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Students respond to MyCoyote changes

By JOCELYN COLBERT
Staff Writer

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

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

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

Assisted suicide stirs controversy, pg. 5

Celebrity worship epidemic, pg. 9

Geographer makes it quake, pg. 12

U.S. Soccer team takes hit, pg. 14
State of the Union coverage

- The New York Times - President Obama claimed credit on Tuesday for an improving economy and defiantly told his Republican adversaries in Congress to “turn the page” by supporting an expensive domestic agenda aimed at improving the fortunes of the middle class.

- The Guardian - When Barack Obama looked out into the audience of his State of the Union speech on Tuesday, he was met with a truly historic sight. No Democratic president in the last century has addressed a Congress dominated by so many Republican lawmakers.

- The Wall Street Journal - President Obama’s State of the Union address Tuesday didn’t contain any surprises, but it did unveil the clearest picture yet of the strategy Obama has adopted for the final two years of his presidency.

- The Chicago Tribune - President Barack Obama on Tuesday unveiled an ambitious State of the Union agenda steeped in Democratic priorities, including tax increases on the wealthy, education and child care help for the middle class and a torrent of veto threats for the GOP’s own plans.

THE GREATEST SUMMER OF YOUR LIFE!
CAMP PONTIAC IS COMING TO CSUSB!

Camp Pontiac, a premier co-ed overnight camp located in New York State, is looking for fun, enthusiastic and mature individuals who can teach and assist in all areas of athletics, aquatics, the arts or as general bunk counselor. View our website at www.camppontiac.com. To set an interview please e-mail Stefanie@camppontiac.com or call Stephanie at 516-626-7668. Interviews will be held on Friday, February 20th, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at the Career Center in University Hall, room 329.
There is a new app on the market designed to increase retention rates and improve grades at colleges by tracking student attendance and sending notifications to parents and/or school officials.

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

“Schools are under pressure from taxpayers and parents to increase retention and graduation rates,” reports The Wall Street Journal.

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

CSUSB’s retention rate is greater than the national average reported by the Institute of Educational Sciences (IES), which completed their bachelor’s degree within six years, stated CSUSB Director of Institutional Research, Dr. Muriel Lopez-Wagner. "Our current retention rate is 88 percent," added Lopez-Wagner.

CSUSB’s College Promise will be included in the 2016 federal budget. The states will pay for the rest.

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

People are given to different honor society chapters when journals are reviewed and awards are given to the journal, or donate their time to become part of the journal, or donate their time to be part of the editorial board who approves the journal, or dismiss submissions.

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

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

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

“With more money being provided, the community colleges are also able to improve themselves. They will have the money to purchase more supplies like books, computers, desks and have more ways to assist their students, according to Quartz News.”

CSUSB sorority wins history journal award

By TANYA HARPWELL Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

The journal, sponsored by Phi Theta Alpha, is published twice a year.

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

“We are a professional society whose mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians,” according to the Phi Alpha Theta mission statement.

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

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

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

“Chief editors complete the journal in fall and it is sent off for review. The entire process culminates in July when journals are reviewed and awards are given to different honor society chapters.”

“Of the first two years of community college free and wait to see the outcome.”

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

“One is a professional society whose mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians,” according to the Phi Alpha Theta mission statement. The journal covers all topics of history from all over the globe. This includes African history, racial theory and a new section highlighting how world leaders are remembered after their deaths. Producing the journal is a year-long process. An editorial board is selected every fall quarter. During winter quarter students submit work to the editorial board who approves or dismisses submitted entries. Chief editors complete the journal in fall and it is sent off for review. The entire process culminates in July when journals are reviewed and awards are given to different honor society chapters.

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

Dr. Lyon started the journal at CSUSB in 2008. “The journal started as an experiment,” said Lyon. This quarter, Phi Alpha Theta is back at it selecting student submissions to be in this year’s journal. When asked what was next for the chapter, Lyon shared that she hoped to “continue to get awards and keep students excited.”
Smartphone users, all brands, “disadvantaged” when phoneless

By MARYL RODRIGUEZ Managing Editor

Smartphone users’ cognitive ability is impacted negatively when separated from their devices. According to valuetailk.com, University of Missouri researchers ran a study where they separated iPhone users from their phones and found that this caused a downturn on mental task performance.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Some may refer to people’s dependency to their phone as an addiction and others as an obsession. The Huffington Post distinguishes between the two stating that addiction means wanting to fulfill the need of a learned pleasurable experience while obsession is an anxiety-based disorder.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Opinions

Instagram lacks #hashtag security

By ANGIE BURKHART
Staff Writer

Instagram needs stronger regulations on dangerous and offensive self-harm content. Hashtags have become a recognizable symbol, yet have given rise to some dangerous trends.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Patients have right to choose

By JACOB COLLINS
Staff Writer

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

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

On Wednesday, Jan. 14, a bill was introduced to California state legislature that, if passed, would allow physician-assisted death with the following conditions: a prognosis of six months or less to live is given by two doctors, the medication is self-administered, passed, would allow physician-assisted death with the following conditions: a prognosis of six months or less to live is given by two doctors, the medication is self-administered,

The bill includes exclusions for Catholic hospitals, which choose not to offer the medication to their patients, but not everyone in the state of California practices Catholicism, therefore this law should be regulated by the state.

