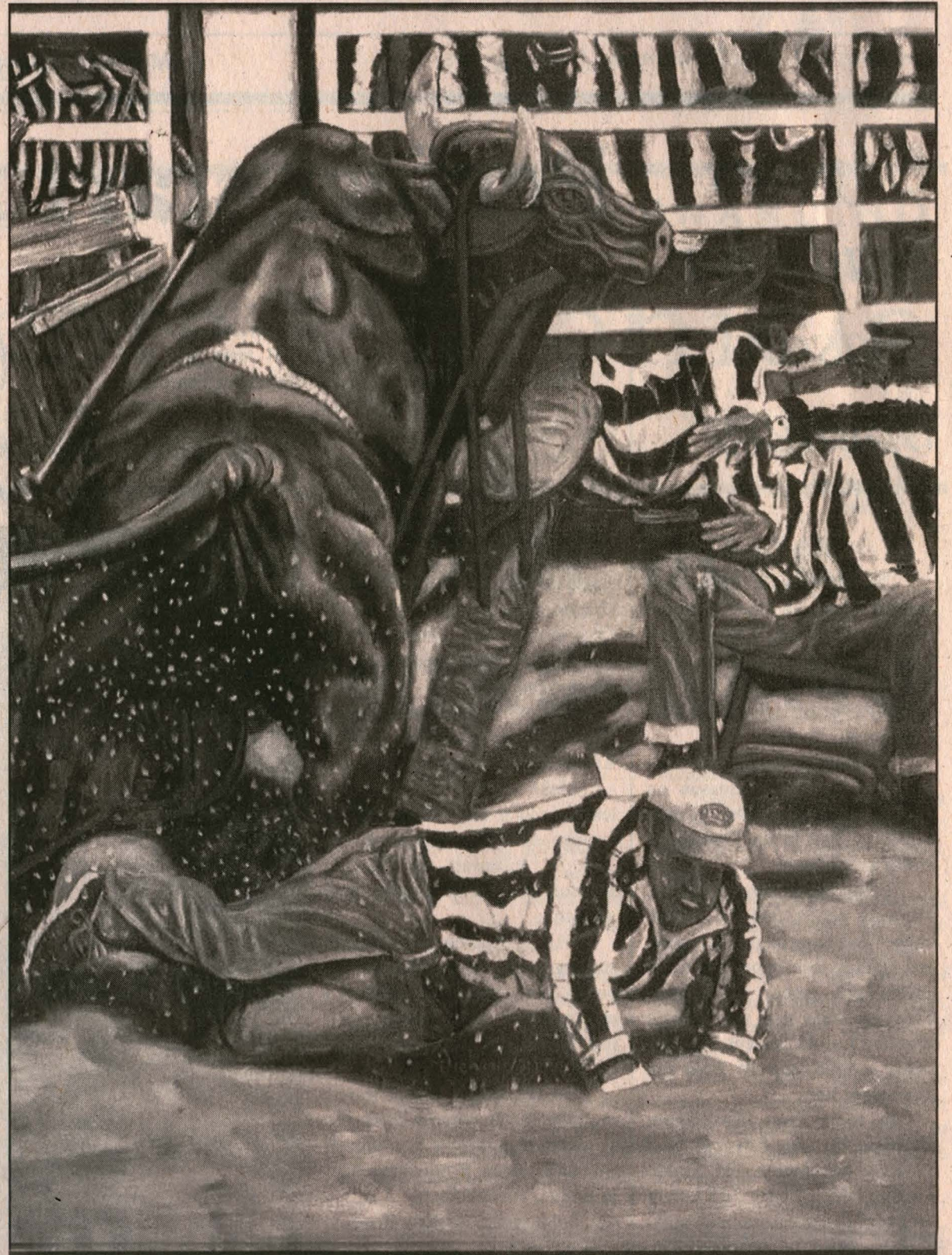
The warden said he is not advocating reductions of sentences or anything of the sort; rather, he is allowing the prisoners who have demonstrated enough responsibility and trustworthiness the right to a fresh start at life inside his prison.

