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, parents, or colleges focusing too much on social aspects and less on academic criteria.

Moreover, the subject is also related to college graduate unemployment, where a recent study by the Economic Policy Institute revealed that about 8.5 percent of graduates between the ages of 21 and 24 are currently unemployed and about 16.8 percent in the same age range are underemployed.

Another survey commissioned by the Association of American Colleges and Universities found about 91 percent of employers find the capacity to think critically, communicate clearly, and solve complex problems is far more imperative than a candidates’ undergraduate major.

According to a Wall Street Journal report, Jassalyn K. James, who oversees the CLA+, said that even when students have proven remarkable growth during their four-year college learning, they fall on a low-point start where they may not be proficient in such skill sets by the time they graduate.

This is especially true with important transferable skills that are applied nowadays in many white collar jobs.

New college graduates are entering the workforce unprepared.

This is affecting their eligibility for white-collar jobs based on study results collected by the Council for Aid to Education orations about the reasons for recent graduates, which includes the same age range are underemployed.

In a similar report by Ryot News, there are several assumptions about the reasons for recent graduates, which includes the current status of the economy, this generation’s work ethic prac-

college students graduate without workforce skills

By MARVIN GARCIA
Staff Writer

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4 out of 10 college students graduate without workforce skills

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Get a free ride to college.

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 Los Angeles Times - 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.

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Obama proposes free community college

By JORGE CAMPOS Staff Writer

President Barack Obama has officially proposed to make community colleges “virtually free” for anyone who is willing to work for it. This economic help will only benefit students who graduate high school with a GPA of 2.5 or higher. His plan, the America’s College Promise, will encourage students to maintain good grades and reach for a high school diploma. The program, Class120, created by Jeff Worthey and his team at Core Princi- ple, seeks “to help students succeed in col- lege,” as stated on their official website, by tracking student attendance and send- ing notifications to parents and/or school officials.

The plan uses GPS to pin-point a stu- dent’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 tax-

payers and parents to increase retention and graduation rates,” reports The Wall Street Journal. “Of the first time freshmen who be- gan in Fall 2008, 47 percent of them completed their bachelor’s degree within six years,” stated CSUSB Director of In- stitutional 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 Insti- tute of Educational Sciences (IES), which reported by IES is averaged at 59 percent for four-year public universities.

However, the national graduation rate reported by IES is averaged at 59 percent for four-year public universities, which CSUSB falls short of.

Through research (where they found that 25 percent of students they surveyed miss a year or more of classes throughout their college career) the Class120 team de- cided that the solutions to raise these num- bers was to “go to class,” which is now the motto for the app.

There are two package types (basic and plus) and four different versions of the app—for colleges, athletic departments, parents and for students. Depending on the package and ver- sion, Class120 provides real-time infor- mation regarding categories such as most missed classes, percentage of classes at- tended, countdown till next class time, and notifications sent. Efforts to determine whether the app can be turned-off or go incognito from parents and officials turned up no results.

Universities such as Columbia Col- lege of Chicago, Georgetown University, UC San Diego, and many more have already tested the Class120 app.

“If I feel the students need the extra pressure to attend class regularly, then this would definitely be beneficial for them,” said student Melissa Dailey.

“Ideally all classes should be attend- ed, but it is ultimately up to the student’s discretion... the parents don’t attend class, the student does,” continued Daily.

“I think it’s an invasion of privacy,” said student Vladimir Gonzalez.

Harvard recorded classrooms without students’ knowledge to research class at- tendance patterns. While Villanova Uni- versity in Philadelphia uses students’ ID cards to track attendance, according to The Wall Street Journal.

“Attendance is the most accurate pre- dictor of success in a college class,” stated the Class120 official website.

CSUSB sorority wins history journal award

By TANIA HARWELL Staff Writer

Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Soci- ety was awarded first prize in the Gerald D. Nash History Journal competition for its student journal, “History in the Mak- ing.”

This marks the fourth year of academ- ic 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 each spring. It is written and edited by CSUSB students.

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

“The journal started as an experi- ment,” said Lyon.

