March 12th 2012

CSUSB

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The blue tree located at CSUSB has earned more heads than any other tree on campus. CSUSB has teamed up with Greem-meme and Omni Trans for the Blue Tree Project which provides eco-friendly transportation for the growing commuter population and new bus station designs.

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

"The blue design came as close to the color of the sky, on a clear day you can hardly see the image of the trees, but on a foggy or rainy day the tree images become visible, like they never left," said David Rutherford.

Freya Bardell and Brain Wescott, also known as Greem-meme are the forces behind the campus’ station’s design, citing the environment and student engagement as significant concepts.

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

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

"We noticed how the trees provided shade for the people, we felt what it is to engage with them," said Bardell.

Students are delighted with the Blue Tree Project and asserting that it does imitate life.

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

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

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

"Every library has had a hand in the educational development for students on campus.

"The BRT is to help the anticipated increased demand for students at CSUSB with hands-on learning experiences is a critical component of their educational and professional growth," said Sant Khalsa, art department chair, as stated in a CSUSB press release.

Omni Trans’ new project, the sbX Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) incorporates 16 new art inspired stations for the 157 mile bus route throughout San Bernardino County. The sbX BRT is considered the first of its kind and will help to reduce pollution by utilizing compressed gases and accommodating the predicted growing commuter population.

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CSUSB’s donors prove vital to campus

The gift of giving benefits not only those who receive, but those who give as well.

Gift planning or donating money to CSUSB brings joy to those who gladly give to the university.

Many donors have donated large sums to CSUSB to help aid the school in many ways.

One couple, Mark and Lori Edwards, have set up a trust fund to help aid foster youth to continue into higher education.

The $656,000 gift will help undergraduate students from foster care receive additional financial aid and participate in targeted workshops, cultural activities and other opportunities as well.

"This gift will be a tremendous boost to our effort to identify, recruit and support these young adults who typically do not have strong social support systems," said Chris Arrika, director of the CSUSB Office of Student Life.

The search for Mr. and Miss CSUSB

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

The pageant will be held on March 13 at 6 p.m. in the Santos Manuel Student Union Event Center. The Mr. and Miss CSUSB pageant offers students the opportunity to demonstrate a talent of their choice and express their Coyote spirit on stage in front of a full audience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

"The pageant is just meant to be a fun night, filled with entertainment and a night Continued on Pg. 3.
CSUSB grad bikes for disability cause

By JACQUELINE SCHOLTEN
Staff Writer

Chris Russell leaves April 20 and will travel via the historical Route 66 where he plans to return to universities and meet with various media giving the message that “Minds Do Matter,” which is the name of his speech.

Russell was a passenger on a plane that took a nose dive into a hillside. He was left in pieces and had to undergo over 30 surgeries.

“When I started looking for work, I did all the right things. I started getting responses, interviews, even being told ‘welcome aboard.’ Yet nothing happened. It was like I fell off the face of the earth,” Russell wrote on his web page.

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

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

“We are intelligent. Even though we are disabled we are still capable of doing jobs. But as soon as they hear ‘disabled,’ we are disabled we are still capable of doing jobs close up. That is historic, not because we are disabled we are still capable of doing jobs. But as soon as they hear ‘disabled,’ we are still capable of doing jobs,” said Russell.

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Russell wrote on his web page.

“Before the accident Russell worked as a peace officer. But after the plane crash, he was left without a job and could no longer work out, dance or play guitar.

He was given the opportunity by the rehabilitation department to attend a school of his choosing on a full ride. He said that he chose CSUSB because of the accommoda-

tions they offer disabled students.

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

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

He believes he is blessed because he was told that he was not supposed to be able to ride a motorcycle, let alone across the country. With the help of B&B Motor-

cycles, Russell will be riding a classic 1997 Honda Valkyrie on his long journey.

He hopes to take his Minds Do Matter campaign to a national level and pave the way for others with disabilities.

He launched a website, mindsdomatter. org, to document his journey and will be putting updates on Facebook and Twitter. He is still hoping to raise money for his trip. Donations for his trip can be given on his website.

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

Continued from Pg. 1

Dr. Milton Clark, dean of undergraduate studies, said the Edwards started this trust fund because their son was in foster care before they adopted him. They stated that most foster youth do not continue on in their education because of the lack of a support network.

