**2014 graduates idled by economy**

By MARLYN RODRIGUEZ

College and high school graduates between the ages of 17 and 42 have become idled by the weak and recovering economy. Due to this, graduates are becoming less active or inactive in the economy because they are either unemployed and/or not attending school.

Although the recession ended about five years ago, the labor market is still slowly recovering.

The labor market has lost over 7 million jobs. The Economic Policy Institute (EPI) recently released a report analyzing the working conditions of high school and college graduates.

Researchers found that during a three-year period, the percentage of unemployed graduates has increased.

They also explained that the increased unemployment would have long-lasting effects.

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**Is quality better than quantity with food?**

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**Technology preferences on campus**

By ANDRES IBARA

Health may be at risk for millions of Americans due to drinking water contaminated by oil and gasoline.

“The government failed to inspect thousands of oil and gas wells that pose a potential threat of water contamination and environmental damage,” according to the Associated Press.

Many investigators claim that a lot of the blame falls on the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM’s) weak regulation, which allowed policies based on outdated sciences, according to the Associated Press.

“Of the factors includes increased use in hydraulic fracturing, while it may have been beneficial economically, it also increased the risk of chemicals spreading to our water supply,” as stated by the Government Accountability Office.

Continued on Pg. 4

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**Oil in my water, who knew?**

By ANDRES IBARA

Apple products are popular on campus, but each has different reasons for using them.

Does the phone have everything needed? Does the laptop have possibilities? Most important, how does it make life easier?

Geek or not, we all contribute to the technology wars.

The decision to purchase a new phone, Continued on Pg. 4

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**New elected ASI president talks about his plans!**

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**Crawford wins instructor award**

By STEPHANIE PARA

Psychology professor Dr. Cynthia Crawford was “ambushed” Monday morning by President Tomas Morales and her colleagues who awarded her with this year’s Outstanding Teacher Award.

This surprise accolade has been around since the 2013 winter quarter, according to Psychology Department Chair Dr. Robert Ricco, who nominated Crawford along with her students for this honor.

“When we [psychology department] found out she had won the award, everyone felt that no one else deserved it more than her,” said Ricco.

The Outstanding Teacher award is awarded annually to a professor who has been a tenure instructional faculty member at the university for at least six years.

The ideal candidate would have a record of particular distinction as a teacher, and not have won the Outstanding Professor Award previously,” as stated on the award’s nomination guidelines.

This year was the first ‘award ambush’ said President Morales, who presented the award winner, psychology professor

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The decision to purchase a new phone, Continued on Pg. 4
Overlooked problems cause conflict to escalate

By EMMANUEL GUTIERREZ
Staff Writer

The world remains unaware as revenge killings of religious minorities, savage mutilation, sex slavery, and over 6,000 child soldiers burden the Central African Republic.

Genocide may ensue in the nation due to lack of awareness and complicated, bloodstained histories, according to journalist Joshua Keating of Slate, an online daily magazine.

At least a quarter of the nation’s population has been forcefully relocated from their homes and more than two-thirds of their schools have been shut down.

The remaining third, under the protection of the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), have been subjected to “looting, arson, and shootings,” according to Keating.

“[People] don’t know if it is a country, or just a region of Africa. This might be why we are not getting a lot of visibility,” said Souleymane Diabaté, national representative of UNICEF.

Extensive humanitarian emergencies such as the Typhoon Haiyan striking the Philippines and the instability in Syria have stretched the allocation of efforts and resources thin.

Although religious parties shift in power in the region as the years pass, the minorities are always targeted through violent and deadly means.

Dictator François Bozizé was overthrown in 2013 by a Muslim rebel group known as the Séléka, which accused him of “violating the terms of the peace agreement,” according to Slate.

Slate states that the Séléka utilized their power to “campaign” the “looting, torture and killing” of Christians in the region.

In January of this year, the “anti-Balaka” militia groups, comprised predominately of Christians, overthrew the Séléka government and the Muslim populations became the target of the “retribal killings” once again, according to Slate.

The African Union and France have deployed 5,000 and 2,000 peacekeeping troops respectively in the vicinity.

The UN Security Council approved additional police forces and peacekeeping missions, but they aren’t expected to arrive until the end of the year.

Despite the external aid, the conflicts and violence continues and in some circumstances humanitarian interferences have caused more violence.

Detailed in a UN report, French peacekeepers disarmed Muslim militia groups, with the unexpected consequence of enabling armed Christians to kill them.

The UN estimates that over 6,000 child soldiers have been recruited by both factions.

According to UNICEF figures, “194 children have been maimed and killed” since December 2013—including beheadings.

As these tragedies continue, media exposure grows.

The murder of a French journalist in Central African Republic has been denounced by the United Nations.

“I condemn the killing of Camille Lepage, whose only desire was to show professional and associated personnel engaged in dangerous professional missions are considered civilians and shall be respected and protected as such,” stated the UN Security Council.

“Central African Republic is a forgotten crisis,” said Diabaté. “We hear more about Syria, Mali, and now Ukraine.”
Continued from Pg. 1

award to Dr. Crawford.

He felt it was unique, heartfelt, and a more meaningful way to be recognized by her colleagues personally.

“She is just an incredible person,” added Morales.

Crawford said she was not expecting it at all, even though some of her colleagues had known since winter quarter.

“They kept it secret,” she added.

“It’s nice to know. You go along, do your work, so it’s nice to be appreciated by them. The students, also, recognizing you as special is nice. It means I am doing a good job,” said Crawford.

Crawford has been known for her teaching and numerous grants she has earned, the majority of which have supported students, especially under represented groups such as Latinos, African Americans, and Native Americans as well as others.

“In the Psychological and Biological sciences you are going to be seeing more and more Latino, Latina researchers and professionals, and that’s because people like Dr. Crawford are paving the way, creating opportunities for our students, who are very underrepresented in those areas,” said Dr. Robert Ricco, Psychology Department chair.

Some of the grants she has received include a $3.4 million Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Grant for five years and a Diversity-promoting Institutions Drug Abuse Research Program (DIDARP) grant through NIMH/NIDA through 2017, according to the CSUSB psychology department’s webpage. “I really cannot think of a more deserving human being for this award. In my view, it is really overdue,” said Ricco.

Crawford teaches a variety of psychological here on campus, specifically classes dealing with neurological psychology and types of drugs.

She admits her classes are not known for being easy, but she appreciates that most of her students understand the need for high standards and updated information, and do their best, she added.

“Her students praised her as an engaging professor who is approachable and supportive. ‘The professor is always willing to help us understand a difficult subject,’ wrote one student,” as stated by a CSUSB news release.

