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CSUSB

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Indivisible Mountains

By Jarrod Walley
Staff Writer

The Indivisible San Bernardino Mountains Group (Indivisible) event lead by Dr. Thomas Corrigan, assistant professor of Communication Studies, invited students to challenge representatives that support President Donald Trump’s policies.

The goal of the event that took place on Wednesday, March 1, was to educate the audience about the multiple indivisible grassroots organization groups. As well as learn information about what grassroots organizations are striving for not only here in California, but nationwide.

Per the website mountainindivisible.org, they focus on resisting Trump’s agenda and vocalizing their concerns to the representatives of the California districts, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris. Representative Paul Cook has been uncooperative with Indivisible, and has resisted their attempts to stage a meeting with him. Cook represents the eighth district of California, which is where the San Bernardino Mountains group is stationed.

“We read a letter to one of his staffers, and conveyed that letter and asked for a town hall meeting,” said Corrigan.

The groups had tried many times to contact Cook and converse with him about the policies—like the executive order on immigration and refugee resettlement—that they are unhappy with. However, Cook was unresponsive.

“I think it’s good that they are actually doing something instead of just talking about it,” said student Mathew Cardona. “The congressman isn’t doing his job, so it’s good that they are calling him out on it,” he added.

Corrigan explained that the group decided to take a satirical approach to advance their efforts and gain more exposure to their cause. That is where the viral milk jug photo of the “missing” Paul Cook flyers came into play.

“I took the picture in my town of Crestline, in the mountains, at a liquor store,” said Indivisible group co-coordinator Jimi Sunderland.

The milk campaign was nothing but a photo, not actual distribution of milk with the “missing” flyer on it. It brought a lot of attention to the group, pressuring Cook to respond.

“I have, personally, seen our group double in size, become more active, and...”

Grand Opening of LatinX Center

By Noe Ramos
Staff Writer

Mariachi music filled the Santos Manuel Student Union and caught the attention of several students.

The LatinX Center celebrated their grand opening in SU-202, where several speakers and attendees gathered.

Speakers included those from student committees to faculty members that had worked on making the center possible, including President Tomás D. Morales.

Michael Mejia, a graduate student assistant, stated that the center was created by students, for students. The center wants to provide an area where Latinos, Latinas, LatinX students, and supporters can come and find resources such as mentoring, guidance, and tutoring.

“We don’t want it to be a hangout spot, we wanted to have actual services provided in the center,” said Mejia.

According to Mejia, the center happened because of the students, and it was constructed with their opinions and support in mind.

President Morales stated that in the past two decades, the proportion of Hispanic students has steadily increased. For many, a center like this has been long overdue.

“We have a place where individuals can come and find an environment that is accepting, promote an open exchange of ideas and where a student can come and feel comfortable,” said Morales.

Morales stated that current location for the center will be, for now, a holding spot until the Student Union expands.

He foresees the center becoming a bigger entity in the near future for the CSUSB community.

Continued online @ Coyotechronicle.net

Continued on Page 2
Jacquelyn Green, graduate student, accepted into the selective MAIP program.

“Just do it. No matter how competitive it may be,” said Green.

Green is also a member of AdColor, an organization geared towards helping under-represented groups obtain experience in communications.

“Have you to know people, that’s the thing. These organizations are the link to get you in the door to where you want to go,” she continued.

Green has interned before in other areas of communications, building her network here at CSUSB.

“I’m really hoping to establish my network, I’ve been networking here and I have joined a professional group on communication and its kind of told me who is who in the industry,” said Green.

She hopes to build that network in New York with at least a couple of connections she can contact later for either a job, or career advice.

Green suggests that by the end of internships, one should have at least five reliable connections in the industry.

Organizations and programs like MAIPS and AdColor assist students by providing opportunities to enhance their skills and develop a successful career.

“These organizations are the link to get you in the door to where you want to go,” continued Green.

Green intends on becoming a successful PR professional, but she will continue to embrace other transitional opportunities available in communications. She believes it is important to apply to a program, even if there are hundreds of other applicants.

“Just do it. No matter how competitive it may be,” said Green.

To do something to better themselves,” he concluded.

Corrigan explained that Indivisible has made decisive headway since the changing of their strategy.

Cook had even reached out to them over the widespread media attention, responding with both a closed and open letter to the group. He openly expressed that they were a fringe group with a radical political agenda; essentially denying to meet with them.

The group has, as stated by Corrigan, effectively shifted the narrative of Cook, questioning his responsibility to his constituents.

Indivisible plans to continue their efforts to expand, and pursue change on policies that infringe on the rights of the people.

Student earns NYC internship

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By Kathleen Ramirez

Campus safety and security

CSUSB has had its share of on-campus crime in the past, whether it is carjackings, theft, or assault, but the hijacking attempt of last Tuesday intensified some of those fears.

Armed with facts, Coyote Chronicle set out to investigate how secure CSUSB students feel on campus and what measures are being taken to ensure their safety.

“For the most part I do feel safe on campus when walking around during the day,” said student Daniel Cedeno.

“I know there are cops making their daily patrols, I think they should increase their night presence on campus.”

From the beginning of the year until present there has been two cases of burglary, four cases of larceny-theft, which is the theft of personal property, two attempted burglary incidents, one stolen vehicle and one carjacking, according to University Police.

Earlier this week, University Police were on the lookout for a carjacking and kidnapping suspect. The victim was brought to the hospital but the suspect was not apprehended.

Due to the fact that this in an ongoing investigation, campus police are not at liberty to discuss further details but are still actively searching for the suspect.

However, the Office of Strategic Communication did say that one thing that helped campus police is that there was a witness who spoke up and notified them that they saw someone matching the suspect's description.

CSUSB takes a number of precautionary measures to provide protection for everyone on campus.

There are ongoing patrols throughout the campus by car, by cart, there are foot patrols and the CSUSB Police have a mutual agreement with San Bernardino Police and the Sheriff's Department on the mutual response so if we need their help they are here, according to the Office of Strategic Communication.

“Back when the San Bernardino shooting happened two years ago in December, two of CSUSB’s officers were among the first to respond in San Bernardi-no to help out,” said the Assistant Director of the Office of Strategic Communications, Joe Gutierrez.

The school is also quick to alert all students and faculty on campus via email, text and twitter, whenever a crime takes place or a suspect is on the loose to make sure they are aware and on the lookout.

“I feel safe and comfortable on campus,” said student Hannah Center. “I often see police cars patrolling and I like that they send out notifications whenever an emergency happens on campus so that we are aware and alert of our surroundings.”

The school also incorporates incoming student orientations, sessions about how to be safe, how to contact the campus police if needed or if they feel like they want to be walked to their car for safety reasons.

The campus campaign on crime is based on if you see something, say something.

“The campus police and campus security officers do everything they can, but it is up to everybody to take the precautionary steps to avoid problems and if they see something to say something,” said Gutierrez.