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

The Edwards started this trust fund for education. Barker approached CSUSB about donating to the Palm Desert campus through a charitable gift annuity.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Conference teaches protection

Continued from Pg. 1

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

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

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

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

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

Art department paints a statement

Continued from Pg. 1

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

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

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

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

By LIZBETH LOPEZ
Staff Writer

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

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

The Federal Trade Commission was asked by the Electronic Privacy Information Center to suspend the use of facial recognition software in the Google goggles until the government could come up with more adequate safeguards and privacy standards to protect citizens, according to the article. It is against California law to talk or text on the cell phone while driving because of the dire consequences that have resulted in such practices.

Let’s add the prohibition of wearing the goggles while driving to that law as well, since it is a tragic mess waiting to happen. Policies are not being drafted fast enough to keep up with the rise of technology innovation and the conflicting privacy issues that come along with them.

It is possible that the politicians and lawmakers need some of our assistance in order for them to better understand how these technologies are problematic. We can actually educate them for a change.

Michael Phillips evaluates the impact of advertising on society and its ethical dilemma in his essay “The Inconclusive Case Against Manipulative Advertising.”

Phillips states that the enormous advertising budget of industries provide hundreds of people with job security within the advertising, marketing and communication sectors.

Advertising agencies are a good driving force that instills the value of consumption and in consequence result in a good economy, according to Phillips. He also notes that advertising is only there to increase consumers’ dependence on agencies by supersizing one’s ability to make intelligent, self-directed product choices on the basis of one’s own values and interests.

Agencies can argue that we rationally want to be manipulated because we half-consciously sacrifice our autonomy by embracing consumerism as a whole.

We are a public that loves to consume and there are agencies out there that are enriching their pockets by associating Vera Wang with the perfect wedding day.

Even though Google’s engineer experts say that the glasses are not designed for a change.

I am against the U.S. going to war with Iran and you should be too. Just when we thought the troops were coming home and we could finally catch our breath, it appears that the U.S. may be going to war.

When we become the world’s policeman, who are we as human beings to actually defend someone else’s country.

I believe that in regards to Iran and the United States, it is necessary to go to war. Whatever happens, the country needs to hang back and be extremely cautious in making the decision of whether or not to take military action.

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Grab your toga and go greek

By ALEJANDRA ARANA
Staff Writer

If you have ever seen a person wearing Greek letters on our campus and have asked yourself if one day you could be wearing the same. The answer is yes you can.

CSUSB has so many active Greek organizations on this campus that there is bound to be one meant for you. Some benefits of becoming Greek are the development of friendships with fellow students that will last forever, you will be more active on campus and your networking skills will go through the roof.

There are some misconceptions about joining a Greek organization like the hazing, or humiliating acts that members make you do to prove you are “worthy” of wearing letters. Even if you are interested in an organization that happens to have them, then you can get out immediately and move on from them.

Personally look at the organizations that interest you, ask questions when they table on campus or stop someone wearing letters and ask their opinion of the organization and show you want more information about them.

It took me two years to find the right fit but I do not regret the organization I chose and love the people I have met.

There are newly established organizations like Alpha Kappa Psi that was re-introduced in 2010 and Sigma Pi Alpha that was established in 2003; these are great options to consider.

Alpha Kappa Psi is “the oldest and largest professional business fraternity in the United States. With over 200 college chapters that can provide you with an immense network of professionals that you can tap into,” according to its website.

Students should consider Alpha Kappa Psi because “it is a good way to network with colleagues and professors, we also help students with their resumes, internships and networking skills,” said Richard Santana, president of Alpha Kappa Psi.

Santana is very motivated to create a great experience for those that consider a professional co-ed business fraternity. Co-ed means both males and females are allowed to be a part of the fraternity along with any major on our campus. Students do not need to be a business major to become a member or “brother.”

The lovely ladies of Sigma Pi Alpha create a very strong support system with all of their sisters and by joining you will have a great experience from the get-go.

“We are committed to grades, self-discovery of a Latina woman, sisterhood and we understand your financial issues and don’t have high dues. We choose quality over quantity to provide a great sisterhood but are open to all backgrounds,” said Nadine Garcia.