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

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

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

By ESSENCE DENNIS
Staff Writer

Cultural appropriation is an issue that warrants discussion, and students should be aware and informed. Cultural appropriation is taking another person’s culture and making it into some sort of trend or otherwise belittling it whether for personal or popular reasons. In some cases, people are more interested in taking advantage of the culture to generate profit, rather than having respect for the people that are a part of the culture.

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

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

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

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

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

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

“I think that whoever is in charge should take some action,” said junior Andre Gil-dore, about informing students about the consequences of their appropriating behavior. The media seems to perpetuate such ignorance, so a lot of students may think this kind of behavior is acceptable.

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

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

In my opinion, cultural appropriation is a problem, and our campus is not immune. As students we should educate ourselves about “borrowing” or imitating traditions from cultures apart from our own because our behavior and actions can be offensive.

American Sniper Chris Kyle fuels controversy

By DOMINIC INDOLINO
Staff Writer

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

After completing four tours in Iraq, Kyle wrote a best-selling novel, titled “American Sniper.” This novel inspired patriots across the states to venerate Kyle as an American hero.

In 2013, Kyle was killed by a fellow veteran, whose motive was unclear, according to El Paso County sheriff's.

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

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

The release of Eastwood’s film was met with massive backlash from critics, stating that Eastwood glorified Kyle. Alex Horton from The Guardian quotes excerpts from Kyle’s autobiography, in which he states, “I hate the damn savages,” and “I couldn’t give a flying [expletive] about the Iraqis.”

Apart from his prejudices, Kyle was notorious for stretching the truth. He bragged about killing a robber in Texas for trying to steal his truck and about punching a Viet Cong in the head. When Browning of the Star Tribune reported that Ventura later won a $1.8 million settlement for defamation. The omission of Kyle’s lies, prejudices, and bad behavior have concerned critics like Scott Foundas of Variety magazine.

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

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

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

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

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

I believe that it is only natural for every soldier to show some amount of animosity towards his enemy. In my opinion, Kyle allowed this hatred to spread to include all Iraqis and Muslims.

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

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

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

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

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

I believe that Kyle served as a symbol for courage during hardship, although knowing who he was diminishes that symbol. Maybe the old saying is true? Never meet your heroes.
Student Anthony Donatelli aspires to host a late-night television of his own, similar to Jimmy Kimmel or Jimmy Fallon.

Coyote Radio prepares student for professional work

K-FROG meets Coyote

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

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

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

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

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

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

Donatelli was interviewed for a position and was hired just a few weeks later. I had the pleasure of sitting down with Donatelli to ask him about his journey through radio.

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

By ANNA GONZALES
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

By MACKENZIE VIERA
Staff Writer

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

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

Let’s do the math. According to csusb.edu, the tuition fee per quarter is $1,824. Below the total tuition, students seem to overlook the mandatory fees. Multiply that amount by three quarters and you have $5,472. Multiply that amount by three quarters and you have $5,472.

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

“I use to pay sixty bucks every month to work out at the gym I never use,” said Valerie Rose. “That’s actually cool. I would rather do that than pay for a new Vitamin Water fountain machine.”

Some of the mandatory campus charges are the Market Place, located next to the Social and Behavioral Sciences building, offers fresh coffee, healthy snacks, and meals on the go.

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

“They’re called ‘mandatory charges,’ what else are we supposed to do? We can’t refuse to pay and if we did, what? Are we going to be banned from the SU?” said Valerie Rose. “That’s actually cool. I would rather do that than pay for a new Vitamin Water fountain machine.”

Students who were in favor of paying for the gym addmitted to not using it, but plan to.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

By SAMANTHA ROMERO  
Staff Writer

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

The police force is intended to protect and serve the community. They investigate and arrest criminals, doling out karmic retribution to that speeder who almost took your car out to justice. They can make you feel safer walking to your car at night—or perhaps not.

Despite all this, not everyone thinks of the police force this way, at least with the Ferguson protests and social media hashtag campaigns, such as #ICantBreathe and #BlackLivesMatter.

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

Most of the younger generation have joined forces to support one another during these controversial times.

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

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

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

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

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

We tend to forget that they are regular people too, who are just trying to make the world a safer place for everyone, as well as for their own families.

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

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

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

Kim Kardashian @KimKardashian
OMG 20 MILLION FOLLOWERS! ARE U KIDDING ME!! THANK U SO MUCH!!!!! I LOVE YOU GUYS!!!!!!! XOXOX ALL I REALLY WANTED WAS 20MIL & A BAD B......
CSUSB presents a remarkable tale in “Black Butterfly,” written by Luis Alfaro, a story of six Latina girls growing up in the gritty streets of East Los Angeles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Inspired by a close person in her life, she then makes the decision to use her memories as inspiration for her writing, which is the vocal point for the entire play.