To help keep our campus a safe environment, the Office of Strategic Communication urges everyone on campus to report any suspicious activity.

By Arturo Brooks

OPINION: Debunking ‘Who Are the Refugees?’

At the forum held last week, non-factual messages were presented, hidden under the emotional overtone.

CSUSB Center for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies hosted this forum to educate on the crisis and hardships those refugees face. However, I don’t think this intention was accomplished.

I personally attended this forum to see what would be presented to my fellow peers. Facts were discussed, as well as some controversial topics that peaked my interest.

The information forced me to ask myself if it was factual or was this a “sympathy forum,” and I began to question the panelists’ credibility. The recorded opinions are in order of events that occurred on Feb. 21.

The first speaker, Nahla Kayali, discussed research and statistics gather from her own organization. One that stood out to me was, “how many refugees we have accepted last year and this year already.” I performed my own research and noticed a few errors.

The first mistake presented at the event was the number of refugees that the U.S. accepted in 2016. I looked at multiple statistics and realized that the numbers were not adding up, according to the statements given by Nahla Kayali.

According to Pew Research, The U.S. States Department’s Refugees Processing Center’s statistics show that the U.S. accepted 84,955 for the 2016 fiscal year.

Kayali stated we had accepted 110,000 to meet 2016’s goal, in fact, the 110,000 goal was set for 2017, by former President Obama.

While she is correct that the U.S. took in approximately 110,000 in a year, the numbers are not the same in terms of a Fiscal year (October, 1 to September, 30 each year).

This evidence, made me look further into another believed fallacy: The U.S. has accepted 50,000 refugees this year alone, out of the 70,000 allocations allotted for this fiscal year (14:36-14:57 in the video recording of the event).

According to the Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, the U.S. has only accepted 32,475 refugees this fiscal year.

This data even shows which states they have immigrant numbers allocated to.

Kayali was correct about 2016 being the largest year for refugees, if we were to compare it to the twenty-first century as a whole (14:58-15:15).

Hussam Ayloush, a very controversial speaker, caught my interest.

To view Ayloush’s speaking portion, it can be viewed at 32:44-54:18.

He spoke of a metaphor that compared Islamophobia to, and generalized it to be, racism; a far-reaching analogy.

While I understand the connection between racism and Islamophobia, this argument overlooks some people’s genuine concern for national security and immediately labels them as ‘racist’.

Instead of educating the audience on who the refugees “are,” he fabricated a comical and un-factual tale of events, using Fox News as a target.

He presented no factual or credible sources. My question for Ayloush is: what supporting evidence do you have?

Does it happen to be from Now This? Or The Huffington Post, sources well-known for consisting of dominantly whites “are,” he fabricated a comical and un-factual tale of events, using Fox News as a target.

Rhetorical techniques were used to appeal to people of color, illustrating an “us versus them” narrative between those against illegal immigration/accepting refugees and people of color/Muslims/refugees/etc.

This neglects individual’s legitimate concerns of illegal immigration and involvement in international conflicts; concerns outside of simply ‘racism’.

He spoke of how White Americans enslaved Africans and how they were treated, which I found fascinating.

In our courses here at CSUSB, we have been educated about our history. In those courses, I learned that White Americans did not initiate the slave trade; Arab Nations and African Nations started the slave trade within their own communities, buying and selling their neighbors to the European nations.

He was selective when providing information regarding the enslavement of Africans, forcing the U.S. to appear guilty and entirely responsible for the conception of slavery.

Have a different opinion? Submit a ‘Letter to the Editor’ to coyoteexecutiveeditor@gmail.com for a chance of your response or opinion being published in the Coyote Chronicle.
California residents and those who qualify may be eligible to receive benefits under four different plans.

“The service member has to have the disability, not the dependent if they have a disability rating through the department of veterans affairs,” said Interim Director Agustin Ramirez.

Basic requirements to qualify for the Cal Vet Fee Waiver are, having a parent who is a considered a disabled veteran by the Department of Veterans Affairs and has a minimum of zero percent rating, or the veteran must have died in combat and the minor/dependent receiving the benefit cannot make more than $12,316 per year, according to the California Department of Veteran Affairs.

Also, they must be attending a California Community College, California State University or University of California school, and dependent must meet in-state residency requirements and provide proof of relation to a veteran who is completely disabled or deceased due to military service.

Plan A applies to family members of a completely service-connected disabled or gave their life in service.

The veteran must have served during a time of war or awarded a Campaign or Expeditionary Medal. In addition, to qualify under Plan A, a child must be under the age of 27 if he or she is also a veteran the age limit is extended to 30.

With Plan B there is no age limit for a child of a veteran who was injured in the line of duty or died due to service-related injuries. Another stipulation for Plan B is the child’s income cannot be above the national poverty level.

Plan C is available for dependents, including surviving spouse and Registered Domestic Partner (RDP), of California National Guard members who are non-remarried living spouse, or (RDP) of a member of the National Guard who is permanently disabled or died while serving under the veterans Code Section 146.

According to the California Department of Veteran Affairs, Plan D is offered to those who received the Medal of Honor and children of Medal of Honor recipients that are under 27 years of age.

Assistant under Plan D is confined to undergraduate studies only, and those who apply are subject to income and age regulations.

“A campus like ours has about $400 that are campus-based fees, the Cal Vet Fee Waiver does not cover the campus-based fees or other class fees such as lab fees,” said staff member Kenneth Jacobs.

Chapter 33 refers to the Post-9/11 GI Bill and is available to veterans who have served three or more years on active duty after September 10, 2001, pays for 100 percent of a public four-year education.

“Chapter 33 covers basic allow-iance and housing and is paid directly to the school and students are eligible to receive a stipend based on the school’s zip code for living expenses,” said Jacobs.

Two differences between the Cal Vet Fee Waiver and Chapter 33 is money that is paid to the university and provides students with money for living expenses, whereas the California Fee Waiver is simply covering state tuition fees and excluding university fees.

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Education section online provides detailed information on educational benefits.

Disclaimer: The Veteran Success Center does not determine eligibility for benefits. The conditions and scenarios above are subject to eligibility as determined by the VA and the Certifying Official.

Military veteran benefits revision

Coyote visits D.C. for world hunger simulation

By Kathleen Ramirez
Staff Writer

Previously, in the printed version of the Coyote Chronicle, Vol. LV, No. 4, an article titled: “College benefits for veterans,” which contained a few inaccuracies. This article features corrections regarding veteran college benefits, specifically focusing on the College Fee Waiver and Chapter 33 (Post-9/11 GI Bill).

There is a number of military benefits available to veteran students and their immediate families, but among the most commonly used are the College Fee Waiver and the Chapter 33 (Post-9/11 GI Bill).

The College Fee Waiver is available to sons, daughters, dependents and spouses of military veterans who have a minimum disability rating of zero percent or more from the Department of Veteran Affairs.