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

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

Opinions

Save money on books the old fashioned way

By DOMINIQUE STERLING
Staff Writer

There are many ways that we can make and save money when buying textbooks, but the most practical and economical choice is still to buy older editions of your books online.

The end of the quarter approaching presents the opportunity for students to acquire some extra money. Book buyback programs allow students to get rid of their used textbooks for cash or gift card values.

Nowadays there are a few options for students in textbooks, digital textbooks and rentals. All have their benefits, but in my opinion the earlier editions of the same textbook are a better choice. Older editions allow you to learn essentially the same information at a cheaper price.

Last quarter I was able to snag an older edition communication textbook for around five dollars opposed to the newest edition that cost $62. The book rental program at the CSUSB bookstore has been a positive addition for students.

“The textbook rental program is great! Students are allowed to write and highlight in the books. It can save students up to 50 percent off of the book,” said bookstore associate Monica Vanhibber.

I have to agree. Last quarter was my first time using the book rental program. It was surprisingly much cheaper and I was able to write in the book as if it was my own. But that’s just the thing, it wasn’t.

The CSUSB bookstore allows students to sell back their textbooks no matter where they were initially purchased. The buyback price depends on the next quarter’s demand as well as the wholesale value of the book. The more in demand the textbook is the more money you stand to make. “The maximum percentage that your book can sell back for is up to 50 percent,” said bookstore associate Monica Vanhibber.

If you bought a textbook for $100 you could potentially end up with $50 back in your wallet.

Now again, this all depends on the demand for the book.

If your book is no longer in demand because a professor chooses not to use it, a new edition has been published or there are already enough in stock, then your chance for a profitable sell back drops dramatically.

University Book Exchange’s (UBE) policy is much like the CSUSB bookstore’s, their buyback prices depend on the demand for the books as well.

When I asked how their buyback prices were calculated, they responded that their system is updated with wholesale prices and at the end of the quarter during buyback season, they buy books back at wholesale prices.

They continued to say that the best time to sell your textbooks is during finals week. That’s when you would have the chance to make the most profit. It is also at the time when there is a higher possibility the store’s inventory for your book will be filled up, you might be left holding onto your book.

The bookstores make more money off of the book buyback program by shoving a percentage off of both the person who sold it to them, and then the person who then buys it. The profits pile up higher if the student had originally purchased the book at that specific store.

Avoid this number crunching altogether by buying the older edition textbook, it not only gives you essentially the same information for a cheaper price but you also have the opportunity to keep the book as a reference because of the great deal you scored on it.

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Features

DJ master competition spins CSUSB

By MARINA RANGEL
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

UMS tries to bring out those artists that want to share their talents and at the same time bring culture to our campus. Music is not an easy industry to break into, but foundations can be made while in school and it’s a great place to start networking.

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

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

Campus “Crusaders” welcome students with open arms

By TOM STILLWAGON
Staff Writer

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

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

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

“They were involved with Campus Crusade when they were in college,” said Farison. “I wasn’t too stoked about it but then I found the group and got involved. The people that I met there ended up being the best and friends I’ve kept throughout my time at CSUSB.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Win people to Christ, and then build them up in their faith to the point that they go out talking about Christ to other people. It kind of follows a cycle,” said Farison.

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

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

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

The club is open to all students, regardless of religious affiliation. Anyone interested in checking it out is encouraged to attend the Wednesday meetings.

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

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

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

By EMERALD COLLINS
Staff Writer

Francis Scott Key was inspired to write the “Star Spangled Banner” at the sight of the American flag still standing, but if it were not for the woman who spent a considerable amount of time sowing that flag, Scott’s inspiration would have never manifested.

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

“The musical is a call to action through a tour of the past, a powerful vehicle for involvement of women in history and issues discussed in history class. The 45 minute production explains the involvement of women in history and issues discussed in history class. Cast members spent their time behind the stage, changing into their next character while the narrator remained on stage. The audience was so eager to come out at the sound of Lilly Ledbetter’s performance, playing Lilly Ledbetter. The performance was not only captivating but informative for both women and men. Characters strutted across the stage displaying their vocal talents and keeping the play interesting without any dull moments.