This quarter, Phi Alpha Theta is back at 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 MARLYN RODRIGUEZ Managing Editor

Smartphone users’ cognitive ability is impacted negatively when separated from their devices.

According to valuetalk.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 misplace it, reports USA Today. Some may refer to people’s dependency to their phone as an addiction and others as an obsession.

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 study conducted in 2010 stated that people spent 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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Students comment on new website

Continued from Pg. 1

ents and community constituents,” said Samuel Sudhakar, vice resident and chief information officer at CSUSB.

Due to aging equipment and older technologies, MyCoyote has migrated to a newer platform that Web 2.0 supports.

The project started in February 2014 and was released to the campus community in late September 2014.

“MyCoyote was migrated from PeopleSoft portal to an open based, cloud hosted solution powered by CampusCloud and Liferay portal,” said Sunny Lin, lead operating systems analyst at CSUSB.

The Information Technology Services (ITS) team, responsible for creating the brand new MyCoyote, is located in the Wedge, which is located by the main entrance.

A native new portal was created in six months, led by Tiffany Chiang, PeopleSoft campus solution technical lead and Anthony De La Loza, MyCoyote portal administrator.

“We adopted this new technology to include several flexible layers within the portal,” said Chiang.

“Everything was moved to the Cloud for this big-scope project,” said De La Loza.

MyCoyote focus groups were aimed at testing every part of the new portal, said Lenora Rodgers, director of administrative computing and business intelligence at CSUSB.

“I got used to it,” said student Diana Lee. “As a professor it’s a lot better. You can get things you want quickly, making it a one-stop shop for professors and students,” said Dr. C.E. Tapie Rohm.

MyCoyote is created in phases. The phase one task was to create a portal that connects to other applications such as e-mail and blackboard. PeopleSoft functionality was provided with one click.

Phase two is the feedback. Various IT departments want to know what the campus community wants to see, and will provide enhancement to the site based on the feedback.

During the coming phases, other functions will be added and any other applications that the community needs.

“We’ve created an 85 page ‘How To’ for MyCoyote, including an index. When you log on to MyCoyote, click student or employee; then on the right hand side of the page, click the Self Service link in the ‘How To’ box,” said Chiang.

Login to your MyCoyote account to view the “How To” instructional guide detailing the changes.
The medication is self-administered and allows patient to slowly slip into unconsciousness until they are legally dead.

The main argument against physician-assisted death is that it is unethical or immoral, and that it diminishes the “sanctity” of human life. However, I do not believe in “objective” morality or absolute morality. What is moral to one individual may be immoral to the other, which is apparent in society by separation on various issues such as abortion, or gay marriage.

I think that forcing other people to endure pain and suffering at the end of their life is immoral, and that people should be able to end their life on their own terms. It’s no different than “pulling the plug” on patients with life support.

I completely am for it. Why would you prolong suffering to someone instead of allowing someone to be at ease?” said student Joshua Jimenez.

Other objections come from a religious standpoint, mainly Catholicism, which according to the Catholic Church, the only problem is that you cannot and should not condone religion with laws that are imposed on all of society.

Catholic hospitals can outright refuse the medication to offer 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.

Patients have right to choose

By JACOB COLLINS  Staff Writer

Terminally 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, the patient is mentally competent to make their own medical decisions, treatment options such as hospice and pain management are discussed, two oral and a written request are made 15 days apart, and that two witnesses attest to the request according to San Jose Mercury News.

The bill includes exclusions for Catholic hospitals, which choose not to offer the “right to die” for terminally ill patients that fall under the criteria.

The option for patients that are suffering from their terminal illness to end their own life should be a right.

We control our own bodies and should be able to decide how we want to live the rest of our lives, whether that means dying painlessly at home with loved ones or slowly in a hospital.

The main argument against physician-assisted death is that it is unethical or immoral,
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 Ray caused quite the uproar when filming her “Ride” music video, adorning a Native American headdress 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. Why can it be culturally diverse if we 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 lox 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.

“What 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 Erath County sheriffs.

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 man in the face. According to 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 the hatred to spread to include all Iraqis and Muslims.

Eastwood showed 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.

Photos courtesy of dmagazine

Cultural appropriators ignorantly “borrow” certain traditions of different cultures without acknowledging cultural significance.