“We are here to provide information on a particular topic not just facts, but how to do things. Whatever you are teaching, your job is to make the information meaningful and understandable,” said Crawford.

“I think that what other instructors can take from her is the idea that you can be at the same time a rigorous teacher, demand a lot of your students, but still be incredibly supportive and caring about your students,” said Ricco.

“Dr. Crawford is an outstanding researcher, instructor, and mentor. She is the total package, and it is well-deserving of this award,” adds professor Sharon Ward, Crawford’s fellow psychology professor.

This is a lifetime award, according to the Outstanding Teacher Award guidelines.

It also states that she will now be included in the committee to choose the next Outstanding Teacher.

Idled graduates lose opportunities

Continued from Pg. 1

effects on students who graduate and are unable to find a job.

According to the report, on average, young adults with less opportunities after they graduate from high school or college have a lower income in their careers versus those who earn employment once they enter the work force.

“One of the researchers states that it is not the students’ fault that they are emerging into a weak labor market filled with ‘diminished job opportunities, more spells of unemployment, and reduced earnings for a decade or more.’

“This has been an issue since the Great Recession started in late 2007,” said Mayo Toruno, professor and chair of the economics department.

“The unemployment rate for college graduates is 8.5 percent, compared to an unemployment rate of 5.5 percent for college graduates,” added Toruno.

The EPI reported that the unemployment rate for workers under 25 is 14.5 percent, which is more than half of the overall unemployment rate of 6.7 percent. When taking the unemployment rate into consideration, there are more than a million workers missing.

If these workers were accounted for, the employment rate would be at approximately 18 percent, which is three times as much as the general unemployment rate.

Generally young adults have higher unemployment rates while economic downturns increase that number, states the report.

These rates tend to be higher for African Americans and Hispanics compared to those who are white and non-Hispanic.

However, findings have also linked college graduates to better chances of landing a job that does not require a college degree due to the competition they bring.

This means the number of college students idled by the economy is significantly lower than those of high school graduates.

However, the report also states that although college graduates have a better chance of gaining employment than high school graduates, their future success is still impaired due to the slowly recovering recession.

“I got my bachelor’s in psychology and I’m still here,” said Melissa Wilson, CSUSB senior and banker at U.S. Bank.

“That’s partially my fault because I didn’t further my education,” added Wilson.

Student Don Arujo, a dual major in psychology and philosophy, said that he doesn’t think students can do anything in this day and age without having a graduate degree.

Arujo and Wilson have acknowledged that due to the lack of education and experience, students were challenged to find opportunities after graduation.

Toruno also mentioned that, “If current economic policies remain the same then it will be a long time, at best, until we see a turn-around in this state of affairs. How long? That I don’t know.”
Different brands for different students

Continued from Pg. 1

tablet or a laptop is all up to the consumer.
Students everywhere rely on different forms of technology to pass the time, keep in contact and do assignments that will impress or astonish their professor.
Tylere Lange is not a fan of Apple products like some students.
“I have an HTC droid,” said Lange, “I prefer the wide-open system because it lets me do a lot.”

So what are the choices of technology found around campus?

iPhones are seen in the hands of most students around campus, simply because they are considered the easiest to use and contain many apps that one might need to get through college.

Sitting in the shade browsing her iPhone, Belinda Garcia has it all at her fingertips.
She does not even bother with her computer when she has her phone.
“My computer doesn’t work,” said Garcia. “So I use my phone because I can do everything on it—like homework.”

She continued to describe her many uses for the iPhone.
“I don’t have a camera and the camera quality is really good,” said Garcia. “I also use it for music since I don’t have an iPod.”

Computers are a part of the war between Apple, Microsoft and Android users with students.
Many choices are simply preferences of different students.
“I have a Macbook Pro,” said Brinker, “I use it for all of my programming and it’s the device I spent the most time configuring.”

“It has a combo of the right software and better hardware,” added Brinker.
However, many students have different reasons for using Macbooks.
Nursing Major Jamie Deandene went for a Macbook Pro because of word of mouth.
“I have a Macbook pro” said Deandene.
“I heard a lot of good things, even though I don’t use it much, yet.”

Microsoft user Tyler Lange stayed away from Macbook and chose the Microsoft operating system.
“I have a Dell Inspiron. I love it. It was affordable and it gets the job done,” exclaimed Lange.

Not every piece of technology offers everything though.
Aygil Legg is going for her Master’s Degree in Computer Science and chose the affordability of the older iPad 2 because it fitted her needs.
“I needed an app that was only available on Apple products,” said Legg.
When choosing technology, personal needs should come first and foremost.
Computers, laptops and phones are a college student’s best friend and the right choice is something every user has to weigh in with their options.
Technology, just like a friend, we get to choose, and students have many options available.

Government fails to investigate high risk oil wells

Continued from Pg. 1

Fracking is a process where large quantities of sand, water, and chemicals are pumped underground in order to split open rocks to allow oil and gas to flow.

In response to the oil and gasline leaking and its effect on the environment, CSUSB geology professor Sally McGill said that it affects a lot of animal life.

“If the oil leaks into the water sources, it could be harmful to the animals, both land and marine, who drink out of those water sources,” said McGill.

Biologist Stuart Sumida said the oil leaks are just as bad for the ground water, the dirt, and the soil.

“The rocks and minerals underground could potentially absorb the oil if they are porous enough, which could be harmful to both plant life and animal life,” said Sumida.

States known for their lack of effective regulation by the BLM include New Mexico, North Dakota, Idaho, and Utah, said officials.

Among the 3,702 wells labeled as high-priority, the BLM has failed to inspect 2,100, according the Associated Press.

Many environmental groups have also placed some of the blame on the Obama Administration as well saying that they need to do more to protect the environment.

BLM also acknowledged that it hasn’t updated its guidance on oil and gas and mineral trespass since 1999 and 2003 due to an executive order in 2011, which required their rules to reflect technological advances, according to the Los Angeles Daily Post.

The BLM also told the Daily Post that it’s been unable to inspect oil and gas wells due to a low amount of staff and the lack of money.

In response to the criticism, the BLM told the Associated Press that it plans to issue new rules in regards to methane emissions and tracking.
BLM has stated that California does not seem to be unaffected since it was among the few states who have been reviewed and agreed upon the new jurisdiction.

“Most parts of the government are already pretty untrustworthy, and this doesn’t make things better for them,” said a CSUSB student.

Other states, however, have begun to see their water getting polluted, such as Pennsylvania, receiving 398 complaints regarding polluted water in 2013, according to the Associated Press.

Despite no reports in California, some people are still wary and are keeping a close eye on the situation, since it could still affect the state.

