Tax refund equals tax relief
Diva Casas Staff Writer

Money back into America's pockets and into the economy— that's the goal for the stimulus plan that was signed into law by President George W. Bush on Feb. 15, 2007.

"Our overall economy has grown for six straight years— but that growth has clearly slowed," said Bush, explaining the reasoning behind the stimulus package.

"The bill provides individual tax relief in the form of tax rebates."

In Jan. 2007, about 17,000 jobs were lost, according to the United States Department of Labor.

The rebates are based on 2007 income tax filings and individuals who qualify don't have to do anything other than file their taxes, according to the Internal Revenue Services (IRS).

"The bill provides individual tax relief in the form of tax rebates. These rebates will amount to as much as $600 for individuals and $1,200 for married couples, with additional rebates for families with children," Bush added.

People earning too little to pay taxes, but at least $3,000 including elderly people whose only income is from Social Security and veterans who face disability payments—will get $300 if single, and $600 if a couple, according to the Associated Press (AP).

"The bill I'm signing today is large enough to have an impact— more than to $152 billion this year, or about one percent of gross domestic product (GDP)," said Bush. "The bill provides temporary tax incentives for businesses to make investments in their companies so that we create new jobs this year."

The bill also includes housing. Continued on Pg. 3

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Writers' strike ends
Ken Dillard Copy Editor/Staff Writer

A deal is in place, union members have voted yes and a new contract is set to be ratified.

After 101 days, the Writer's Guild of America (WGA) has finally lifted their strike.

The WGA decided to strike because members were angered over being cut out of new media revenues.

Created entertainment has shifted towards the Internet in the form of streaming episodes on network websites and downloadable episodes through third parties like Apple's iTunes service.

Under the previous contract, producers' and networks were not required to share new revenue streams with writers.

According to the Los Angeles Economic Development program, the strike has hit LA's local economy $3.2 billion in lost wages and revenue.

While most media reports focused on the writers and actors who were not working, nearly every career in the television industry has been severely impacted.

"This was not a strike we wanted, but we had to conduct..."

According to WGA West President Parvesh Verma in a press release.

"These advances now give us a foothold in the digital age. Rather than being shut out of the future of content creation and delivery, writers will lead the way as TV migrates to the Internet and platforms for new media are developed," Verma continued.

"The end of the strike signals a new era of television development but there are still questions that need to be answered about current TV shows. The strike got us on the front of the development of almost every popular program on TV, with the exception of some reality-based shows."

Some shows had enough episodes already filmed to begin airing at their normal season debut dates. Others remain in limbo.

"We are happy with the outcome of this negotiation," WGA East President Paul Simonsen said.

"This was not a strike we wanted, but we had to conduct..."

The process took three years to win a new contract. Continued on Pg. 3
Campagne contributions raise tensions

Hillary Clinton made a personal contribution of $5 million of her personal money in late January to help fund her campaign. "I loaned the campaign $5 million from my money," Clinton said of her personal donation. "I did it because I believe very strongly in this campaign, and we had a great need for funds in January, broke all our records. But my opponent was able to raise more money and we intend to be competitive." In January, Sen. Barack Obama raised a record breaking $32 million for his campaign. His campaign mostly depends on small public dollar donations. Clinton, who depends mainly on wealthy contributors, raised $13.5 million for her campaign.

Hillary Clinton's donations can only donate a maximum of $2,300, according to the Associated Press (AP). Obama has criticized her contribution, noting that she returns her tax contribution from the public until after Super Tuesday. He has demanded that she release her tax returns to the public, according to the AP.

"I think the American people deserve to know where you get your income from," said Obama. Hillary Clinton tried to say she will only release her tax returns if she becomes the Democratic Presidential nominee. "Hillary Clinton should not be excluded from being able to put in her own money for her campaign. Barack Obama doesn't have the personal money to back him up," said Obama. "I'm also expected to show where my personal money in to add to that season. According to reports.com, "House" will air four completely new episodes in April and May. CBS's "Two and a Half Men" and "CSI" will return with nine new episodes on March 17 and six new episodes on April 3, respectively. Both shows come from the ABC's "Big Shots," "Homicide: Life on the Street," and the CBS's "Cane."" Democratic Latinos voted double this year compared to the 2006 elections, according to the Associated Press (AP). For the first time, Latinos performed as well as any other ethnic group in a statewide election. Democrats nearly doubled their turnout from 2004 and 2006. The turnout was stronger especially for the Democrats because Latinos represented 37 percent of Super Tuesday's Democratic voters in California, according to the AP. Senator Hillary Clinton won 67 percent of the Latino vote and Senator Barack Obama received 33 percent. "This may be the last time to watch the performance of President George W. Bush during his term," CSUSB student Ligneto Malagon said.