Appropriators
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

By ANNA GONZALES  
Chronicle Staff Writer

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-Greene, 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 Coyote Radio.

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: How did Coyote radio help you with your start at K-FROG?

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-Greene 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 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 sparked your interest for Coyote Radio?

A: Coyote Radio would be a great place to get their start. Also, if you work really, 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.
Students blase 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 small print that states “mandatory charges.” Multiply that amount by three quarters and you have $5,472. Leaving a mysterious amount of $1,624—most CSUSB students have no understanding of its allocation.

“Up until my junior year, I never knew what I was paying, or rather, what financial aid was paying for,” said student Jasmine Jett.

When logging on to mycsusb.edu, students are given the option to view their financial activity that explains where money goes. For students who are well informed, they don’t need much explanation.

“Have you seen the gym? Even the walk to the gym looks mighty pricey,” said Vivian Fernandez. “Don’t get me wrong, the aesthetics of the campus are really nice, but it’s just unnecessary. I don’t need a hand scanner to get into a gym I never use.”

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 Gold’s Gym,” said Eddie Palmer. “I didn’t know exactly how much I was paying for the school gym, but I guarantee it’s cheaper than what I used to pay.”

Students who were in favor of paying for the gym admitted 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.

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BOOK REVIEW:

By DANIEL DEMARCO
Copy Editor

Were you free not to read this review? Author Sam Harris would say “No.”

Surely, you’re not being forced to read my review of Harris’ book, “Free Will”, but even though you are reading this as a result of a conscious decision, you were not the author of the thoughts and intentions which preceded; thoughts emerge in the conscience as a result of neural events in the brain.

Maybe you’ll decide to stop reading now, just out of spite to prove a point that you are indeed free not to read my review. That decision though, would too be the result of thoughts and intentions arising in the conscious mind completely out of your control.

“Free will is an illusion,” states Harris in, perhaps, his most controversial book so far.

Harris is most known for his harsh criticisms of religion as a whole, both as a best-selling author and public figure. As polarizing as that topic is, Harris’ stance on free will divides even non-believers who tend to stand behind Harris on any other subject.

Harris has said that perhaps the only thing which brings more worry to people than the idea they have no free will, is the certainty of death and the uncertainty of what follows, if anything at all.

This is a high status to be attributed, and I don’t think it is unjustified. As people, we feel that we are in control of ourselves, we feel that we make decisions and choices to shape our lives; to consider the idea that we are not in control of who we are and what we do is alarming.

But, as Harris points out rather well, taking a few moments of strict self-examination, you’ll find you no more choose your next thought than you choose what I will write next.

Harris has an unusual way of approaching complex intellectual subjects and communicating them in a manner that can be widely understood—simple and to the point.

This is typical of Harris, who does this in all his writing, as well as in public speeches and debates.

A major part of the reason Harris accomplishes this is that he only requires common sense, reason, and scientific evidence at his disposal.

One might expect to hear plenty of philosophy and metaphysics considering the topic, but Harris actually ends up confronting some of these arguments rather than supporting them—persuasively, in my opinion.

“Free Will” may be Harris’ best testament to the simple, yet utterly effective, style I have ascribed to him, as he presents his entire argument in a mere 66 pages.

So yes, the subject is approached in a simplistic manner, the book is about as thick as a pencil; yet it is a remarkably effective means of presenting his case where most authors would take hundreds of pages and require a heavy vocabulary to make the exact same point.

Some of you will finish this fascinated and eager to read the book yourself; some will think it is a crock and dismiss the whole idea, some will fit somewhere in the middle.

Are you free to decide which category you fit in? No, the choice has been made for you just as it was for me when I was introduced to the book.

As Harris wrote: “Am I free to change my mind? Of course not. It can only change me.”
Coyotes deny celebrity worship

By CAMILLIA DABBABNEH  Staff Writer

While some Coyotes deny exchanging in hero worship of the rich and famous, maybe they do.

“I don’t think I objectively celebrate, but I do consider them regular people in comparison to myself,” said student Amelia Murillo.

“They live their lives more luxurious which makes them different in a way.”