Whatever complaints some people may have about it, the proof exists that since this program started in Angola, violence and malfeasance inside the prison have dropped.

The simple truth is that many convicted felons will eventually find their way out of prison and back into mainstream society.

There is an opportunity to rehabilitate these inmates by giving them a chance to live their lives in prison as human beings while they serve their sentences so that they may be better citizens when released.

If this Louisiana penitentiary found a way that works to curtail violence within its walls, it most certainly deserves further trial-runs in other states' prisons.



Courtesy of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections
At the largest high-security prison in the U.S., inmates work on craft projects and public activities, like the rodeo featured in the above poster, all in the name of prisoner reform.

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No more toys, buy books!

Melissa LeVesque
Staff Writer

In 2006, 13 children died and an estimated 140,700 more were treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms for toy related incidents, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

After all of the toy recalls that have taken place this year, it is a wonder that parents and consumers can find toys that are safe this holiday season. Battery and electrical failure account for 60 percent of product recalls.

The second largest recall came from Hasbro Inc.'s Easy Bake Oven that was found to have an exposed heat surface which caused 82 burns, one which required an amputation. Crib recalls came years after the death of three infants.

Mattel's Aqua Dots were recalled after they were found to contain gamma hydroxyl butyrate (GHB), an ingredient found in a date rape drug which hospitalized five children.

"From the product injury perspective, toys that burn and paja-

mas that don't meet flammability standards are inexcusable," said Dr. Robert Tanz, a physician at Children's Memorial Hospital and professor at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine.

Mattel recalled millions of toy trains, cars and other accessories after they were found to contain an unsafe level of lead paint.

The State of California is now suing Mattel for allegedly knowingly exposing children to lead and failing to warn of the risk, which is required under Proposition 65, The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986.

Toys sold in the U.S. are required to meet certain standards of safety under CPSC regulations, which include acceptable low levels of lead in paint, not exceeding flammability limits, no hazardous chemicals, no sharp surfaces or parts and no small parts in toys designed for children under 3 years old. Toy manufacturers are required to also label certain toys that can possibly pose a hazard to younger children.

CPSC recommends that while shopping this holiday season, par-

ents and toy buyers read the labels provided and use the information found on those labels as a guide.

The numbers of children's products being recalled are continually rising, which can make a parent wonder if the toys are getting worse or if the standards are getting better.

Forty products were recalled in 2006, while 42 products were recalled in the preceding decade.

"These recalls demonstrate The Consumer Products Safety Commission lacks the leadership, the money, the staff and the legal authority it needs to protect children from dangerous products," said Brian Imus, state director for Illinois public interest research group (PIRG). "Consumers and parents deserve better than after-the-fact ineffective recalls."

Parents have enough to worry about without having to keep up with the latest toys that are being recalled.

When you're out shopping this holiday season remember that it is the season for giving and maybe it's also the season for a change in gift giving. Maybe you should buy the child in your life a new book.



Melissa LeVesque/Chronicle

Instead of the usual toys, like potentially poisonous games, why not provide a little fun education?

Coyotes ready for season openers

Anna Aguilar
Staff Writer

CSUSB men's basketball ranked ninth in the National Association of Basketball Coaches Division II poll after their first five games. They are 1-1 in exhibition games against Division I opponents.

The Coyotes started their first game of the regular season on Friday, November 30th against Monterey Bay in the Coussoulis Arena at 7:30 p.m.

According to Coyote Online, the team comes into the CCAA opener averaging 68 points a game and holding their opponents to 56 points per game. However, Coyote Online says the team is shooting just 42 percent from the field, and 28 percent from the three-point line.

In their West Washington Tournament, the Coyotes beat Western Washington and Seattle Pacific, which Coach Jeff Oliver said were two good regional opponents.

The last game against the Falcons, Coach Oliver said the team was tired after playing two big games against Webber and UCLA. Mike Earl, who is CCAA men's basketball player of the week, scored 15 points, 11 rebounds and nine blocks.