“The government failed to inspect thousands of oil and gas wells that pose a potential threat of water contamination and environmental damage.”

Associated Press
Classes students should take

Venture out of your major to learn different subjects and expand skills

By RONA ORTIZ
Staff Writer

Many students face pressure to obtain their degree as quickly as possible. This can cause students to overlook elective classes that may lead to new interests, or enhance their job skills.

Students should take classes outside of their major to explore other possible career interests,” said Vivian Ortiz.

“Taking other classes exposes you to new people and experiences,” Ortiz added. Taking a class for enjoyment can provide a break from the stress of rigorous coursework.

A great stress relieving class many enjoy is Yoga. Yoga classes are offered by the Kinesiology Department along with many other fitness and conditioning classes.

“If my schedule permits, I’d like to take a physical fitness class that will educate me about effective body conditioning that would also measure my progress,” said Matt Monreal, a business major.

“Fitness isn’t your thing, there are plenty of other opportunities to help expand your horizons. If you spend a lot of time watching Food Network and envision yourself waving your friends with your amazing cooking skills, a class in culinary arts could be for you.”

Introduction to Culinary Arts is a class that will teach you the basics of food preparation and safety, shopping, how to use kitchen tools and fundamental culinary techniques.

In “Help My Organize” an article featured in Intervention in School and Clinic Academic Journal by Williamson provides helpful tips to teachers and students on maintaining priorities through organization.

“Teaching organizational skills to your students will give them tools to succeed throughout their lifetimes,” stated Williamson.

“Students who are organized feel better about themselves and tend to be more successful in school than their disorganized counterparts,” Williamson added.

Moderating clutter, time management planning, creating to-do lists or setting reminders are a few ways to maintain organization.

The Center for Educational Partnerships at UC Berkeley created a 10 Tips To Stay Organized” list including tips such as organizing your room/study area, setting aside times for studying/other school-related activities, and receiving plenty of rest.

“Let’s be honest: The more structure in place, the more that gets accomplished,” said student Claudia Ramirez.

“Organization is very important to me because with a job and school, in order to be on track I have to be well organized,” stated special education specialist Ramona D. Williamson.

“[Organization] is very important to students who want to cook for enjoyment, stated Dorothy Chen of the Health Sciences department.

Perhaps you have a creative streak but don’t see yourself as an artist. Consider Topics in Studio Art for Non-Majors. This class introduces students to selected areas of art and includes experimentation with various mediums.

Some classes are not merely interesting but provide students with valuable life skills. Financial Choices in Life is a class to help equip students to make informed financial decisions.

Critical thinking is a valuable skill that allows you to analyze problems and examine various solutions.

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“A student with technical skills is going to stand out,” said Jim Smart in his Writing for Media, Comm. 240 class.

“The days of printing out your resume are gone, it’s all online and you need to know how to provide links to your work in your online resume,” Smart added.

Web design is a hands-on course on the fundamentals of designing functional web pages. No prior computer experience is required.

Students can use these technical skills to showcase their accomplishments which will help them stand out in this tough job market.

Getting organized makes life easier

By LOYDIE BURMAH
Staff Writer

Setting priorities is essential to success as a student.

“Organization is very important to me because with a job and school, in order to be on track I have to be well organized,” said student Claudia Ramirez.

“Students who are disorganized suffer from poor grades, stress, and low self-esteem due to lost assignments, wasted energy, and general disorder in their lives,” stated special education specialist Ramona D. Williamson.

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“Let’s be honest: The more structure in place, the more that gets accomplished,” stated special education specialist Ramona D. Williamson.

Applying organization tactics to prioritize is not an easy task to fulfill and it requires constant effort, persistent practice, as well as patience to produce sufficient results.

“You have to prioritize things and realize that free time and sleep sometimes have to take a back seat to priorities,” wrote chief information officer David An- drade in Getting Students and Teachers Organized.

What about students seeking organization in their lives but simply do not have time?

“Buy containers, boxes, or drawers and label them to store things,” said student Eduardo Torres in regards to maintaining a clean environment.

I have yet to establish efficient organization tactics that work for me, but I do value the importance that maintaining organization has to offer.

Organizing one’s needs, priorities, and duties can lead to better mental, physical, and environmental health.
Effective lectures

Ways teachers can maintain interest

By MARK MACSETTI
Staff Writer

PowerPoint presentations can both improve or hinder a professor’s teaching effectiveness, depending on how they construct and present the information.

Most teachers use PowerPoint now, but may not be using it as effectively as they hope.

“A majority of the classes I have taken were instructed with PowerPoint,” said student Max Schmitz. “Although, I have had some teachers use it poorly and could definitely improve the way they use it.”

In my experience, the teachers that use PowerPoint as a brief outline or summary will communicate the material in an easier and more effective way.

Material from one chapter may be spread over just a handful of slides, yet provide key names, dates, theories or concepts.

I find it most useful when PowerPoint slides are used in bullet forms and avoid repeating complete sentences.

This allows students to physically read the concepts being discussed, while encouraging students to actively listen to the teacher during the lecture.

If used correctly, professors can use a PowerPoint to help with student interaction and concentration.

“Teachers can improve classroom discussion by adding a few slides that can generate questions while improving students’ attention span,” said Donna Gotch, a professor in the Department of Communication Studies.

However, I have had too many teachers simply add as many terms, concepts and theories as they can and read them off verbatim.

I do not believe this is the most effective way for a teacher to use a PowerPoint presentation.

“PowerPoint should only be used for main points, main ideas, or key terms but not for entire paragraphs or chunks of material,” added Gotch.

When teachers do this, they stop teaching to students and instead turn and teach to the PowerPoint slides.

The teacher’s voice can become monotonous and lack other non-verbal communication behaviors, as they tend to simply read the material, and not interact enough with the students.

If the teacher is dependent on reading word for word out of the PowerPoint slides, he or she may even dim the lights to help with seeing.

At this point, the teacher might as well hand out pillows, because students will inevitably fall asleep between the monotonous voice, lack of non-verbal behaviors, and dimmed lights.

“Students get bored if they are used to PowerPoint’s and just hand out notes,” Gotch concluded.

I have seen this exact scenario in many of the lower division and capstone courses that are required for students to graduate.

Many of these professors even post the PowerPoint slides online, making attendance the only reason students come to class.

“I think faculty can do a better job using PowerPoint more effectively so students can learn,” Gotch concluded.

I believe using PowerPoint in this style is detrimental to learning because a key way students learn is through conversational interaction and discussion, not simply reading.

My hope is that teachers use PowerPoint more effectively.

Quantity vs Quality?