Celebrities often have fans aspire to be like them or idolize them.

“Society loves the idea of having their own desires and goals visible,” said Lisa Brown, student at Los Angeles Pierce College.

Most of the people that invest so much time into celebrities’ activities seem to fantasize about leading a similar life.

“People wish to be rich and famous so they spend a lot of their time focusing on celebrities who live the rich lifestyle so they can feel connected,” said student Lukas Montes.

However, some people become extremely invested in their lives because they may feel that they can relate in many different aspects—more personal problems, like their love lives or family issues.

“I have always followed Kim Kardashian, but now it’s even more interesting because she has a daughter which is a few months older than my own,” said Brown.

Coyotes agree that spending time following these celebrities is considered more of an escape from reality.

“People want to escape their average lives and fantasize that maybe one day they can live the life that they live,” said Murillo.

Celebrities aren’t only seen and followed on television or film. Some might even be social media famous for likes, followers or bloggers.

Social media celebrities may be perceived as normal to a majority, so it may be easier to relate to their everyday advice.

“I follow social celebrities like Jennifer Stano and Egries Jergjiani because they are great bloggers and give great mommy advice,” said Brown. Adding, “Their success and fabulous lifestyles are also great.”

Many students may follow at least one celebrity on social media accounts such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr.

“More than half the people I follow on Instagram are celebrities, bloggers, fitness experts, and designers,” said Brown. “Some of them I follow because I am fascinated by the marketing.”

Celebrities are portrayed as beautiful and perfect, which is perpetuated by the media, as it displays constant, airbrushed magazine covers and coverage at events like the Golden Globes and the Emmys.

“People have become so invested in the rich and famous because to them they seem perfect,” said Sarah Al Farah. “They are all so beautiful which makes society think that it is all real and people get caught up in that.”

Society is always feeding into media outlet stories, whether the stories are positive or filled with drama. Dramatic stories are my guilty pleasure.

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......

Mixed feelings about police presence

By SAMANTHA ROMERO  Staff Writer

The general populace doesn’t seem to think of police officers in amicable terms. “Police make me feel uncomfor- table 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 karmatic 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 #BlackLivesMatter and #ICan'tBreathe.

“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 consistent events.

This feeling of unease causes obvious problems for both the police force and the public, particularly because some individu- als 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 pre- sented 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 second thoughts 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 re- member 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.
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.”
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Monday, January 26, 2015

Arts & Entertainment

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.

The concert is a celebration of Ramadan’s life in music, and the music being performed 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 music were selected to “strike the balance between reflective of Danny's life but celebratory.”

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 "Irish Tune" from ‘County Derry', whose lyrics include the phrase “Oh Danny Boy.”

“Then 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 Center on Jan. 31 at 6 p.m. tickets are $10 and free parking will be provided in Lot D.

Get groovy with Belle & Sebastian

By DALAL MUSEITEF Staff Writer & Editor

Right beside The Weeknd, Jack White, and Hozier, 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 longest members of the late 90’s band from Glasgow, UK.

After adopting vocalist, Sarah Martin, the indie band released a series of EPs including, “Dog on Wheels,” “Lazy Line Painter Jane,” and “3...6...9 Seconds of Light,” which individually only featured four tracks.

The groovy-esque band has released EPs and albums since 1996. Jeepster Records signed them after their first record. They later released their third LP, “The Boy with the Arab Strap,” in 1998. It reached staggering numbers on the UK charts, also consistently gaining positive reviews from critics.

Belle and Sebastian won Best Newcomer at the Brit Awards, according 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 Grarks Barkley, Animal Collective, and Raury, with a dance-party edge. “The Party Line,” incorporates synthesizers and pop culture vividly throughout the album.

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

The group is 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.”

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

Band member Murdoch’s most personal song ever, “Nobody’s Empire”, touches on his bouts with chronic fatigue syndrome. The video is about, “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 intimate and triumphant of the band’s career.

“Even the artwork is different. This is their first cover that doesn’t use a monochromatic photograph,” stated Matador Records. For a fun upbeat record you can scout their album on iTunes and in limited stores today!