During the NCAA West Regional tournament, Earl averaged 13 points, 9.5 rebounds, and 5 blocks when the Coyotes beat Western Washington 74-68 and Seattle Pacific 53-49. The Coyotes also had victories over Metro State, Montana State Billings and Kentucky Wesleyan.

According to Coyote Online, head coach Oliver is now the most successful coach in the history of Coyotes men's basketball after the team's five wins to open this season.

This Friday, the Coyotes will open their California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) season against Monterey Bay.

"Each week will be tough in this conference and this weekend will be no different," Coach Oliver said to Coyote Online.

The pre-season poll said the two teams that CSUSB will play this weekend are going to be the bottom teams of the conference.

Oliver told the Sun Newspaper that he is thrilled with the 5-0 start. He says there still is considerable room for improvement.

"Right now I think our defense is way ahead of our offense. In fact, our defense right now is better than at any time last year," said Oliver.

"This week of practice has been productive and, hopefully, that will carry over to how we play offensively this weekend," Coach Oliver.

The probable starting line on the Coyote Online website is, Marlon Pierce, PG, Lance Ortiz, G, Michael Earl, C, David Raichel, F, and Renardo Bass, F/G.

The games will both be aired live via KTIE 590-AM and web-cast at <http://athletics.csusb.edu>.

After these games the team will play regional games in Las Vegas and at home, and then the season starts again in January.

Perfect start in pre-season

Allison Whiteside
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team is off to a good start, and they look ready for the season to come.

The Coyotes are starting this season 3-0, after they played in the Notre Dame de Namur tournament the weekend of Nov. 16.

The team defeated Notre Dame de Namur (68-36), Western Oregon (76-52) and San Diego Christian (64-48). Vanessa Wilt and Shanae Blake made the All-Tournament team.

"We played really well in the Notre Dame tournament," Coach Kevin Becker said of his team.

Blake is the team's second leading scorer this season with an average of 12.7 points per game. She is followed by Rachel Johnson, who is averaging 9 points per game.

Wilt is leading the team in scoring with an average of 22 points per game, and about 12 rebounds per game. She has also had 4 blocked shots and 2 steals per game.

For this season Wilt is shooting almost 60 percent from the field and 90 percent in free throws.

Last season, Wilt led the team in scoring and rebounds.

Sophomore Ashlee Ford is playing point guard this season and is leading the team with 16 assists and ten steals to go along with 5.7 points per game.

With these three games played, Becker was able to see what his strengths for his team were. "Our team defense is our strength right now," he said. "Our team is making progress in our chemistry on offense."

The team started CCAA play on Nov. 30 against Cal State Monterey Bay. Their second league game was against another team from the Bay Area, San Francisco State. Both games were played at home.

Even though finals week marks the end of the quarter for students, the women of the basketball team will still be playing through winter break.

There are nine home games left in the season for the Coyotes. The next home game will be Dec. 29 against Ferris State University.