By SHIANE JACOCKS
Staff Writer

Quantity vs Quality?

Students need to be aware of where they are spending their hard-earned cash and financial aid.

Their money should be spent on food that will give them both energy and a balanced meal to prevent them from falling into the “Freshmen 15.”

Students who spend money on fattening foods only increase their weight and exhaustion.

Students deserve quality food that is both good and in a reasonable amount.

Some students order food at W.O.W (World of Wings), a fast-food restaurant on campus, have discussed the quality and quantity of the food.

“I guess W.O.W has pretty good food. Sometimes I get a wrap and they give me a lot, but it can be pretty expensive. The last time I got a wrap though, it was swimming with cheese,” said student Ambar Wilkerson.

Some students believe that more is never always better.

On campus, students want to know they are getting their money’s worth.

Students want to know that while they stay on campus, whether it’s walking from class to class or living on campus, that they will have a good meal.

Often, the food is too pricey and the students barely get enough to eat, or vice versa.

Most students do not want to be clenching their stomachs during a two-hour lecture because of bad food.

“I prefer quality over quantity. I feel that you should give yourself the best things and not lower your standards,” said student Alex Cain.

Cain takes the time to shop wisely at Stater Bros.

I suggest that students should bargain for reasonable prices.

Buy healthy food in bulk so you get your money’s worth.

At the grocery store, there are wonderful fruits and vegetables that are very healthy options if students can find the time to cook.

I have to make an effort to work around my job and school to prepare my meals.

Another thing to do when contemplating one’s diet is to plan and prepare food ahead of time.

On the website University Business it was stated, “We luxuriate in food in the U.S. (at least most of us do). It is so second nature that when money is tight, we don’t eat less. Instead, we seek the experience of endless food at Wal-Mart.”

Some students, however, find that quantity takes precedence over the quality of the food.

“I want to stay full and I find it’s a lot easier when going to classes when I don’t have an empty stomach,” said student Jonzalo Aguilor.

I have also found that when I don’t have time to cook, I do go out of my way to buy fast food. It may be cheap, but it’s taking a toll on my health.

The “Freshmen 15” is terrifyingly real.

Diet, exercise, and quality food seem to be the only way to prevent it.

Coyote Watch: Do you prefer quantity or quality?

“I prefer quantity over quality. I feel that you should give yourself the best things and not lower your standards.”

Alex Cain
Senior

“I find myself spending a little bit more on my food pretty often. At least once a week.”

Michael Martinez
Freshman

“I prefer quality over quantity. I feel like we pay too much for too little.”

Julia Anne Davis
Freshman

“The food here is pretty decent, but I feel like we pay too much for too little.”

Chanel Moore
Freshman

“My insides have not been the same since I started eating the food here.”

Shiane Jacocks | Chronicle Photo

Quantity vs Quality?
Although CSUSB is known as a commuter school, approximately 1,500 students choose to live in the dorms because they want a full college experience.

Savannah Barras describes her experience in the dorms at Serrano Village as great. “The biggest thing I love about living here is the atmosphere. I never thought living on campus would bring so many opportunities my way,” said Barras.

She also explained that campus life is more convenient, since she doesn’t have to drive to school everyday. “Not having to drive to campus is amazing! You just wake up and walk to class. You definitely do not need a car living here since everything is so close by,” said Barras.

Shoichi Iijima, an Arrowhead Village resident, believes that living on campus does make his college experience better. “I like living in the dorms because it is easier to socialize with people. It was easier for me to make friends and participate in activities,” said Iijima.

Dorm life stimulates connections between students. Many activities are planned to help people connect with one another, especially in Living Learning Communities (LLC).

Claudine Girard, an international student who lives in University Village, appreciates the amenities offered on campus. “As a Serrano Village resident, it is mandatory to buy the meal plan. […] if I had to choose a downfall of living here it would have to be the food. It’s not that it is bad, the food just gets old real fast,” said Barras.

For Iijima, the dry campus policy is irrelevant and ridiculous. Girard agrees with him on the topic of the alcohol policy. She goes further and says that with restrictions like not being able to have candles in the rooms, she feels like a fifteen year old at a strict boarding school.

Another downfall to living on campus in the dorms are the housing fees. “I don’t think anyone likes the fees, but they are there for a reason. The fees are kind of expensive but it does cover rent, utilities, everything the campus supplies you,” said Barras.

Iijima and Girard share Barras’ opinion that the fees are expensive, but they feel like the apartments are not worth their money. “If I had to do it again, I would live off campus to save money and have no restrictions,” said Girard.

There are negative and positive aspects to living in dorms. Yet, it does not change the fact that they all appreciate dorm life as a part of their college experience and gives them a way to connect with others and make friends.

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There are negative and positive aspects to living in dorms. Yet, it does not change the fact that they all appreciate dorm life as a part of their college experience and gives them a way to connect with others and make friends.

“I never thought living on campus would bring so many opportunities my way.”

Savannah Barras
CSUSB Student
Sky Thai sends your taste buds sky high

By JENNIFER BAESKENS
Staff Writer

Sky Thai is a small restaurant tucked away between a liquor store and a super market on North Mountain View Ave. This hidden gem offers great, authentic Thai food at great prices.

Thai food is usually the last thing on students’ minds when there is greasy fast food restaurants littered across San Bernardino.

“I’ve been looking for a good Thai food restaurant close to school,” said Patrice Thompson, a Public Health Major at CSUSB. “This place is great and it is so close to school.”

Sky Thai has over 80 different traditional Thai items, including Thai BBQ.

The atmosphere is very quaint and peaceful and offers students a relaxing aura that lets them enjoy their lunch and get away from the campus chaos.

The staff at Sky Thai is very friendly and will answer any questions that you may have about menu items.

I ordered Pad Thai, chicken satay, and vegetarian spring rolls.

The chicken satay came out first. This dish included cucumber salad and peanut sauce to dip the chicken in. The chicken was light and refreshing with great flavor.

The peanut sauce made a great dipping sauce and really brought out the flavor of the salad and the chicken.

The vegetarian spring rolls were filled with a variety of vegetables but the mint leaves really stood out and added a great twist to the rolls.

Pad Thai is usually a predictable dish, but the Pad Thai at Sky Thai, was anything but predictable. It had exceptional flavor that was brought out by the taste of peanut sauce and the crushed peanuts that were sprinkled on top.

Vegetarians don’t have to worry. There are plenty of vegetarian friendly items to choose from such as vegetable fried rice, tofu, and eggplant with rice.

There is also rice and orange chicken, which is a great option for children and people that are not too sure about Thai food but want to give it a try.