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 released 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 popularity,” said CSUSB student Alfredo Rojas.

“This book is no exception. Its love story of two couples from very different generations and was a popular recommendation 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 “This Is the Story of a Happy Marriage,” a book which revolves around Santiago, a young boy who sets off on a journey after believing a recurring dream in which he finds a hidden treasure is true.

Students looking for other book recommendations 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 Magedanz.

“The Longest Ride” follows the converging lives of two couples from very different generations and was a popular recommendation among female readers. The author, Sparks, is most famously known for writing the popular romance “The Notebook.”

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The book brings together elements of 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 entangling lives of Marie-Laure Leblanc, a blind girl from Paris with a strong bond to her father, and Werner Pfennig, a young electronic-savvy German soldier.

The author uses numerous instances of coincidence to intertwine two very different stories into a single tale of love during dire 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 Wir 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 Chicago when Beatrice Prior, a young girl with unusual traits, fights to protect her loved ones from a corrupt government takeover.

“The Alchemist” follows the story of an astronaut that gets left behind on Mars after the rest of his crew believes he is dead.

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Geographer sings all the right words

By NADIA AHMAD
Staff Writer

Indie-rock trio, 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 producer Lee Daniels.

During the show, Jamal tells his part-
dent, the character portrayed by Mike Deni is a handsome young man who is gay but his homophobic father is against him. Jamal is unable to please his father and feels like he will never be able to live up to his father’s expectations.

When asked about the show, Daniels told Fox News, “He wants to blow the lid off homophobia” in the African-American community.

During his interview, he talks about how “his own father’s hostility toward gays frightened him and he knows the same attitudes are being passed on from one generation to another in households around the world.” Howard told Fox that he is aware of this problem within the African American community and said, “I’m glad that I can show the African American community that this is what you’re doing to your son, this is what you’re doing to the kid down the street.”

Although “Empire” highlights homophobia in the African-American community, it is also seen everywhere else.

When I asked, Kirsten Wilson, a member of the Pride association on campus, said that this story automatically made her think of a picture she saw on Tumblr.

Wilson also believes that parents aren’t properly prepared for raising homosexual children. “They shouldn’t have a child if they’re not ready for how it comes out,” said Wilson. She believes it’s positive for “Empire” to be on air promoting homosexuality on television and it is “good to add to media and normalize it.”

The issue is that society still hasn’t fully accepted homosexuality.

Another member of the Pride association Amber Wilkerson agrees with Howard’s view that homophobic people need to see what they are doing.

Wilkerson added, “People connect to what they see on television, seeing something touchy makes you connect [...] to the character” and makes them think.

Although CSUSB does have a successful Pride Center, Wilkerson believes that there is homophobia on this campus.

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Although CSUSB does have a successful Pride Center, Wilkerson believes that there is homophobia on this campus.

“Some people don’t want to come in [...] to the pride center] because of their homophobia,” said Wilkerson.

Throughout the Pride Center, there are several signs that prohibit homophobia and keep the room a safe zone.

The show “Empire” is helping make homosexuality a norm for television, making its everyday characters more relatable to what’s happening in society.

Blowing the lid off homophobia

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 run his thriving company.

His middle child, Jamal Lyon is a young man who is gay but his homophobic father is against him.

As a child, his father saw him trying on his mother’s high heels and he angrily placed his son in a trash can.

During the show, Jamal tells his partner that “there is too much homophobia in the black community” for him to be accepted to be the next CEO of his father’s company.

When Jamal talks to his father about his sexuality, his father says “your sexual-
ity, that’s a choice, you can choose to sleep with women,” which shows how ignorant his father is about homosexuality.

Throughout the show, Jamal continues to be unable to please his father and feels like he will never be able to live up to his father’s expectations.

When asked about the show, Daniels told Fox News, “He wants to blow the lid off homophobia” in the African-American community.

During his interview, he talks about how “his own father’s hostility toward gays frightened him and he knows the
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The domestic violence charges against U.S. National Women’s Soccer goalkeeper Hope Solo have been dismissed, according to NBC Sports.

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 23, 2014, 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 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 for 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.

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 and appealing this decision,” stated in 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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Hard 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.

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