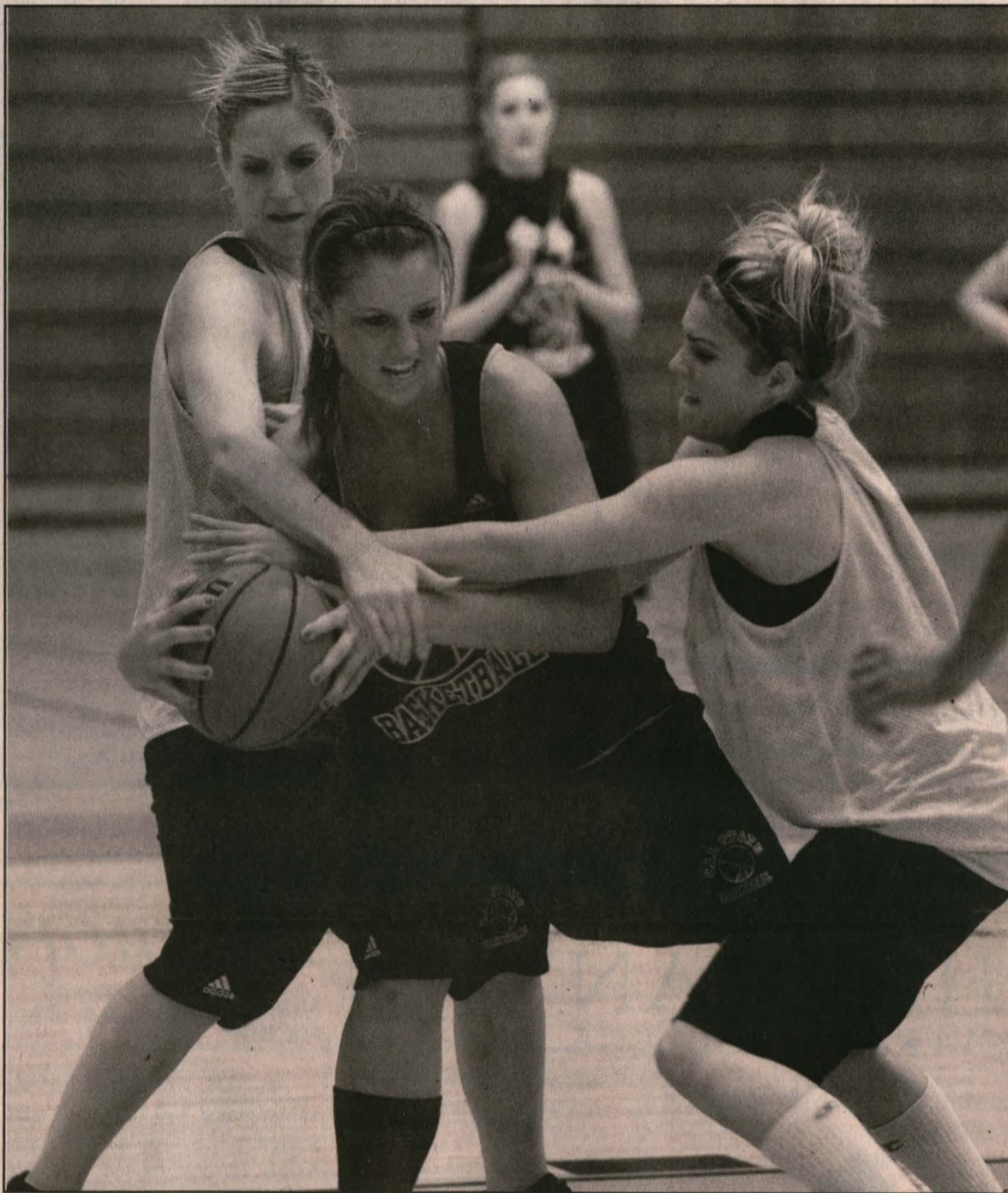
The Dixie State College

Tournament, which takes place Dec. 18-19, will have the Coyotes playing Seattle Pacific University and Northwest Nazarene.

The team's first game of the New Year will be played against Cal State L.A. on Jan 4. The next day, Jan. 5, the team is scheduled to play Cal State Dominguez Hills. Both games will take place at

Coussoulis Arena.

The biggest tournament of the season is the CCAA conference tournament. The first round starts Mar. 4, with the semifinals taking place Mar. 7, and the championship game being played Mar. 8. The semifinals and championship game will be played at Coussoulis Arena.



Rachel Johnson (left) and Diane Redfox (right) block against Stephanie Barnes (middle) at practice. Viet Nguyen/Chronicle

Coyote athletes rewarded for excellence

Curtis Miller
Staff Writer

Several CSUSB student athletes have earned awards for their excellence both on and off the court this month.

The women's volleyball team achieved several honors to cap off their 27-3 campaign. The team captured the CCAA Championship for the second year in a row.