There are also an array of drinks ranging from Thai tea, bobu, fruit smoothies and hot green tea.

The prices at Sky Thai were very reasonable for students trying to stick to a budget.

The chicken was only $7.95 while the Pad Thai was only $6.95. They also offer take out which is great if you are on the go.

Sky Thai is located at 154 W. 40th street, San Bernardino. They are open everyday from 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If you’re looking for something delicious and outside the box, Sky Thai is the place for you.

By NAILEA FABIOLA AYALA
Staff Writer

CSUSB students give their school some tough love when they share their likes and dislikes about the campus.

Students spend endless hours in classes, studying in the library, or taking lunch breaks in the Santos Manuel Student Union.

Whatever the case may be, CSUSB has become almost like a second home for the student body.

Let’s start out with something we often daydream about: food.

“The layout of the food court is terrible; it’s cramped and feels hidden. The market in the union usually seems to be half empty and most things don’t have prices listed,” said student Skylar Brown.

Brown is not alone in this opinion. Others are also unhappy with not only the layout, but with the food options.

“The food choices are not all from a food chain we know. They should put a Subway or Juice it up,” suggested student Ernesto Arviz.

Like Arviz, many others steer towards healthier food options.

“Something that seriously needs improvement is the food choices. Nothing is all that healthy and it costs way too much. It’s really sickening after a while,” said student Casey Ysaquie.

Another main focus is the high food prices.

“The food at the commons is really expensive. Good, but too expensive. If I want to use my meal plan for healthy eating, it never lasts until the end of the quarter,” said student Yanzel Miranda.

Students also have strong opinions about professors.

“I love my professors. They offer a high quality academic education and have human quality as well,” said student Esmeralda Sahagun.

“So far there is nothing that I dislike about the campus,” said Sahagun.

Diana Lozano, seems to agree. She absolutely loves the time her professors give her.

“One of the things I really like about CSUSB is the professors. They have great communication with their students and at times have an open door policy so you can go in and talk to them,” said Lozano.

Student Lauren Jones loves her professors and thinks class sizes are surprisingly decent.

“Before attending CSUSB I heard classes were incredibly large. I think people exaggerated,” said Jones.

Professors each have a unique way of teaching.

Some focus on projects that help you better understand the material while others expect you to memorize a large quantity of key terms that are only necessary to move on to the next lecture.

“Some professors emphasize too much on passing the exams. Is that the only reason we’re in school? To pass tests? What about educating? We’re supposed to be able to take the knowledge and apply it to the real world. Emphasis on tests does the opposite of that,” said student Dalia Elizarra.

International students love their professors, but find registering for classes very challenging.

“I would change the registration process. I am studying here on a scholarship, so I am required to take minimum 16 units. It is extremely difficult to do this when all classes are full by the time I register,” said student Andalaziz Aljhlan.

Students also touch on the topic of having some fun.

“One thing I would love to change is our Coyote spirit. Hopefully, with the Student Alumni Association starting again that will soon change,” said Arviz.

Arvizo is not the only one that wants to spark more fun on campus.

Students Pablo Cruz and Stephanie Corral wish there were more campus events that are fun and bigger school wide events.

Students wish to bring sports to create more fun.

“Whether it’s the campus’ food court and their high prices or the lack of school-wide events, students wish to see CSUSB go through some improvements.

Students share what they love and hate about campus

The drive into campus can get a bit hectic with about 18,000 students enrolled, but the drive is worth it once you’ve been able to experience the classes, events and environment. The students have plenty to say, both good and bad about CSUSB.
Newly elected Associated Students Incorporated (ASI) president Alfredo Barcenas promotes positive change amongst the student body.

As a third year political science major, Barcenas has been involved in ASI for as long as he’s been on campus. ASI is a nonprofit student organization with the motto “for the students, by the students.”

It’s “student government and student representation at its finest,” said Barcenas. “But it’s also much more than that.”

ASI makes sure that the student voice is heard when dealing with educational issues. Students are appointed to various committees with administrators and the president of the university to make sure their opinions are taken into account.

Students are represented at the state level as well. Tuition, campus concerns, and bottleneck courses are all concerns that are addressed with state legislators to decide how to resolve these issues and keep in mind what’s best for students.

ASI is mainly known for their events promoting school spirit and the box office, but they also have other useful resources available to students.

The College Legal Clinic offers free legal consultation for students, and they have a graphics department that charges a reduced fee for students or faculty that may need visual art.

When running for president, Barcenas told students, “I don’t want to promise you things, because it makes me sound like a politician,” but he has many things on the agenda for his upcoming term.

Barcenas wants to extend library hours in order to give students a place to study during late hours.

Additionally, Barcenas is looking into graduation commencement to see if students would prefer graduation off or on campus, and trying to work with the University to give students more than the three tickets that are normally allotted.

Throughout the interview, Barcenas was adamant about the importance of student representation. He hopes to have students involved in committees and to start attending statewide meetings. Many students aren’t aware that there is a big effort made by student government officials to persuade Gov. Jerry Brown to include $95 million in the new budget.

According to Barcenas, many students don’t feel as if the new budget is tangible, but the inclusion will mean that CSU can hire more faculty, eliminate bottleneck courses that are preventing students graduating on time, and adding more effective online education.

“Though students have concerns, and I have the power to do things and fight for it, I’ll go the extra mile because it’ll be worth it,” said Barcenas.

Promoting events, informing students about ASI’s plans and different events on other CSU campuses is important for Barcenas to make a lasting impact on our campus.

Barcenas appreciates all student feedback in an attempt to improve policies and find a solution for problems across the CSU.

He is very receptive and attentive about the concerns of his peers.

Students are encouraged to look into their site, asi.csusb.edu and learn more about ASI.

Barcenas wants more students to come into his office in SMSU-108 and tell him directly what’s happening. Input is valuable, as it proves there are more students backing the policies Barcenas is trying to change.
Suburban teenage dreams come true

By MARLYN RODRIGUEZ
Opinions Editor

The new genre of music, G-Punk, is taking over the scene with the help of bands like New Beat Fund.

Since signing on to Red Bull Records the band has toured the country four times and landed an opening gig for Blink-182. The four band mates are young, easy-going, extremely talented, and super sarcastic. Michael Johnson, Jeff Laliberte, Shelby Archer, and Paul Laliberte formed the band in 2011 and skyrocketed to success.

It’s evident that the members have worked extremely hard to get where they are today. They write, record and produce all their own music. A short while after getting together, they released a video for their hit “Scare Me.”

According to their marketing team, “New Beat Fund is bringing a whole new level with their unique sound making it big one day. They had a spectacular performance on Saturday, May 10 at a fraternity house near the University of California, Riverside (UCR).”