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

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

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

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

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

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

This is a message every girl needs to hear.

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

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

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

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

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

By BREE REYES
Staff Writer

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

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

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

“Getting a chance to work with some alumni and guest soprano Treen, a fourth year trumpet player and a 30-year-old Jose Luis Zacarias, who crossed the road’s double yellow line and hit the car Ramadan was driving. He was killed in the crash.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

Feed the bookworm in you

By ALEJANDRO CARDENAS
Staff Writer

Bookworms at CSUSB agree on their favorite contemporary literature recommendations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Divergent” was mentioned by many of the younger students, and is centered on the dystopian, post-apocalyptic city of Chi- cago when Beatrice Prior, a young girl with unusual traits, fights to protect her loved ones from a corrupt government takeover.

“The Longest Ride” follows the conver- ging lives of two couples from very dif- ferent generations and was a popular rec- ommendation among female readers. The author, Sparks, is most famously known for writing the popular romance “The Notebook.”

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

Other readers often recommended “The Fault in our Stars,” a book which switches to the lyrics of Santiago, a young boy who sets off on a journey after believing a recurring dream to be a message from his loved ones from a corrupt government.

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

By DALAL MUSEYTEF
Asst. Features Editor

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

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

After adopting vocalist, Sarah Mar- tin, the indie band released a series of EPs including, “Dog on Wheels,” “Lazzy Line Painter Jane,” and “3...6...9 Seconds of Light,” which individually only fea- tured four tracks.

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Right at this moment, I think it’s slightly afraid to step out of her comfort zone by dancing, which pertains to the lyric, “Jump to the beat of the party line! There is no one here but your body, dear.”

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

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

Surrounded by shimmering pianos, bright synths, and a crisp studio sheen, the song emerges as one of the most inti- mate and triumphant of the band’s ca- reer.

“Even the artwork is different. This is their first cover that doesn’t use a monochromatic photograph,” stated Matador Records. For a fan upbeat records you can scout their album on iTunes and in limited stores today!
Indie-rocker Geographer, performed an exciting show in Pomona on Friday, Jan. 16 that included new music and new fans.

The Glass House is a small venue in Pomona that allows for an intimate show for fans. Members of the crowd were screaming out the band’s name as they waited for the San Francisco-based band to take the stage.

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

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

If I could describe Deni in just three words, they would be tall, dark, and handsome. I was mesmerized by Deni’s appearance and once his haunting lyrics escaped his mouth, I couldn’t contain myself.

The band opened with “Verona,” a single off their first album, and my personal favorite. I find it safe to say I wasn’t the only one who couldn’t contain myself.

Almost all of the fans were enthusiastically jumping up and down and shouting lyrics. “The fans really set up the perfect atmosphere. It made my experience that much more enjoyable. Sometimes the crowd is just as important as the music,” said Jacob Wright, another fan in the crowd that night.

I agree with Wright when he says that the enthusiasm of a crowd can sometimes be just as important as the music.

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

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

Geographer has played at various music festivals, such as Outside Lands in San Francisco and First City Music Festival in Monterey. The band has also seemed to gain a lot more recognition after going on tour with Tokyo Police Club and being featured on a few MTV shows.

After pointing out new fans, Deni introduced and performed a new song titled “I’m Ready.” I absolutely fell in love with this new song. The melody of the tune sounds similar to the songs on the band’s first album but more optimistic. It seems as though they are sticking to their roots but branching out and adding a few style touches.

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

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

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

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

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

By NADIA AHMAD

Staff Writer

Mike Deni causes a stir with his confident persona portrayed on stage, creating a memorable night for many. Geographer won fans of their elegance.

By ALANA ROCHE

Staff Writer

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

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

It’s a T.V. series about a man named Lucious Lyon, played by Howard, who owns a top record company. He just found out he has a fatal illness and wants to choose one of his three sons to inherit and once his haunting lyrics escaped his mouth, I couldn’t contain myself.

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Hope’s new troubles

By SHELBY HANCOCK
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Officers reported visible damage to the nephew’s jawbone, nose, ear, and arms. Her sister tried to intervene and suffered a swollen cheek bone, said the Police department.

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

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

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

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

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

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

“I always had faith that once the facts of the case were presented, I would be cleared of all charges and I am so happy and relieved to finally have it all behind me,” stated Solo.

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

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

“We feel at this time it is best for her to step away from the team,” said head coach Jill Ellis.

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

Solo has been suspended 30 days from the U.S. National Team, according to USA Today, due to an incident happening early Monday, Jan. 19 regarding driving under the influence. More details regarding the incident continue to come out.
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Player of the Week
Coyote men’s basketball guard Taylor Statham gives students the inside scoop

By JACQUES LEE
Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

His role models are his parents.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Taylor Statham
Senior Guard

THE INSIDE SCOOP:

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