Latinos are not satisfied with the Bush administration," Malagon added. According to the AP, Latinos also matched their percentage among California adults, suggesting the state's fast-growing Latino population is being reflected at the polls. "Immigration is a big issue for the Hispanic community, and that is probably why the Hispanic population has been voting more than past elections," CSUSB student Berta Berrane said. "I have seen a few more politics on the Hispanic networks and they talk about things that concern Hispanics," CSUSB student Jennifer Rosano said. "I think (Latinos) are looking for a change and they might think that the new president is going to help their community," CSUSB student Supriya Shankar said. Latinos made up 13 percent of the Republican turnout, which is also a record, according to the AP. Sen. John McCain won 97 percent of the Latino vote while Mitt Romney got 72 percent. In 2004 Latinos represented 5 percent of the Republican vote.

"Many Latino Republicans may have connected with McCain because of his moderate position on immigration and his compelling life story as a former prisoner of war," GOP state spokesman Hector Burgin said to the AP.

"I think Latinos are tired of the Republicans being in the house and I feel their vote increase is good for them," CSUSB student Ann Ellis said.

"Tuesday's Latino turnout was even higher than it was two years ago when Antonio Villagomez became Los Angeles' first Latino mayor of modern times," said Axl Smith, Clinton's California campaign manager, in an AP report.

Others said Latino GOP participation may only have been boosted higher because of the lack of enthusiasm among white Republicans for their party's candidates.

Hillary Clinton made a personal contribution of $5 million of her personal money in late January to help fund her campaign.

Chronicle Staff


Weather

The Coyote Chronicle is published every Friday for distribution on Monday during the academic session by the Department of Communication Studies, California State University, San Bernardino.

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The appearance of any advertisement in this Chronicle does not represent the Chronicle's views.

The Chronicle reserves the right to edit all materials submitted to the paper.

Elisa Escarcega/Chronicle

CSUSB student Browni Behare feels that because immigration is a big issue for the Hispanic community, the Hispanic population has been voting more than these past elections.

Adventures in the Chronicle

Call 909-537-0815 and ask for Linda.
The government hopes Americans will view the refund as more cash in their pockets.

Continued:

**Stimulus plan signed**

_Taxpayers will receive refunds._

The Treasury's "fiscal stimulus" plan, which allows more than 100 million Americans to receive refunds of their tax payments, has been signed into law.

"The IRS will begin sending refunds to more than 75 million eligible taxpayers in the late spring and summer, according to the AP."

_The government hopes Americans will view the refund as more cash in their pockets._

"Helping our economy requires us to take action, it is not the result of the wisdom of the collective wisdom of the American people," said Bush.

_32 percent said they would save or invest their money."

_Only 19 percent said they would spend their refunds, according to an AP report._

_"I'm a person who likes to save her money. When I receive my IRS refund back I will put it in my savings account," said CSUSB Freshman Veronica Seely._

_"Hopefully I'll be able to save my rebate check also but only until summer. I'm planning on buying a car which will help put money back into the economy."_

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**The Chronicle Sudoku**

The Chronicle Sudoku is a weekly feature that challenges readers to complete a unique puzzle. Each week, a new Sudoku puzzle is provided, along with a hint to help get started.

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Depression relief tips offered by CSUSB's Lambtha Theta Alpha

CSUSB students are offered a variety of perspective on gender. In the course at CSUSB, called "Male Studies," students take part in one of the most talked about and controversial courses offered by the university. According to the CSUSB catalog, Gender is a course that combines perspective from three academic disciplines (Humanities, Natural Sciences and Social Sciences) in order to develop an understanding of how gender roles are used in society and changed through time. Professor Scott Rodriguez is one of a group of professors who have instructed the course from time to time in past quarters. Rodriguez gave just a few common measures that some students, usually from ones who have not yet taken the class at the first place, had heard about the course, as well as the truth behind them.