Listening to their new and unique style of music was refreshing. Student John Orta, one of the audience members said, “New Beat Fund is bringing a whole new sound to surf rock. They are some fun guys making music.”

Apart from running a little behind schedule, Saturday afternoon’s events ran very smoothly.

Alumnus Christina Ker said, “They were chill, but the fact that they ended up performing later than expected was kind of irritating.”

In the end, I think everyone agreed that it was a performance to remember. You can find their music online at redbullrecords.com.

Q & A

Coyote Chronicle (CC): What motivated you to turn music into your career?
Michael (M): Were bad at failing and music careers are 100 percent failure and we don’t accept that, so we just keep going. It’s really a series of failures that have led to this. It’s really all we like to do and we don’t do what we don’t like to do.
CC: Do you guys agree on the subject matter of a song?
Jeff (J): We always fight. We’re pretty blunt. We formulate an idea together and let it grow. Most creative things come from not thinking.
CC: What are your songs about and what themes do they cover?
Shelby (S): Experiences that aren’t necessarily normal. Every song is different; they come from different places, content wise. Our songs vary in subject. It functions on a different subject. We always find a way to relate to our eyes. They’re all fun to play.

CC: Where have you performed?
Jeff: Where are your fondest musical memories?
M: Our van rig broke down. We got stuck in Iowa and the whole country really, but those were also fun. I don’t think there has been many low points, but there’s been a lot of high points.
CC: If you’ve toured the country, opened for Blink-182, and performed in all these venues. What brought you here?
S: Our van broke down.
CC: Which song do you enjoy playing the most?
M: “Scare Me”. It’s our single. It’s having sex with the sun setting behind us, under palm trees and horchata, margaritas, and burritos.
CC: What image do you think your music conveys?
P: Fun. Sunshine. Here’s the image: having sex with the sun setting behind us,

College students have a memorable pool party soaking up the sun with some amazing music provided by Red Bull.

New Beat Fund takes fun to a whole new level with their unique sound

College students have a memorable pool party soaking up the sun with some amazing music provided by Red Bull.

Q & A

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CC: Where have you performed?
Jeff: Where are your fondest musical memories?
M: Our van rig broke down. We got stuck in Iowa and we had to get to Omaha, Nebraska. The mechanic who was working on our van gave us a ride and we got to Omaha. Before that story, we were living in Topanga Canyon where we went to work on songs for our new record. It was an amazing place. In between tours we were working on songs.
ANTWON gets versatile on first official album

By DIANA RAMOS
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Don’t judge a book by its cover or, in this case, an album.

Bay Area rapper ANTWON released his first official album Heavy Hearted in Doldrums on May 6 and is now available for free on UNIFCLOTHING.

The album cover shows ANTWON with roses in his hand kneeling next to a woman who is wearing a red sweatshirt and some booty shorts.

Right below her butt she has written “bite it” and “you scam,” giving off a pre-conceived notion of what the album was going to sound like.

I felt like the beats were going to be obnoxious and the lyrics were going to do nothing but degrade women and make me feel beyond uncomfortable.

I was half wrong. Heavy Hearted in Doldrums contains R-rated lyrics.

For the most part, they are lewd and obscene falling under the stereotypical rap genre.

If you are not used to listening to raw rap rap, you will be very surprised in the first 15 seconds.

Some songs are more obscene than others. “Rain Song” featuring Lil Ugly Mane is less lewd than the rest of the songs.

The intro to this song is very explicit when describing women.

However, once you get passed the line, “She’s got long hair but that p**sy hair braided,” the lyrics become quite deep.

If you’re going through a tough time in your life, you may identify with this song. The lyric that stood out to me the most was, “Playing life with a cheat code/two tokens shy of a game over.”

You can hear the emotion he puts out when he raps these lyrics.

ANTWON’s style can is so versatile, switching from “Iicketed in her throat” to “They tell you to keep your head above water to keep your status but I’m breathing under currents without any apparatus the water stagnant and brackets with the hats fastened flat on my easket time passes in vast amounts.”

“Thought about life with a pocket full of squidla, thought about getting older, thought about the alpine blast in the rover, but I’m stuck in this sh*t till it’s over,” sung in another lyric.

The beats used in Heavy Hearted in Doldrums is euphonically pleasing.

You don’t get annoyed or tired of hearing them, they’re smooth and not obnoxious.

“Loser,” “No metro nome,” and “143” are songs that are slower and touch on heartbreak and life not going according to plan.

Going from lewd to deep lyrics is not something you can easily find packed in one album.

All in all, for being ANTWON’s first official project, the album deserves three paws for its versatiltity and authenticity.

Efron and Rogen declare war in smash comedy

By TAYLOR VERMILLION
Staff Writer

The comedic stylings of Seth Rogen combined with the frat-boy mentality of Zac Efron make for the epic summer movie “Neighbors.”

They join forces with other A-list celebrities, including Rose Byrne, famous for her role in “Bridesmaids,” and Dave Franco, the younger brother of megastar James Franco.

Several other comedy all-stars make a few surprise cameos as well.

The film centers around Mac Radner (Rogen) and his wife Kelly (Byrne) who play a blissfully happy married couple with a new house and adorable baby girl.

Everything seems perfectly ideal for the couple until they discover that the house next door has been purchased by Delta Psi, a fraternity of rowdy, party-oriented college students.

Mac and Kelly combine marital forces that would make any real-life couple a little jealous of their relationship.

Rogen’s quirky humor and Byrne’s ability to match it reveal an adorable friendship that is rare to see in long marriages.

Efron and Franco were at the top of their game as well. Efron seemed tailor-made for the role of frat president, and Franco was the perfect sidekick.

Both actors nailed their arrogant characters, and played perfectly off their married co-stars.

“I’m really glad I saw “Neighbors” said moviegoer Aaron Ramos.

“I think I’m going to have to buy the soundtrack. The music that played during the party scenes was awesome,” added Ramos.

The music on the soundtrack featured combinations of party anthems that ranged from 90s rap to new-school electronic.

Missy Elliot’s “Get Ur Freak On” and Fergie’s “London Bridge” provided a musical platform that gave way to an epic dance battle between Rogen and Efron that will have you laughing and cringing at the same time.

Keep in mind, that the film is R-rated for good reason.

Some of the content is a little bit on the raunchy side, so it would probably be a good idea to leave the young ones at home.

The explicit points of the film don’t detract from the overall appeal of the movie. Don’t expect to be berated with sexual content, but prepare for a few moments that might leave you blushing.