This waiver only applies to graduate students from all over the world to represent the whole California State University, including university fees.

“People who have the disability, not the dependent if they have a disability rating through the department of veteran affairs,” said Interim Director Agustin Ramirez.

Basic requirements to qualify for the Cal Vet Fee Waiver are, having a parent who is a considered a disabled veteran by the Department of Veteran Affairs and has a minimum of zero percent rating, or the veteran must have died in combat and the minor/dependent receiving the benefit cannot make more than $12,316 per year, according to the California Department of Veteran Affairs.

“Plan A applies to family members of a completely service-connected disabled or gave their life in service,” said Interim Director Agustin Ramirez.

The veteran must have served during a time of war or awarded a Campaign or Expeditionary Medal. In addition, to qualify under Plan A, a child must be under the age of 27 if he or she is also a veteran the age limit is extended to 30.

With Plan B there is no age limit for a child of a veteran who was injured in the line of duty or died due to service-related injuries. Another stipulation for Plan B is the child’s income cannot be above the national poverty level.

Plan C is available for dependents, including surviving spouse and Registered Domestic Partner (RDP), of California National Guard members who are non-remarried living spouse, or (RDP) of a member of the National Guard who is permanently disabled or died while serving under the Veterans Code Section 146.

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Assistance under Plan D is confined to undergraduate studies only, and those who apply are subject to income and age regulations.

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Coyote visits D.C. for world hunger simulation

By Genely Barajas
Staff Writer

Alonso Curiel, CSUSB graduate student and lab technician for Workability IV, joined a group of 500 fellow students in a competition of global simulation for food security at Washington, D.C.

Curiel was a 2017 Washington Regional Finalist for the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA). He was the only member to represent the whole California State University system.

Each year, NASPAA conducts a competition of global simulation in which graduate students from all over the world can participate in public policy.

The theme for 2017 was food security, which had competitors “address the United Nations Sustainable Development goal to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030.”

The competition consisted of graduate students placed into groups of 16-20 where they acted in as staff members of a fictional global non-government organization.

The groups had to end world hunger in their assigned fictional region by creating policy plans, draft recommendation memos, analyze data and computer simulated results, and present their plans to a panel of local judges.

Curiel was given the title as the Regional Director for Southern Asia and had three other students on his team.

“I learned a lot because everyone had a different specialization,” explained Curiel.

“Students were there who specialize in food security, others who specialized in human trafficking, while some specialized in climate change, so everyone brought something different to the table,” he continued.

There were eight simulation sites taking place, five in the U.S. and three internationally.

The simulation sites consisted of Washington DC, New York City, Indianap-olis, Seattle, Tempe, Beijing, Bogota, and Maastricht.

There was one winner for each site, meaning there was a total of eight regional winners.

Curiel was among the regional winners.

He is working on his master’s in public relations with a concentration in cyber security—so, it was interesting to see something like this because you get a taste of what the real world is gonna be like and the complexity behind it,” continued Curiel.

Plans that were originally presented by all groups to the local judges were then reviewed by global judges.

The global judges consisted of: Executive Director of the Earth Institute, Steve Cohen, former Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme Jozette Sheeran, Section Head of Evaluation and Assessment, National Science Foundation Anand Desai, and Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank Mahfuz Ahmed.

Curiel and his team were not part of the global winners but nonetheless, he is still happy to have won regionally, and is grateful for the experience.

“This is my second year competing and I made great friendships that I plan on keeping,” said Curiel. “I feel like every student in the program should experience something like this because you get a taste of what the real world is gonna be like and the complexity behind it,” continued Curiel.

“Although I am not part of the global winners, I am still happy to have won regionally, and is grateful for the experience.

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Community

Latina students from the San Bernardino community share their everyday challenges, aspirations, and victories over deep-rooted stereotypes.

By Nylles Vernon
Multimedia Editor

Students speak about CSUSB experience

The university offers over 130 degree programs and 470 highly qualified professors that are more than willing to help students further their careers post graduation. Every student that attends college has to take a wide array of courses and electives that will guide them through their college experience, as well as provide a fresh perspective on life itself.

“One professor I really enjoyed was Erik Atkinson, for African American Heritage in the Arts. He was such a fun professor, but also taught us a lot about various African American culture and connected back to today’s times,” said medical student Cesar Esperanza.

There are also upper division capstone courses that students are required to take to be eligible for graduation which include humanities, natural and social sciences.

Esperanza added, “For me, the capstone classes were the hardest to get through because I really felt like I had to put forth more effort in them than I did my other classes.”

Marissa Fowler, a liberal arts major is currently in her senior year and will be graduating at the end of 2017 spring quarter.

Continued online @ Coyotechronicle.net

By Luis Esperza
Contributing Writer

Media experts have long argued that mainstream media has done a poor job representing Latinas as inspiring individuals. Instead, as studies show, Latinas are often objectified in the propagation of stereotypes such as “all Latinas have big families,” “all Latinas are maids” or “Latinas are criminals.”

All three Latina students I spoke with spoke of challenge those stereotypes in different ways on daily basis, while aiming for ideas often unimaginable for those around them. The story was produced as part of De Lilianna Gallegos “The Rainbow Journalism” initiative in COMM 343.

Noemi Botello, a sociology major at CSUSB is also a full-time mom and a provider.

“I always make sure my family is taken care of first, then whatever time I have left I dedicate towards school and work,” said Botello.

Every night, Botello must wait for her 5-year-old son to go to bed before completes her homework. Often, she stays up until 3 a.m. just to finish.

“Sometimes it’s hard to seek help with school work when I need it because it takes time away from home,” explained Botello.

On workdays, she is up roughly around 5:30 a.m. in order to arrive punctually for her job in Corona. Before 9 a.m. she takes her son to school and at 12 p.m. goes to classes.

Botello believes that in order to do something for the family, she has to succeed herself and be a role model for them.

After finishing her education, Botello plans to work for an adoption agency to find permanent homes for foster children.

“Don’t give up, it’s not going to be easy, but you have to push forward. Although every obstacle is going to tell you that you can’t do it, everything starts with you. Only you can start setting higher expectations,” said Botello.

Maria De Lourdes, a CSUSB communication student, commutes to campus every day from Hemet. Simultaneously, she also maintains a management position at Brookdale Senior Living in Hemet.

“It can be daunting. At times, it can break you because you don’t have the luxury of time, but what pushes me forward is the degree,” said De Lourdes.

At 5:30 a.m., De Lourdes rises to arrive at work by 6 a.m.

She then makes her daily hour-long commute to CSUSB for class by 12 p.m.

“I’m constantly on the go and I feel like my mind is always going at a thousand. I have to micromanage time and make things work for me,” stated De Lourdes.

Following her last class, she commutes for another hour back home; this is De Lourdes’s weekly routine.

De Lourdes is motivated to obtain her degree in communication studies to broaden her career opportunities.

“I also do this for my grandma, she once told me ‘don’t let me die before I get to see you graduate’,” De Lourdes added.