The WRC has strived to educate students by hosting women empowering events throughout the quarter. “We Did It For You” is being performed throughout Southern California, hosting workshops and giving performance rights to those who are eager to educate others on the topic. The WRC hosted the event in the Santos Manuel Student Union Theatre on March 6. If you would like to learn more about the production you can visit Wediditforyou.org.

The WRC brings national award-winning play to empower women for their hard work through history.

By EDWARD HEWITT
Staff Writer

“Come Here ... Go anywhere.” The motto of CSUSB is posted on the schools website, posters, class schedule books and it seems anything that is associated with promotions. Have you ever wondered if this statement has some truth to it? Once you graduate can you really parlay your degree into a career and eventually choose your own destination? For some alumni this motto has actually turned into reality. According to CSUSB Alumni Association there have been approximately 69,000 graduates some of which have turned their degrees into an actual successful career.

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

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

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

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

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

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

He is currently the director for Biosphere2 and the B2 Earthrise research program. Biosphere2 is a facility dedicated to the researching and understanding of global scientific issues.

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

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

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

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

In addition to providing inspiration for the students the success of the alumni help the school hold true to its motto’s claim “Come here ... Go anywhere,” reassuring the students that they are receiving an education that they can take pride in.
Features

Stress escape throughout spring break

By YEZI CHO
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

Medicine – this is important because if the environment suddenly changes, your body might not adapt to it right away. In case you get injured or become ill, bring a first-aid kit with your medication and bandages.

However according to cool-estspringbreak.com, when you bring them, keep prescription medicines packed in their original bottle or packaging so that the Customs Officer knows what the medicines are.

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

Check the weather, it could be a game changer.

For example when travelers plan to go to Mexico, the climate of the inland highlands is mostly mild but sharp changes in temperature occur between day and night.

For this daily temperature differences, bring a windbreaker which is comfortable, light and portable instead of heavy clothes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Diaries of a Jet Setter

A guy’s guide to getting lost in Maui

By R. ANTHONY DIAZ
A&U Features Editor

Ready for a breath of fresh air? Well thanks to the downturn of the economy, flights to Maui are becoming more affordable for the average Joe.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I add the fact of getting there at sunrise because you want to head back before sunset. Driving along 2,000 plus foot cliffs in pitch black, is a bit nerve wrack-
This time around, Ervin de-
cided on a cast of 21 actors in or-
der to create a more dynamic set-
ing, as well as to showcase how 
monumental and insane Sun’s job really was. “No Child” centers on Ms. 
Sun, a young and idealistic 
actress-turned-teacher who is tasked to whip her students into 
shape by putting on a play within 
the play, “Our Country’s Good.” At first, the students resist 
(and hilariously compare ‘the-
pian’ to ‘lesbian’), but eventually 
what they learn through Ms. Sun’s teachings in each of 
their own lives.

The infamous No Child Left 
Behind Act, which strangled the 
arts in public schools, serves as 
an ominous backdrop. One of the themes of “No Child” is its use of theater as an 
ext from the harsh realities of the 
Brons and a beacon of hope in an 
otherwise grim future. “No Child” covers all the 
bases of the typical downtrodden 
high school: apathetic and com-
bative students, passive teachers, 
metal detectors and oppressive 
security guards.

A particular incident between 
one of the students, Shondrika 
(Je-Lisa Rucker) and the school 
rent-a-cop (Jamie Jacob) was one of 
the funnier moments in the 
play. Rucker and Jacob played 
of each other seamlessly and the 
chemistry between the two was 
evident. Ms. Sun was played with a 
marvelous realness by Victoria 
Estrada. Estrada artfully showed 
how exasperated and seemingly 
outmatched her character was 
against the students of room 10F. 
Ashley Storey played Baron-
ess, the wise janitor who served 
as the chorus of the play. Baron-
ness’ omnipresence throughout the 
play and her folksy been-there-
done that demeanor was one of 
the play’s highlights. Kevin Ezeh played Jerome, 
the de facto ‘leader’ of the class 
who is a little more than he lets 
on. Ezeh played the perfect foil to 
Estrada’s Ms. Sun and the banter 
together was highly en-
tertaining.

Other notable actors include 
Yutaka Higa and James Hazel as 
Philip and Chris, the only two 
students who actually want to be 
in a play. Alexandra Juarez played 
the exasperated Ms. Tam and An-
gelica Mahabir played the intense 
and overbearing principal, Mrs. 
Kennedy.