“Neighbors” is definitely the comedy smash hit of the summer, earning five out of five paws.
A celebration of mothers goes all the way back to the Ancient Egyptians, who rejoiced Isis, the “Mother of all Pharaohs,” in an annual festival.

The event “An Evening with Mummy” was held in the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art (RAFFMA) on Friday, May 9 from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Mothers were able to experience the rituals and crafts of Ancient Egypt with their children.

Families were invited to do arts and crafts, take a guided tour of the ancient Egyptian collection and go on a scavenger hunt.

The evening began with refreshments and treats that were Egyptian-inspired and enjoyable for both children and adults. Among the twenty in attendance, student Denisha Menefee enjoyed the evening with her mother, two sons and niece.

“TThe arts and crafts are an aspect that brought me here and I think the overall event is really nice,” said Menefee. A view and tour of “The Treasures of Ancient Egypt” exhibit was the next aspect that the guests were able to enjoy.

Adults went on a separate tour from the children with tour guide Jean Ford, while coordinator Paige Taylor took the excitable children with her.

The RAFFMA has one of the largest Egyptian collections that date back to 3,000-4,000 B.C. Artifacts such as pottery, jewelry, and statues are included in the exhibit and each one displays the beautiful craftsmanship of the Egyptians. The unique collection elaborated on the role of women and mothers in Ancient Egypt.

An old mirror and knife used to cut umbilical cords were among the artifacts that stood out.

On the tour, the low lighting gave a feeling of being in an Egyptian catacomb, which added to the experience.

Ford loved being involved with the event, and the idea of introducing children to Ancient Egypt. The main attraction of the evening was the time spent between parents and their children as they did arts and crafts.

Tables full of markers, colored pencils, paper and books dealing with Egypt were the tools children had to create their mothers cards and crafts.

Student April Baca was in charge of a watercolor station, where she painted “tattoos” on the children.

The children also had the opportunity to work with clay handed out by Diego Irigoyen, a student assistant to the museum.

“It’s very hands-on and you get to make things for your mom,” said Irigoyen.

“Those are the two best things, working hands on to make something your mom. I also like how you get to learn about ancient Egypt,” continued Irigoyen.

He enjoyed helping out and liked what the event had to offer.

The evening ended with a scavenger hunt in the exhibit that the children and parents enjoyed together.

Taylor takes pride in this event as children get involved with activities at the museum and get to spend time with their mothers.

This event takes place every year on Mother’s Day weekend, and is a great way to express love for your “Mummy” in true Egyptian style.
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The United States men’s national soccer team is preparing to compete in the 2014 World Cup. U.S. head coach Jurgen Klinsmann has just announced 30 potential players for the United States roster with preliminary evaluations underway.

“These next couple of weeks will allow us to make the final determinations on the best 23-man unit to represent the United States in the World Cup,” said Klinsmann.

Potentials players have already begun conditioning at Stanford University where they are expected to compete over the next few weeks. Among those is Landon Donovan, a Redlands California native and midfielder for the Los Angeles Galaxy.

A final roster for the U.S. men’s national soccer team is expected to be announced by June 2. The 2014 FIFA World Cup is set to take place throughout 12 stadiums across Brazil, with host cities such as Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Fortaleza, Brasilia and Rio de Janeiro.

Construction for the host country of Brazil has been underway for the last 7 years. Brazilian authorities are overseeing the finishing touches in accordance with FIFA expectations.

Darren Heitner, a sports writer for Forbes magazine, estimates that tourists alone will contribute $3.03 billion to the Brazilian economy. Furthermore, the Brazilian Institute of tourism estimates Brazilian citizens will contribute approximately $7.9 billion to the World Cup including locally planned festivities.

The U.S. is expected to face some heavy competition in the group stage against the No. 2 and No. 3 teams in the world, Germany and Portugal.

“How many teams get to play Ghana, Portugal and Germany in one World Cup? We’re excited about the opportunity, as daunting as it might seem,” said Donovan. The U.S. were defeated 2-1 in the 2010 World Cup against Ghana where they lost in extra time. In group G the U.S. must also face off against Cristiano Ronaldo, who currently plays for Real Madrid, and Portugal.

Ronaldo was recently dubbed the best soccer player in the world, according to FIFA and will undoubtedly keep the U.S. attentive in their scheduled match up for group play. Donovan recently commented on Ronaldo and his expectations for the World Cup.

“He [Ronaldo] can single handedly win games against some of the best teams in the world, we will certainly be cautious of where he is,” Donovan continued.

“But there is still a lot of confidence in our team that we can advance and get out of this group.” Klinsmann also expects to make it passed group stage and into the qualifying rounds.

“We can surprise people in Brazil, but obviously our expectation is to get out of the group no matter who we draw. After that, we need to make the players understand it is all about mind games,” Klinsmann continued.

“Every game becomes 50-50 and will be won by the team who is better prepared and believes in themselves more.”

The last time the United States Men’s National Soccer team placed in a World Cup was in 1930 with a third place finish.
Rams make history with Sam

By LUIS PETTY
Staff Writer

M ichael Sam, an openly gay player in the Na-
tional Football League (NFL), was selected by
the St. Louis Rams on Saturday, May 10, 2014.

This NFL draft is being considered a point
of progress for American football.

Sam is from the small town of Hitchcock, Texas, a town 40 miles southeast
of Houston, Texas.

In an article to The New York Times, in
an interview by Joe Drape, Steve Elder and
Billy Witz, Sam didn’t have an easy child-
hood.

He grew up with a strong masculine
father Michael Sam Sr., who expressed in
an interview his negative reaction while
celebrating his birthday at a Denny’s to the
news of his son’s sexual orientation.

Sam came out publicly on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014.

“That was our ball. We got robbed,” said
Billiken coach Doc Rivers.

“I couldn’t eat no more so, I went to
Applebee’s to have drinks. I don’t want my
grandkids raised in that kind of environ-
ment,” stated Sam Sr.

Though Sam Sr. responded negatively to
the news, he did explain that he loved his
son and had hoped that his son would
make it to the NFL.

He explained that it was just another
obstacle his son must overcome.

“As a black man, we have so many
hurdles to cross. This is just one he has to
cross,” stated Sam Sr.

Growing up Sam was the seventh
child out of eight and experienced hardships, ridicule and the death of three of his
siblings.

His two year old sister drowned before
he was born, another was shot at 15 in a
suspected gang related initiation, and the
third brother has been missing since 1998.

And is considered dead by the family.

Sam explained that he wanted to be
the beacon for the family, which fueled his
desire to succeed.