Junior right-side hitter Jessica Granados was named the California Collegiate Athletic

Association MVP and the Daktronics NCAA Division II Pacific Region Volleyball Player of the Year last week for her incredible season.

Granados finished 11th in the nation in kills per game (4.72/g). She also was third in the CCAA in hitting percentage (.294) and second in service aces (0.57/g).

Granados was also named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association NCAA Division II all-American team and the CCAA first team for her conference.

Granados' teammate, senior middle blocker Sharea Drawn, was also given honors.

Drawn was also selected to the CCAA first team, as well as the AVCA all-American second team.

Drawn was fifth in the nation in hitting percentage (.409) and averaged 3.3 kills per game.

Drawn helped lead the Coyotes to the third best hitting percentage in the nation prior to being eliminated by Western Washington in the Pacific Regional tournament.

Teammate Sara Rice was also named a CCAA honorable mention after being ninth in the nation in hitting percentage (.387).

"These girls all work hard. It's great to see what positives come from their hard work. It shows it really pays off," said head coach Kim Cherniss. "They are each individually good but it's their team work that makes the team so good."

Sophomore Sara Hoffman was named to the all-CCAA second team. Hoffman also got named an AVCA all-American third teamer and was named to the AVCA all-Pacific Region first team.

Hoffman was also named to the Academic all-District 8 second team for her efforts both on the court and in the class room. Hoffman maintained a 3.68 GPA.

Also named to the Academic all-District 8 team was Junior Meghan Haas. Haas, the starting libero for the Coyotes, was selected to the third team for maintaining a 3.83 GPA.

"These academic awards are great to see. It shows that our girls work hard both on the court and in the class room. It's a good example being set," Cherniss said.

Cherniss was also honored. She was named the CCAA women's volleyball coach of the year for the outstanding job she did in leading the women to their second consecutive championship.



The Coyotes trophy case shows a number of awards that fall season sports have accumulated. Viet Nguyen/Chronicle

Starting with a new aspiration for CSUSB athletics

Greg Cadogan
Staff Writer

Listening skills are vital in this day and age.

It can mean the difference between a job and no job, as it did for CSUSB's athletic director.

CSUSB was impressed with Dr. Kevin L. Hatcher's listening skills; "he was the best out of all the candidates," said William Aguilar, vice president for advancement CSUSB.

He started on Oct. 31, 2007.

Until Hatcher took the position this year, Dr. Dwight Sweeney filled in as the Interim Athletic Director.

Sweeney took over after Nancy Simpson resigned in May.

Simpson went to Anderson University in Anderson, S.C. to become the athletic director.

Hatcher said he plans to continue right where Simpson left off.

Simpson was big in her community outreach efforts and Hatcher said he wants to continue the tradition.

Hatcher has 12 years of athletic administration experience.

He received a bachelor's in Communications from U.C. Santa Barbara, a master's in kinesiology with emphasis in sports management and Communications from the University of Michigan, and a doctorate in higher education from the University of Texas El Paso.

Hatcher's most recent job was at Colgate University in Hamilton N.Y. At Colgate, Hatcher was the senior associate for internal relations.

"This position was a pivotal point in my 12 years of athletic administration."

Hatcher has worked in conferences such as the Pac-10, Big Ten and Western Athletic conference.

Even though his last job was in New York, Hatcher is a California native.

When asked about his new job, he said, "I love it; the school, the people and the weather."

Hatcher said his goal for CSUSB is to get all of the programs in the national spotlight.

"My goal is to lead a premier athletic program," he said.

He wants all the programs to grow from where they are now.

Another one of his goals is to turn the part time coaches into full time coaches.

He believes full time coaches are what programs need to grow to their full potential.

One thing Hatcher also wants to stress is to create more opportunities for women.

He wants there to be more of a female presence for coaches in CSUSB sports.

Hatcher also wants all the sports to grow at the same rate.

He does not want all of the focus to be on one sport to have a huge improvement while the others stay on the same level.

Hatcher wants all the sports to come up at the same time.

"My job is to help them be as successful as they can," Hatcher said.