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

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

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

Jazz ensemble classes up CSUSB

By RYAN HESTER
Staff Writer

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

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

“There is certainly a lot of talent in 
this program,” said Knop.

Before the concert began, the band 
members were introduced to the audience.

The performers, known as Au Privave, 
included sopranos Melanie Gonzales and 
Hazel Martinez, alto singer Denise Till-
man, tenors Eric Sarabia and Steve Moore-
ales and baritone Cody Weinmann. Band 
members included Luis Gonzales on bass, 
Antonio Miles and Cody Weinmann on 
piano, Roberto Ronquillo on the tenor 
saxophone and Steven Simmons on alto/ soprano saxophone.

The show was divided into two parts: 
The first was vocal jazz and the second was 
an instrumental jazz combo.

The first half was filled with great 
music. The first song was “It Don’t Mean 
A Thing (If It Ain’t Got That Swing)” by 
Duke Ellington and Irving Mills. “No 
thing” was a great opener that compelled the audi-
ence to get involved.

“Thinking About Your Body” by Bob-
by McFerrin, was even better and the ar-
angement by Kerry Marsh was a success.

Tillman, arguably the most talented 
singer of the bunch, transformed Aretta 
Franklin’s “Respect” into something 
uniquely her own.

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

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

The piece told a story about a playboy 
who is involved with many women but 
wants to settle down.

The performers were very skilled with 
their instruments and showed the audience 
how wonderful music really is.

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

Tickets are at the box office or online 
at music.csusb.edu.

By MATTHEW BRAMLETT
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The CSUSB Theatre Arts 
department brought a story of ar-
tistic inspiration in a Bronx high 
school to life March 9 in the Per-
forming Arts Theater.

The department performed 
“No Child,” the award-winning 
and semi-autobiographical play by 
Nilaja Sun that focuses on one 
young woman’s struggle to get 
her students interested in the arts.

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

This time around, Ervin de-
cided on a cast of 21 actors in or-
der to create a more dynamic set-
ing, as well as to showcase how 
monumental and insane Sun’s job really was.

“No Child” covers all the 
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chemistry between the two was 
evident.
Arts & Entertainment

Monday, March 12, 2012

The best band you've never heard

Brooklyn’s Tanlines impress with new album

By YETUNDE KEME
Staff Writer

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

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

The band formed in 2008 when they collaborated in the production of a song for Cohen’s band Professor Murder. Entertainment columnist Spinner.com interviewed the duo back in 2010 and asked them how they came up with the band name.

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

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

Spinner.com also asked what their musical influences were.

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

They also said they liked British pop music with a lot of “projects” as an example of how producer Scott Aitken produces the rhythms and beats.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“The best band you’ve never heard”

By JUSTIN MATHEW DENNIS
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

“I was writing my thesis at the time. I was finding there is this push and pull between music and school, and then the live show was kind of karaoke,” said Gonzalez. “I wasn’t committing to music fully back then. And now I am. So I feel much more at peace performing now.”

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

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

Her song “In the Dark” evokes a smooth and silky sound.

The lyrics talk about longing for love and surrendering herself to it as you can tell in her lyrics. “Holding hands in the dark / I’ll hold my hands up in the dark.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

While “Project X” isn’t a total failure, the film is far from being the next “Superbad.” It could have ended up being the biggest party that anyone has ever dreamed about, but it ends up being the biggest party that the audience doesn’t care about.
For viewers who have not read Dr. Seuss’ “The Lorax,” the trailer gives the impression that the film is about a young boy who goes on this great adventure to find a Truffula tree and encounters the Lorax. The storyline is completely different than how the trailers for “The Lorax” presented it. The book, “The Lorax” focuses more on the story of the Once-ler recounting his story to the boy and urging him to plant the last of the Truffle seed.

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

One of the strong points of the film is the quirky characters, mainly the Lorax, the gang of cute forest creatures and Ted himself who give the film its funny moments. The bright and unconventional colors in the film help contribute to the delightful-ness of the Dr. Seuss based film.

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

The film becomes preachy towards the end by trying to appeal to the inner environmentalist in all of us. “The Lorax” has a strong “Go Green” message from the second half of the film and soon feels like a lecture on the importance of conserving the planet.