“My family was very notorious in the
town that we lived in. Everyone would say,
‘There goes those damn Sams.’ I didn’t
want to paint that ill picture of me. I knew
the good in my family. I wanted to succeed and be a beacon of
hope in my family,” stated Sam.

Sam now lives in Missouri and has a
complicated relationship with his family.
He usually stays with friends when he vis-
its his home town of Hitchcock.

Throughout his time at the Univer-
sity of Missouri, Sam gradually revealed
his sexual orientation and was praised and
supported by his friends and colleges for
his courage to come out.

“He got that big boulder off his back.
He could be himself and not always be
hiding something from everybody,” stated
L’Damon Wahington, a wide receiver
and close friend of Sam to The New York Times.

This past Saturday, the NFL’s vice
president Mike Kensil announced that the
Rams had picked Michael Sam with the
249 pick.

In an article by William C. Rhoden to
The New York Times, Kensil explained that
he believed Sam is a good player and was a
clever choice for the Rams.

“He’s a good player. St. Louis realized
he was a good player, and they were smart
eough to take him,” said Kensil to The

Sam was so overwhelmed when he
was told that he was drafted by the Rams
that he kissed his boyfriend while being
filmed on national television.

This video aroused some controversy
for the NFL and for Sam.

In light of the circumstances, Sam
continues to be commended by the media
and other NFL players.

NBA players shoot for championship

By ELIZABETH PIRAINO
Staff Writer

The NBA playoffs are in full swing as
teams are finishing up each of their series.
The Brooklyn Nets series with the Miami
Heat at American Airlines arena came to an
deep in a losing effort. Unfortunately for
the Nets, the Heat came through with less
than five minutes to play to end the game
and eliminated the Nets.

Miami was down by eight points with
4:49 left in the game and came back with
disputed answers. The Heat put the
game away for good when Ray Allen, the
NBA 3-point leader, sank a three-point
shot with 11 seconds left to the game.

“As when we met the first day for prep
we said the No.1 key, overwhelmingly the
No. 1 key in this series, was great men-
tal stability. That’s what it was down the
stretch […] incredible focus,” stated Erik
Spoelstra, Miami coach.

The Heat won the series 4-1, sending them to their third con-
secutive Eastern Conference Finals where they will play against the winner of the
Indiana-Washington series.

The loss was especially painful for
the Nets. Joe Johnson, Brooklyn’s starting
guard said, “It’s very disappointing to go
out like this; this team was assembled to
win the championship. It’s very frustrat-
ing.” The Heat are the favorite to three-
peat as NBA champions with Las Vegas
bookmakers listing them at 1-1.

Brooklyn’s chances of making it into
the playoffs next season look very dim as
they will most likely lose key players, Ke-
vin Garnett and Paul Pierce to other teams
or retirement. The Indiana Pacers are leading
the Washington Wizards 3-2 in their se-
ries as of press time. Western Conference
Semi-Finals the San Antonio Spurs beat the Portland Trail Blazers 4-1 and guaran-
teed their spot in the Western Conference
finals.

The Spurs will play the winner of the
Los Angeles Clippers-Oklahoma City
Thunder series. As of press time, the Thun-
der lead 3-2 in the best-of-seven series. The Trail Blazers were blown-out to end their
series with the Spurs by a score of 104-82.

The Spurs won the game despite
an injury to star Tony Parker, who sat out the
entire second-half with tightness in his left
hamstring muscle. “After a tough series with Dallas, they came out and played ex-
tremely well this series […] It is a compli-
ment to all the years that they have been here and the program that they have devel-
oped. They certainly outplayed us in this
series,” said Terry Scott, Portland coach
after the Trail Blazers’ loss.

Paul George will be the winner of the
Thunder-Clippers series. Oklahoma
City won game five after a disputed
call by a referee. Clipper’s coach Doc Riv-
ers described the call that gave the ball to
Oklahoma City.

“That is a game defining and possibly
a season defining call. And that’s not right.
That was our ball. We got robbed,” said
Rivers.

The Clippers will now attempt to re-
bound from the heartbreaking loss and ex-
tend their season.

The NBA players are challenging each other both on the East and West coast, playing to the best of their abilities to represent their teams. Teams are making their way to the second part of the playoffs and players are starting to feel the pressure.
Cosmic Climbing

CSUSB Rec Center hosts night of fun with friends, food, and rock climbing

By Donte Medder
Staff Writer

Cosmic climbing is a spin off of the popular cosmic bowling.

CSUSB’s Rec Center held its first Cosmic Climbing event on May 9. The event encouraged students to use the climbing wall in the Rec Center.

“Cosmic climbing was the biggest event,” said CSUSB student Niko Rabbitts.

“We had about 35 people that came and a lot of people that came to the event are coming back,” Rabbitts continued.

CSUSB student Dominic Trujillo, director and coordinator of the event, said he was inspired by the usage of cosmic climbing in other gyms around the country.

“I saw it online. I was reading a forum about other climbing gyms and I know we’ve never done anything like it,” said Trujillo. Cosmic Climbing was planned in order to attract attention to the climbing wall.

CSUSB student Ashley Temm said, “It’s a fun event to get both new and experienced climbers to try out the rock wall.”

Bright neon colors were brought to the already colorful climbing wall.

Neon tape and paint also adorned the wall in directional patterns for climbers to race.

Black lights were brought in to make the colors pop, so even though the Rec Center’s lights were off the building they still shined brightly.

Glow in the dark balloons were brought in to add to the brilliant scene.

The event took all of three months to plan and set up the event.

“I had the idea and then I started contacting people and researching it, then I made a proposal to my superiors,” said Trujillo.

Adding the glow-in-the-dark tape to the wall took three days with about an hour of work being put into each day and painting the holes in the wall took two weeks.

“We had to choose where we wanted to go so we had to figure the routes out before we put them up on the wall,” said Trujillo.

CSUSB student Marissa Hobbs appreciated the new decorations to the wall for the event.

Hobbs said she believed in the weeks leading up to the event the wall saw a lot more attention.

“I noticed that throughout the week a lot of people who normally don’t climb, who aren’t regulars, have become very interested with the tape and decorations,” said Hobbs. Student Charles Brocar liked how the event put everyone on the same playing field.

“The event made it to where anyone who was a beginner would want to come back,” said Brocar.

New climbers were able to begin on less difficult paths and experienced climbers could challenge themselves and nice prizes were available upon completion.

“Even if you were a beginner or an expert the prizes for completing a route were still great,” continued Brocar.

With prizes like helmets and crash kits available, the wall may see plenty more attention from climbers trying to get the edge.

“We had about 35 people that came and a lot of people that came to the event are coming back.”

Niko Rabbit
CSUSB Student