Paths to prosperity can be difficult for various Latinas in the San Bernardino community because they keep running into problems associated with Latina stereotypes, assumptions and expectations.

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“I want to pave the way for future generations so they won’t have to go through what I went through,” stated De La Rosa.

Maliah De La Rosa, a local Latina who identifies as transgender, often faces discrimination based on her gender identity.

De La Rosa recalls a time she was discriminated at a club mixer at San Bernardino Valley College in the Fall of 2016.

“I was there [LGBT club in San Bernardino Valley College] all day long interacting with members and when it was time for me to speak I got into three minutes of speaking and I was shut out,” said De La Rosa.

“One lady was like ‘you need to leave they didn’t get permission for you to speak here,’” continued De La Rosa.

After being asked to leave, De La Rosa finished her speech outside of the event. In solidarity, members of the SBVC LGBT club decided to accompany her and listen to the rest of her speech.

In addition to dealing with discrimination, De La Rosa also has type one diabetes.

Despite daily hardships, she pursues her dreams of becoming a successful full-time independent make-up artist.

She also dedicates her time to her activist work with the IE. Trans Project, a local organization that advocates for the rights of transgender, intersex, queer, gender non-conforming, and socially and politically under-represented members of the community.

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One step closer
Students share their transition experience into CSUSB

By Yadira Avina
Contributing Writer

Making the decision to attend college might be for students the most difficult one. Some must decide whether they can attend a four-year university or a junior college and then transfer. Students from junior colleges may transition into a four-year university or obtain their transfer associate’s degree. Regardless, students are guaranteed junior standing at any CSU according to the CSUMentor website.

For some students, transferring can be a familiar and even easy process. Needless to say there are many students who go through the transfer process alone.

“I’m the type of person that does things on my own so I just figured out what classes I needed to transfer and did it,” said Amie Sanchez, a transfer student from Victor Valley College (VVC). Due to their previous experience at a junior college, some students are already acquainted with the transfer process.

“I am a veteran, so most of my fees were paid for, it was really easy for me to transfer,” said Erick Temaj, a transfer student from Riverside City College (RCC). Students who form allies with faculty and staff may find the process easier because they have these people to guide them through the transition.

“My transition was smooth, my coaches helped me stay on the right path and know what to do. The staff here was very helpful as well,” said Shanna Shernaman, a transfer student from RCC. There are 23 CSU institutions, including nine UC’s. So, the big question is: why CSUSB?

The students interviewed mentioned that location was a decisive factor but that overall the quality of education offered sealed the deal for them.

“I love this school, I love the professors and they care about the success of their students. I love this school and I’m glad I chose CSUSB,” stated Sabrina Rodriguez, a transfer student from San Bernardino Valley College.

There are obvious contrasts between junior colleges and CSUs, such as: size of the campus, student population, and the 16-18 semesters versus ten-week quarters, amongst many others.

CSUSB can be overwhelming for transfer students coming from junior colleges due to the size of the campus and the fast pace quarter system. After a couple of weeks however, students catch on and enjoy factors like the quarter system.

“It was definitely hard to get used to the ten weeks because it goes by so fast, but I love that it is ten week quarters,” said Rodriguez.

The four students who participated all stated their confidence and excitement in receiving their acceptance letters.

“I knew I was going to get accepted and when I received my acceptance letter I just thought ‘cool,’” said Temaj.

The students featured shared their opinions regarding the major difference in attending junior colleges and CSU’s.

“Students here work a lot harder because the pressure of reality sets in, after graduation the real world is waiting for us. And at a junior college, people are still figuring out who they are or want to be so they’re not as focused in their academics,” said Shernaman.

Although, some students did receive aid from resources and others didn’t, they all agreed that the transition was fairly easy.
A Train-Station Swap Meet was hosted by the Roundhouse Gang Model Railroad Club on Saturday, Feb. 25th at the San Bernardino History and Railroad Museum.

The Roundhouse Gang, a model railroad club has been around since the 40’s, dedicated to inviting and informing people about the model train hobby.

The event allowed people with a “model train” hobby to enjoy with their families.

The event creates a connection between the families and the model trains getting information on how to create other things for my model railroad collection,” said John Bennit, a swap meet vendor.

“As a vendor, however, I am able to liquidate the model railroads I have too much of and create a profit for myself,” continued Bennit.

This event has created a platform for vendors and model train hobbyist to network with the community.

“We believe that such an exhibit would benefit the local economy and helps the local business by generating more customers,” stated Gary Wintergerst.

“The swap meet would also provide an opportunity to convey important historical and railroad safety information that would appeal to a broad age-range audience,” continued Wintergerst.

As they continues to bring more swap meets to the Inland Empire, their locations grow larger, and location is a vital part for a model train swap meet.

“The location is an important part of a swap meet, the Roundhouse Gang used to have these events in Riverside and I believe moving it to the San Bernardino train museum is better,” said vendor Mel Miller.

“With this being the location it will draw rail fans because you got the depot and the BNSF outside, which will attract the train spotters,” added Miller.

The Roundhouse Gang is also searching for other venues to continue to host the events at.

These swap meets are held about three times a year, so plan ahead before attending.

“The event services a couple of purposes. As a club we get some income for it because we sell the table space, what vendors sell to people is their business not our business [...] It is also a chance to promote the hobby in the area and to make it a family event,” said Gary Wintererst, a member of Roundhouse Gang.

With more people participating as vendors or guest, options become available for those wishing to pursue a hobby in model trains or for the newcomers wishing to gain new insight about it.

“At these swap meets as a customer and hobbyist I am able to purchase the model trains that interest me while also
“I was taking what I could get [classes] and was told I needed to fit a certain amount of units in order to get an Associated Degree in my major but after all my time in school, I accidentally ended up with three Associates,”

Transfer student Crystal Avila

By Chennel Booker
Contributing Writer

Senioritis to the grave

Sensual healing for all

By Monica Rosales
Contributing Writer

The classic four-year graduation routine is becoming something of a myth, as a vast majority of college students are now taking an average of six years to finish their education. As of fall 2016, CSUSB has 12 percent of students that manage to graduate within four years, and 55 percent for students within six, according to its fact and states page.

Meeting with guidance counselors regularly can provide students with beneficial insight into their academic path. “I was taking what I could get [classes] and was told I needed to fit a certain amount of units in order to get an Associated Degree in my major but after all my time in school, I accidentally ended up with three Associates,” said transfer student Crystal Avila.

“Having an event like this held on our campus meant a lot to participants. ‘Having an event like this on college campuses means that people are more aware about their options and they feel more empowered about their choices,’ said Alex.

Many students described the importance of having a sex-ed event that was trans inclusive. PrEP, or also known as ‘pre-exposure prophylaxis,’ is a daily pill that helps lower the chances of a person at high risk for HIV infection. ‘PrEP is not something that is reserved for gay men only. Anyone who feels they are at high risk is able to take PrEP regardless of their sexual orientation,’ explained Alex.