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

Regardless of all the criticism, “The Lorax” may seem like an 90-minute ad for environmentalism, it is a cute film with plenty of funny moments and is worth watching at least once with the family.
Women athletes continue to get short end of stick

By SHYNEESE WALTER
Staff Writer

Professional sports have taken over the country, they are one of the top-watched events in the world, well, at least men’s sports anyway. We often turn a blind eye to the fact that women also play professionally; they are often overshadowed by their male counterparts.

Men’s sports are televised nationally on highly watched stations, such as ABC, TNT, NBC and Fox. Not only do men’s sports receive national attention, but male athletes get paid millions more compared to female athletes.

The average salary cap for an NBA team is around $60 million, according to iamagm.com, while womensbasketballonline.com states that the average salary cap for a WNBA team is around $878,000.

What this means is that NBA teams have more flexibility in keeping their star players happy, by paying them substantially more every year.

According to celebritynetworth.com, Kobe Bryant’s salary alone is $24.8 million per year. Candace Parker, who is the highest paid athlete in women’s basketball, was paid $44,000 her first year, which is the most ever for a WNBA rookie.

Parker, who is the face of the Los Angeles Sparks, and arguably the best player in the WNBA, does not even make more than what an NBA rookie makes, which is around $490,180, according to NBA.com.

Despite the fact that Parker and Bryant play for the same city, in the same arena, and in front of the same fans, Parker’s earnings seem like minimum wage when compared to Bryant’s.

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

For male athletes, you only have to go to college a year before you are eligible to enter the NBA draft.

Why is it that men make more than women if women put their bodies through the same things that men do?

Some say that men’s sports are more popular because male athletes are more marketable and more entertaining with a lot more fans compared to women’s basketball.

Men’s sports have a lot more sponsors that bring in money, while women’s sports hardly have any.

How many times have you gone through the sports channels and notice men’s sports on mostly every channel and only see women’s sports on one or two?

Women put in just as much time and effort as any man, but always seem to fall short because of their sex.

While women athletes are attending college to play sports and earn a degree, male athletes have the opportunity not only to earn a degree, but start a professional career in their respective sport with a high paying salary.

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

Kobe Bryant is arguably the best player in the NBA, and his $24.8 million salary definitely attests to his remarkable skills.
Outdoor CSUSB sports activities

By ZION GUILLORE
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

By ZION GUILLORE
Staff Writer

March 12, 1881
Andrew Watson makes his Scotland debut as the world’s first black international football player and captain.

March 13, 1948
10th NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship: Kentucky beats Baylor 58-42.

March 14, 1976
Jockey Bill Shoemaker wins his 7,000th race.

Each week the Coyote Chronicle will try to stump the students with sports trivia.

Which Cal State has won the most CCAA Conference Championships?

Answer to last week’s question:

17
Water polo continues upstream struggle

By ALEXANDRA CANNADY Staff Writer

The Coyotes were dealt a loss of 13-8 by the Monterey Bay Otters as the opposition utilized a defense unfamiliar to them.

“They had a different house defense including their goalie and an extra field player in the cage, making it hard to get around,” said senior Shelle Kocher.

Head coach Sarah Reneker also admitted that her team was unprepared for the defensive set that the Otters put forth against them.

“They’re defense was not common and rather difficult. I think we could have broken it down but we made it harder than it was as we tried too hard,” said Reneker.

The start of the match was rough as the Coyotes fell behind 10-3 at the half. The squad picked up their intensity; as they went on to outscore the Otters 5–3 in the second half of the match.

The start of the match was tough for both teams, as they went on to outscore the Otters 5–3 in the final two quarters. Their effort however still resulted in defeat.

Kwame Alexander had an amazing season for the Coyotes. He delivered three scoreless innings the first game of the doubleheader against the Bruins.

He went 0-0 with seven hits and did not give up a base on balls. He only allowed one earned run, four strikeouts and four walks in seven innings. The Coyotes defeated Stanislaus in the first game of their doubleheader thanks to Kelley’s performance on the mound.

Although the Coyotes received unexpected results, they show up to go through the motions and get by another day of play.”