It is important to bring awareness regarding this subject and the event did just that. ‘Knowledge is power and having an event like this is extremely informative and resourceful,’ said first-year student, Angelica.

Attendees were drawn to this event due to curiosity because the event’s unique title. For some attendees, this was their first sex education and/or queer sex education that they have received. “I was drawn to this event by the title and also to hear about queer sex-ed,” said CSUSB Senior Health Educator, Tess Webster-Henry.

The event also discussed more safe sex methods. “I was surprised to learn about all the different prevention methods that are out there,” said second-year student, Savannah.

“At your heteronormative sex-ed conversations you are told that condom and birth control are the only forms of prevention, what they don’t tell you about is all the preventative methods that help prevent STI’s, STD’s, HIV and AIDS,” she continued.

The event put to rest the myths and misconceptions around sex and answered questions regarding the usage of PrEP. “Having an event like this on our campus meant a lot to participants,” said Alex.

“‘I wanted to be part of the engineering program here, but they seem to lack in the amount of help and classes needed for students to achieve top knowledge in it, so now I’m thinking of transferring to Cal Poly Pomona for it,’” said student, Andre Thompson.

Enrolling in more classes than necessary is also a major setback for some students, however, students like Avila appreciated it because it taught her new skills and knowledge. Others may enroll in more classes to postpone graduation due to fear. “It was always a little scary knowing that jobs are hard to find and that you might not find anything soon. ‘Student loans don’t wait for you to be ready to pay them whenever you can,’” said graduate student Daisy Hernandez.

Regardless of the reason, the increase of students extending their education past four-years is increasingly becoming more common.
Orchid Thai, an authentic Thai food establishment, has been in business since December of 1999, serving for the people of the Inland Empire.

Mike Padungsit helps run the family business with his mother Jamfar Knouse, owner of the restaurant. The family is from Thailand.

The name of the restaurant originated from Knouse’s love of the orchid flower. “My mom, she loves orchid flowers, so we named it Orchid Thai,” said Padungsit.

Orchid Thai is a dine-in restaurant and bar that provides take-out option as well.

The cafe portion of the restaurant is under remodeling to feature more dining tables and a larger bar to accommodate more customers due to the restaurant’s growing popularity.

“The service is good. My favorite thing to order is curry chicken and Pad Prik King,” said Wesley Mangosey, a loyal customer of three years.

Pad Prik King is a dish with green beans, jalapenos, and spicy red curry.

All the recipes come from Jamfar Knouse, Mike Padungsit said. “All the food, all the recipes pretty much come from my mom […] she loves cooking. Everything she makes is always good,” Padungsit added.

Orchid Thai also has a signature dish. “Orchid Special, it’s stir fry with a special sauce you can have on top of any meat, like chicken, beef, pork, shrimp, or sea food,” continued Padungsit.

Orchid Thai was featured in The Sun and Inland Valley Daily Bulletin in September 2010 as an excellent spot for dining.

I myself had a tasty lunch there. Patrons were rushing in around noon to have their lunch as well. It’s one of their busier times at Orchid Thai.

The atmosphere was very delightful due the fact that the service was great and the meals were delicious.

One of the drinks I tried was the Thai iced coffee, it was strong, but still had some sweetness to it.

I also fell in love with their shrimp fried rice because it was so flavorful.

All of the featured art work on the wall, sculptures, and plants exposed me to a minute experience of Thai culture.

If you are seeking delicious food and entertainment, Orchid Thai has live jazz music on Friday and Saturday nights.

For the winter season the jazz music concerts occur from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., while during the summer the time changes from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

They also offer the option of catering. “Meetings, weddings, birthdays, you name it, we can do catering for […] sometimes you go to places for catering and it could cost $1,000 to $2,000, but you might have a budget, here it’s a lot less,” said Padungsit.

Orchid Thai is open Monday through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., on Friday to Saturday from 10:30 a.m. 11:00 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Their location is 27266 Baseline St., Highland, CA 92346.
The forbidden zone

A position both parties hate to be in, the friend zone can leave friendships of many years to crumbling in seconds.

By Stenisha Parker
Staff Writer

The friend-zone, a self-entitled concept, may have caused multiple incidents of people but heartbreak, but its existence is questionable.

CSUSB students expressed their thoughts and beliefs whether they believe the notorious “friend-zone” is true, or just another urban legend.

Fellow Coyote, Chris Toppler* (pseudonym) shared his stance regarding the friend-zone.

“It’s not real. Either she likes you or she don’t—and vice versa—it becomes problematic when the person that likes the other gets persistent and makes the person uncomfortable[...],” said Toppler.

“I believe the friend-zone is real because it’s the level of the platonic nature you have in a relationship with someone,” said student Kyleigh Kirkland.

The friend-zone, described by Connections.Mic, was defined as mostly used by men to describe a failure to romantically attract someone with whom they happen to be friends with.

Or in other words, attempting to shame someone, usually women, for expressing disinterest in a romantic relationship.

Both Toppler and Kirkland are on the opposite spectrum when it comes to assessing whether or not the friend-zone is real or imagined, and furthermore if the idea is problematic or not.

Toppler explained, “It becomes a problem when the person that likes the other gets persistent and makes them uncomfortable.”

Toppler believes that continuing to pursue someone that likes the other gets persistent and makes the other person uncomfortable.

Instead of bombarding someone with affection and trying to convince your crush to be into you it is best to use that energy with finding a suitable partner.

Trendage provides the comfort of not having to leave your home.

There are many choices of clothes you can choose to mix and match with for any occasion, such as: dresses, tops, bottoms, to sunglasses and scarves.

When you visit their website, www.trendage.com, it welcomes you create your own personal look.

You will see six types of themes: country, EDM, and rock concert’s, workout, family reunion, and anticipating spring.

You will then see a section where it reads ‘body,’ when you click on it you have two choices: default body or to customize a body.

The options provided to customize are: height, weight, inseam, waist, arms, hips, shoulders, neck, calves, face size, face position and skin tone.

“I think its really cool because if you are petite like me, you don’t really know if its going to fit, I would personally go into that,” said student Kimberly Gonzalez-Quinter.

There are also four types of faces you can choose from based on your personal preferences.

It even allows you to pick your background, to fully enhance the experience in creating a perfect look.

There are a variety of top brands to choose from such as: ROMWE, Rent the Runway, Farfetch, Bloomingdales, TopShop, Nordstrom, Ted Baker and MODA OPELAND.

Depending on the brand of clothes you want, prices can vary. The pricing for formal clothing ranges from $300 and up.

Casual clothing, which is less expensive ranged from $15-$30. One of the brands was Maurice, which was listed as “out of stock.”

Trendage even acts somewhat like a game. When you share your look on Trendage’s Facebook page, they reward you with points.

They even allow others to see and like the style you have created. The more likes you receive the more points you acquire.