Despite the loss, women’s water polo received unexpected support from CSUSB’s fraternity Delta Sigma Chi.

“We aren’t exactly a popular sport so it was awesome to have a support system at our game,” said Reneker.

A member of the co-ed fraternity, Allison Carrasco, emphasized the importance of campus involvement from Greeks and how their goal is to support their fellow classmates on all levels.

“We very much appreciate support from Delta Sigma Chi, that almost never happens and we hope they continue to support us at our matches,” said Mccliman.

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

Alexander and Laudermill recognized by CCAA

By RICHARD DAWSON Staff Writer

Junior forward Kwame Alexander and senior forward Theron Laudermill were recognized on Feb. 29 by the CCAA for their on-court impacts this season.

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

On March 7, Alexander was also named to Daktronics All-West Region second team.

All the attention could be overwhelming for some, but Alexander takes it in stride.

“It has been a really good, positive experience,” said Alexander. “When you have different groups of people asking to do interviews, asking your opinion on things, its nice being in a position to share positivity and try to make a good impact.”

Despite the major increase in his performance this season, Alexander feels that there are still some areas in his game which need to be improved.

“Over this offseason, I will spend time working on improving my jumper, defense, improving my handles,” said Al- exander. “I am a natural lefty, and a lot of teams’ game-plan and try to shade me to go right not realizing that I am just as comfortable going that way.”

Laudermill is proud of his accomplish- ment, but expressed his desire to still be out on the hardwood with his teammates.

“It’s cool, but I would trade an indi- vidual accolade for an opportunity for our team to still be playing,” said Laudermill.

Even though his career at CSUSB might be over, Laudermill still has plans of playing ball.

“Right now I am still waiting to see what opportunities present themselves,” said Laudermill. “Whether its overseas, tryouts with the NBA-D-League, wherever it may be, I know faith and hard work will lead to results.”

Despite playing ball most of his life, Laudermill believes he hasn’t reached his full potential.

“The interesting thing about me is that I have never really been in peak physical shape for my size,” said Laudermill. “I am going to spend the next couple months re- ally pushing to get in the best shape I can.”

Having been a starter the past two years, one moment that stood out to the senior was the game against UCLA earlier this season.

“That game opened up my eyes to the game at the next level,” said Laudermill. “Guarding guys like Josh Smith was a great challenge for me. I was proud of my team that game, because we played really well and hung in there until the end even though Kwame and Tre’ had foul trouble that night.”

Alexander will look back on this year and strive to continue to perform at a high level while polishing his skills in order to reach his full potential. As for Laudermill, this is just the beginning of what we hope will be a long, successful career.
Bats make noise as pitchers deliver

By SPENCER HIRSCH
Asst. Sports Editor

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

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

The Coyotes came up strong, sweeping the double header on March 3.

Eshleman showed that he is more than just a defensive presence, as he was able to belt out a towering three-run home run in the top of the fourth to bring the Coyotes’ bats to life.

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

Matt Wrin hit a monstrous solo home run to left field and Ethan Chapman followed it up with an RBI triple to knock in Mike Newell in the top of the 12th, as the Coyotes handed the Warriors a 7-5 loss.

Kerry Kelley picked up the win, as he delivered three scoreless innings out of the bullpen to bring his mark to 2-0. Kelley increased his scoreless streak to 15.2 innings.

“I think a big reason why I am having success so far this season is that the coaches have a lot more confidence in me,” Kelley said.

The RBI World Series was one of the best things that happened in my life. It was an experience that I will always remember,” said Kelley.

The Coyotes’ momentum carried over into the second game of the doubleheader, as the offense exploded for eight runs, while south paw Mike Mudron threw a complete game to earn his first win of the season.

They were on the verge of winning their first conference series. The Warriors did not comply, however, as they beat the ‘Yotes in a slugfest in the series finale on March 4 by a final score of 13–9.

The 2–2 series split gives the Coyotes an overall record of 8–9 and a conference record of 5–7, which puts them in 15th place in the CCAA.

Kerry Kelley has worked hard to perfect his delivery on the mound, making him one of the best pitchers the Coyotes have.

But the adjustments he made at the plate have helped him get out of his dry spell.

Eshleman hit a monster home run to bring the Coyotes within 10-9 in the bottom of the 9th inning.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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