Trendage even has a leader board showing who is top ranked of “today” and “all time” based on their point system.

“A problem that may occur is finding the customer for online shopping and reducing sales for stores, as well as not experiencing the customer service because you are just buying what you are looking for,” said student Johanna Aguilar.

Although online shopping may be more accessible, it simultaneously takes away the face-to-face communication, taking human interaction out of the equation.

“A problem that may occur is finding the same jackets from two different brands except one is a generic brand, and the other is a name brand,” said student Sandra Perez.

This new way of online shopping, it seems to intrigue some students to try it for themselves.

Virtually fashionable

By Samantha Flores
Staff Writer

Shopping has taken a new twist by creating a virtual method of trying on clothes.

The company Trendage, has taken this another step further, by personalizing the experience, which allows you to customize your own body.
Arts & Entertainment

Upcoming Inland Empire Events

By Yesica Gonzalez  Staff Writer

The Inland Empire is filled with enjoyable upcoming events that can be a catch for anyone that’s looking to explore.

Certain events can vary on age and on distance to people.

Carlos Satizábal, Colombia’s renowned and national award winning poet and playwright, will be hosting a Theater Workshop with CSUSB’s Acto Latino. Satizábal is co-founder of Tramaluna Theater Company. He is also an associate professor for the MFA program in Universidad Nacional de Colombia.

The event will take place in the Santos Manuel Student Union Theater at 5:00 p.m.

The event is open to the public.

California Irish festival
March 11 thru March 12

St. Patrick’s Day is just around the corner and in Downtown Upland, the California Irish Festival is going to take part and celebrate it.

The festival is a family fun event that is happening on March 11 from 11 AM to 11 p.m. and on March 12 from 11 AM to 9 p.m.

It’s a free event that includes various foods, live performances and activities that relate towards Saint Patrick’s Day.

Trailer and Skid Plate Racing Night
March 11

Trailer and Skid Plate Racing Night of Destruction is a thrill event filled with loud cars being flung around, types of trailer racing and demolition happening all over the place.

The doors open at 4 p.m. but the demolition entertainment doesn’t start until 7 p.m.

The event is only five dollars for children and ten dollars for adults.

The racing will take place on Saturday, March 11 in Irwindale Speedway, Irwindale, California.

Winery art paint night
March 20th

Painting and art are going to take place at Victorville, California on Monday March 20th.

Located at BJ’s Restaurant and Brewhouse, the Winery Art Paint Night will start at 7 p.m. and only cost fifteen dollars.

Sancocho Festival
June 10th

Sancocho Festival is taking place in Fairplex, Pomona this early summer.

Anyone can attend the event and will only cost ten dollars and take place on Saturday, June 10 at noon.

The festival will consist of various foods, dances and music from all over Central and South America.

Inland Empire is always filled with adventurous events that can anyone is looking for.

The Original Renaissance Pleasure Faire event will take many back to the medieval times that is filled with jousting knights and regal ladies for the whole family.

This medieval event will be hosted on Saturday, April 15 at 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. that will be enough hours of entertainment for children and adults.

There will be performers dressed in costumes while having skits based on the Elizabethan times.

The event will cost around fifteen dollars to attend and take place in Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area in Irwindale, California.

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Shakespeare lives!

A Midsummer Night’s Dream, a comedic Shakespearean play, brought humor, drama and a bit of magic to the stage of Blackhawk Theatre at Citrus Valley High School, from Feb. 16 thru 25.

By Robert Klimper
Staff Writer

The play was performed by the Honor Troupe at Citrus Valley High School. The Honor Troupe’s name is a testament to the brilliance of the actors’ experiences with performing difficult plays.

A major component of A Midsummer Night’s Dream is fairies in a forest casting magic and playing tricks on humans wandering into a forest. The concept of a William Shakespeare play can seem like a tough task to tackle, and for some, it can be hard to interpret dialogue due to the unique language the plays are known for.

To compensate for this, the playbook offered a bit of a step by step guide to enjoy Shakespeare, saying that not being able to understand the beginning of the play is fine as it is simply setting the tone for the play.

“[Shakespeare is] important for [the theatre students] to learn and also something that I like to have the opportunity to introduce parents and students to Shakespeare,” said Elena Villa, director of A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

Villa has been head of the theater department at Citrus Valley High School for five years. Villa stated that she wants to make the experience of Shakespeare an enjoyable experience and not something that people come into dreading.

The theater program tries and aims to hold a Shakespeare production every three years, with A Midsummer Night’s Dream featured as the second time and Merchant of Venice as the first.

“This show is working with a whole other beast, Shakespeare, so I kind of wanted to accept that challenge and work with that because as an actor, Shakespeare is a really big part of what you will end up doing for most of your career,” said Andrew Olson, an 18-year-old senior who played the role of Lysander.

To have this represented properly in the play the actors use tricks with small handheld lights and collapsible flowers to make it seem like the fairies are throwing magic and items at super fast speed.

“I played the lead in Merchant of Venice my freshman year. [so] I’m not new to Shakespeare, I’ve done it for awhile [...]. I love Shakespeare, it’s great stuff,” said Raphael Berglas who played the role of King Oberon.

The play itself stayed true to Shakespeare’s original work, with the same plot beats and sophisticated language, yet featured modern references sprinkled throughout for the sake of comedic timing.

To ensure that people would be less confused as to what the plot of the play, a plot synopsis was made available in the playbook in the hopes to increase people’s enjoyment of the play.

Students dazzled the audience with their mesmerizing performance of the Shakespearean classic.

Teachers See the Possibilities

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Don’t mind the time, just finish

By Judith Urbina
Contributing Writer

The summer before entering as a freshman at Cal State San Bernardino (CSUSB) I envisioned myself graduating in four years, but as the years went by that seemed nearly impossible.

As a first-generation student, no one ever told me that I would face impacted general education courses, or that I would end up changing my major.

Fast forward to my fifth year as an undergrad, questions about my future and doubts are settling in.

Did I waste my time here? Why does it seem like everyone else has his or her life together?

Family members would always ask me about graduating, or wonder if I was simply wasting my time.

The majority of the students at CSUSB have other obligations such as working one job or more to pay off bills, insurance, and other personal expenses. We have hard working mothers that attend classes and return home to take care of their children, only having time during the night to study.

Certain messages from society tell us that if one does not graduate within the four-year margin, then one is just wasting your time and money.

Each student at CSUSB has a story to tell. Some students come from hard working parents and for most, education is the only way to have individual freedom, and see the world differently.

I interviewed a couple of student-colleagues to discuss graduation.

Lupe Sierra, a fourth year student here at CSUSB said, “[...] As a freshman here at Cal State San Bernardino, it became a huge challenge enrolling to the general education courses because they were always impacted.”

Mercy Preciado, an alumna from the class of 2013, mentioned that she was forced to change her major to public health. She was unable to pursue her degree as a nurse. Unfortunately, impacted courses are nothing new to our Cal State system. It is increasingly becoming an issue to graduate on time.

“Several times I went to my guidance counselor, and usually nothing was done,” Preciado mentioned.

Change occurs gradually, and hopefully in the future, this will no longer be an issue.

Andra Silva, a transfer student from Chaffey College, explained that she spent almost five years transferring to the Cal State system because she found it difficult to declare a major.

Silva said, “I do not regret taking so long to graduate because it made me a stronger person. Even though it would have been nice to know from the very start.”

Many of us can relate to Silva’s story.

As freshmen, some of us may think we know what we want, but as each quarter ends, we ask ourselves: do I see myself in this career in my future? Do I actually like this major?

I think questions like those are normal to ask ourselves because let’s face it, whatever major we decide to pursue will define our future endeavors.

We may return to a collegiate institution if we end up disliking our career choices, but why not decide now, since we have the opportunities.

Alumna Yesenia Gaspa, class of 2005, mentioned that changing her major set her back one year.

A professor once told me that it does not matter how long it takes, as long as you finish.

The process to graduate in a timely manner may be difficult but as long as we fight our battles and finish, we will succeed.

Don’t mind the time, just finish

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Contributing Writer

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Don’t mind the time, just finish

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Men’s basketball recap

Senior Night for the Yotes’ featured the honoring of three key senior players: point guard Everett Turner, forwards Ramon Eaton and Shawn Joseph. As well as a close two-point loss to Cal State Dominguez Hills, 75-73.

Turner, Eaton and forward Dorian Butler were the highlights of the game with double-digit scoring performances. This game also highlighted a consistent problem throughout the team’s season: lack of chemistry with little veteran support.

“It was just a group of guys that didn’t know how to play with each other and weren’t used to this tradition and program,” said center Latrelle Standifer.

A six-game losing streak capped the men’s season—they ended with an overall losing record of 11-14. Most games were played away this season which was a huge contributing factor to the conference. The team had to practice in the Den, the smaller gym below the arena, due to the volleyball team using the Coussoulis Arena, ultimately altering the men’s training and playing as well.

The roster featured a lot of new players who transferred from different programs, which involved learning and playing new concepts routines and plays.

“Many guys on the team didn’t know what we were actually playing for [...] we have to do the little things like showing up on time for practice and understanding new plays,” added Standifer.

Most of the scoring was completed by experienced players program, including Turner, who accumulated superb stats this season and scoring average after for- ward Khleem Perkins, who averaged 12.2 points a game, while also having scored 304 points for the season.

“Losing Turner and the other seniors will be different for us, but we still have experienced players and young guys looking to prove a point next season,” said Standifer.

Overall, the team averaged about 69 points a game for the season but could have easily had more if not for the turnovers that plagued them throughout the year.

The two-time CCCAA honorable mention recipient was named team captain this year. Turner finished the season in the top ten of 3-pointers made. He was also 9th in field goal attempts and was only one assist away from being top ten in that category as well.

Turner was second in points scored to point guard Kris Jenkins (ranked no. 2). Ten of 3-pointers made. He was also 9th in 30.4 points a game.

Junior Yote Eli Brown (#4) will look forward to becoming a future leading senior. From L to R: Yotes Everett Turner, Ramon Eaton and Shawn Joseph were all honored at the Senior Night.

By Yera Nanan
Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Final selection of teams to participate in the tournament will be announced on March 12, and starts on March 14 where 64 teams face off to see who is the best.

The 64 teams are assorted into four bracket yet, there has been plenty of speculation as to who will make the cut. The 64 teams are assorted into four different regions. There is the Midwest region which will play their games in Kansas City, Mo. and the West region set to play in San Jose, Calif.

The other two regions are the East playing in New York City, N.Y., and for the South region, games will be held in Memphis, Tenn.

Last year’s March Madness was a thriller full of upsets and buzzer-beaters. One of the biggest stories to come out of last year’s tournament was no. 10 ranked Syracuse.

“Last March Madness was one of the most exciting tournaments I have seen, and I hope this year is even better,” said college hoops fan, Josh Summers.

Syracuse started last year’s tournament by upsetting the no. 2 ranked Michigan State, who was projected to go very far in the tournament. Syracuse eventually made it all the way to the Final Four after beating the no. 1 ranked Virginia, but lost to no. 1 ranked North Carolina. The championship game featured North Carolina Tar Heels versus the Villanova Wildcats (ranked no. 2).

Villanova’s forward Kris Jenkins hit a game-winning buzzer-beater for to lock the team’s win with a final score of 77-74.

The Wildcats are projected to be a no. 1 seed in the East by the start of the tournament. This is an improvement from last year, as they were ranked second in the South.

Terrance Williams is a fan of the University of Texas Longhorns, and since they will most likely not be making the tournament, he has a new favorite to win. “I hope UCLA can go far this year. I have always been a fan but now that the Longhorns are out I am going with the hometown team,” said Williams.

UCLA is projected to be a no. 2 seed in this year’s tournament, making them an early favorite to take the championship.

The four no. 1 seeds in this year’s tournament are: Gonzaga, Kansas, Villanova and North Carolina.

For most of these teams, high ranks in the tournament is expected. For Kansas, they have not been ranked outside the top two since 2009.

For Villanova, if they stayed ranked where they are at currently, it will be their fourth straight year being in the top two in their region.

Many will watch hoping this year’s tournament is as exciting as last years tournament.

By Tyler Vanderelst
Staff Writer

The 64 college basketball teams will begin their month of madness in the 79th annual March Madness tournament on March 14.

Final selection of teams to participate in the tournament will be announced on March 12. While there is no official
Leslie officially named head coach

By Kieron Coleman
Staff Writer

Darren Leslie has officially been named head coach for men’s soccer, after a successful year as interim head coach.

Leslie intends to assist in the development of the men not only as players but as individuals, too. He works closely with the team to ensure that they maintain their academic careers as well.

“We are always looking to get the best grades possible in our classes, and Darren makes sure that we all hand our grade checks in to make sure that we are eligible for when the season comes around,” mentioned center back Nic Tarkington.

The team has excelled since their previous year on the field. They entered the league and were expected to finish second to last, but ended in fifth place.

In the process of the transition, the squad was also able to keep up their studies. They obtained the highest GPA in the school for athletics, with a 3.4 average, according to CSUSB News.

Many players have displayed their admiration for Leslie.

“We all wrote a personal email to the Athletic Department vouching for Darren. As he has helped our squad in numerous ways, this was the least we could have done,” said midfielder Trevan Estrellado.

By Breeze Rivers
Staff Writer

As Major League Soccer (MLS) kicks off their season, professional players are eager to compete, and soccer fanatics are ready to predict how teams will perform.

MLS is a men’s professional soccer league that represents the sport’s highest level in the United States and Canada.

For the past two years, the league consisted of 20 teams, but this year the league has expanded by adding two new teams, Atlanta United Futbol Club (FC) and Minnesota United FC.

The league now has 19 teams in the United States and three teams in Canada.

With 22 teams competing this year, each team will play 34 regular season games.

The postseason will take place in November where 12 teams, six from each conference, will compete for the MLS Cup.

Last year the New York Red Bulls placed first in the Eastern conference.

In the Western conference, FC Dallas, Colorado Rapids and LA Galaxy finished as the top three teams in regular season play.

FC Dallas won the Supporters’ Shield in 2016, which is awarded to the team with the best record during the regular season.

Seattle Sounders FC, who placed fourth in the Western conference, won the MLS Cup last year in playoffs.

Los Angeles Galaxy still holds the record for the most MLS Cups with five titles.

The Galaxy is also tied with D.C. United for the most Supporters’ Shield with four under their belt.

As a new season opens up, fans predict how teams are projected to do this year.

Gustavo Campos, a professional indoor soccer player for Ontario Fury, predicts that “[LA] Galaxy will win this year’s Cup.”

“Even though they are losing key players like Robbie Keane and [Landon] Donovan, their backbone is still solid and they are getting younger, talented recruits,” Campos said.

According to ESPN FC’s 2017 predictions, Seattle is the strongest team going into the new season because they are the defending MLS Cup champions.

ESPN FC also predicts that Atlanta United, although new to MLS, will have an impact in the Eastern conference.

Atlanta has invested a lot of money to receive the status they have, and they also have a highly experienced coach, both benefits for the team throughout the season.

In the Western conference, ESPN FC predicts that Dallas will be the strongest team, considering their solid roster and returning players.

An offensive player to keep an eye on this year is Jordan Morris, a forward for Sounders FC.

Morris contributed to a lot of his team’s success last year, and as he steps into his sophomore season, he will use his speed and finishing skills to pose a threat to other teams.

Defensively, Matt Hedges from FC Dallas is a player to watch. Hedges was named 2016’s Defender of the Year.

The professional athlete has been training hard in their offseason and MLS followers are eager to watch them perform.

The next upcoming matches are on March 11 when receive media coverage on ESPN and FOX Sports.
Rec Center encourages body positivity

By Kieron Coleman
Staff Writer

Young and agile bodies allow athletes to play as many sports as they can, even if they are injured.

At a young age, some athletes may also engage in detrimental habits due to lack of information about the body. For example, some may play sports without stretching and warming up the muscles to prevent injuries.

As players mature, they receive useful information about healthily maintaining their body.

Often in sports we see late bloomers who seem to catch up with the rest of their year group and show huge potential. These tend to be the ones who pick up little pains and other injuries due to not having the information provided by the professionals.

Injury agitation problems in sports are related to competitiveness and the rush of adrenaline. Other players may ignore their bodies, playing through pains and injuries, which can cause serious issues later on.

Injuries may be different depending on the sport. In soccer, injuries tend to occur to shins, ankles and knees, whereas in baseball it is more likely to affect the shoulders.

David Busset, a soccer player for Coventry City, received extensive compound fractures to both the tibia and fibula of his right leg, ending his playing career.

Kerry Wood of the Chicago Cubs was forced to retire after undergoing Tommy John Surgery and suffering through other arm injuries.

In football, concussions are common due to the strenuous physicality of the sport.

By Sierra Marrero
Asst. Community Editor

The CSUSB Recreation & Wellness Center (Rec Center) hosted its annual Celebrate EveryBody Week starting on Feb. 27 and ending on March 2.

The event has been held every year since 2010 to promote body positivity.

The Personal Training staff explained that the purpose of the event is to remind people that we come in all shapes and sizes, and to encourage body appreciation.

“We all come into the gym for different reasons, whether it is to lose weight, gain muscle, or relieve stress,” said personal trainer Jennifer Item.

“The event is to serve as a reminder to appreciate your body in whatever stage it is […] and for students to love themselves,” added Item.

Throughout the week information and different activities were available for anyone interested. Item explained. She also discussed how they publish body positive affirmations for students to see.

“During the event we write positive quotes on the mirrors on the gym floor to promote positive thoughts and deter the patrons from being critical about their self image,” said Item.

“Life is about perspective and it starts with you […] Love yourself,” read one quote.

A poster featured on the mirror of the women’s restroom read: “Warning: Reflections in this mirror may be distorted by socially constructed ideas of beauty.”

Personal trainer Brady Collins explained that the event featured a lot of student involvement. The event is not limited to just students, but welcomes all faculty and staff.

“They [the event] could help students with self esteem and help build them up in an area where no one should be intimidated in the first place,” said Allen. “We are all students and go to the gym to improve our health in some way, which is determined by us.”

Allen believes that the overall message of Celebrate EveryBody reminds him and others that they are not alone on their fitness journey through encouragement.

“No matter how much you think you may be [alone] […] don’t allow others to scare you off when you are trying to improve,” encouraged Allen.

Strenuous body injuries in sports

By Kieron Coleman
Staff Writer

Former San Francisco 49er quarterback, Steve Young, was forced to retire after suffering from seven concussions.

Concussions are something that people don’t take as seriously as they should in sports. The only way that this can be treated is by rest. As an athlete, spending time away from the field is a task that many try to avoid.

One of the biggest problems that occurs in sports is rushing back into participation.

Players try to return before getting clearance from the physiotherapist or coach, thinking they are okay when they might not be.

Arian Foster of the Miami Dolphins was forced to retire from football at the age of 30 after playing through multiple injuries.

“There comes a time in every athlete’s career when their ambition and their body are no longer on the same page,” said Foster in a statement announcing his retirement.

In sports, we see that many young careers that cannot continue go one of two ways.

They either accept that they are unable to continue and look in the fields such as coaching or analyzing.

Former Los Angeles Dodgers minor league catcher, Pratt Maynard was forced to retire due to injuries. However, he is now a coach for the North Carolina State Wolfpack baseball team.

While other athletes look to ignore what people say and go play in a less competitive game and aggravate the injury further.

It’s always important to be wary of the possibility of injury, and preparing the body for exercise and maintenance are imperative.

Eric LeGrand, former defensive tackle of Rutgers, became paralyzed from a severe spinal injury during a game at MetLife Stadium in 2010. LeGrand is an advocate for those affected by spinal injuries.

Injury agitation problems in sports are related to competitiveness and the rush of adrenaline. Other players may ignore their bodies, playing through pains and injuries, which can cause serious issues later on.

Injuries may be different depending on the sport. In soccer, injuries tend to occur to shins, ankles and knees, whereas in baseball it is more likely to affect the shoulders.

David Busset, a soccer player for Coventry City, received extensive compound fractures to both the tibia and fibula of his right leg, ending his playing career.

Kerry Wood of the Chicago Cubs was forced to retire after undergoing Tommy John Surgery and suffering through other arm injuries.

In football, concussions are common due to the strenuous physicality of the sport.

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