Rodriguez also said that some students have felt that they have no choice in taking the course since it is one of their general education requirements which just isn’t true,” Rodriguez said. Rodriguez explained that Perspectives on Gender fulfill two general education requirements at the same time, which would be good for full-time students, but there are other options for students. CSUSB general education requirements, the course does not must be the Humanities or Social and Behavioral Sciences integrative capstone (depending on which discipline they take it as well as Multicultural/Gender capstone requirement. Perspectives on Gender isn’t the only course at CSUSB, called "Male Studies," that students take part in one of the most talked about and controversial courses offered by the university. According to the CSUSB catalog, Gender is a course that combines perspective from three academic disciplines (Humanities, Natural Sciences and Social Sciences) in order to develop an understanding of how gender roles are used in society and changed through time. Professor Scott Rodriguez is one of a group of professors who have instructed the course from time to time in past quarters. Rodriguez gave just a few common measures that some students, usually from ones who have not yet taken the class at the first place, had heard about the course, as well as the truth behind them.

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New dinosaurs found

New species of ancient creatures are being dug up around the world.

In China, researchers discovered the fossil of a tiny pterosaur and in northeastern Mexico, a paleontologist found a fossilized beak when she was cleaning up after lunch with a group of schoolchildren. Dinosaurs have limbs that enable them to walk rather than fly.

Named Nemicoelopterus crypticus, which means "hidden flying forest dweller," the new creature was found by a team of researchers led by Xiaolin Wang of the China's Liao~ning Academy of Sciences.

Wang explained that the pterosaur's features indicate it fed on insects while living in the canopies of ancient forests. Its beak would have been perfectly suited for grabbing bugs, while its curved claws would have helped it hold onto trees, according to abcnews.com.

Pterodactyloids lived from the late Jurassic through the Cretaceous periods about 145 million to 65 million years ago.

Pterodactyloids fossils have been found with wingspans ranging from two to 11 meters. This makes these creatures the largest-known flying animals.

Paleontologist Martha Cardella Aguilera Martinez discovered the duck-billed dinosaur bone. She was cleaning up after lunch with a group of schoolchildren when she was tackling to dig for bones in northeastern Mexico, according to abnews.com.

The two bones were finally extracted after twelve years of digging, drilling and piecing together. Named velafrons coahuilensis, the composition of its skull with a bone when she was cleaning up after lunch with a group of schoolchildren. Dinosaurs have limbs that enable them to walk rather than fly.

Nemicoelopterus crypticus. The artist is Chuang Zhao, who has a few in his office includ­ingg a tyrannosaurus tooth.

Students who are curious and interested in fossils can contact the geology department. The geology club here on campus offers students the opportunity to learn about fossils and dig for fossils just above campus.

For those students interested in dinosaur bones, Dr. W Brit Leatham has a few in his office includ­ingg a tyrannosaurus tooth.

Leatham's office is located in the Biological Science building.

After millions of years, more new species of dinosaurs are being unearthed. This is an artist's rendition of the newly discovered Nemicoelopterus crypticus. The artist is Chuang Zhao, and the image was provided by Xiaolin Wang.

Low-carb diets too high risk

Dieting brings with it certain concerns about risks to the health of the dieter. Whether it be iron deficiency, carbohydrate deficiency and therefore brain matter loss, or maybe, you become what you eat.

Complex carbohydrates keep your body and brain going, but the name of the game is moderation.

Ketosis throws off the acid-base balance in your body, causes negative effects in brain function, and can possibly cause changes in your personality.

Ketosis can also cause side effects such as constipation, bad breath, headaches, and potential vitamin and mineral deficiencies, according to medicinenet.com.

In addition to these unwanted side effects, a diet lacking a sufficient amount of carbohydrates may result in only "temporary weight loss," and will not help maintain any long-term results.

Some suggestions are if you eat white bread, switch to bread made with stone ground whole wheat flour. If you like to snack on crackers, choose those made with whole wheat, and instead of juices made with high fructose corn syrup drink one percent milk.

The biggest difference between so called "good" carbohydrates and "bad" carbohydrates is the amount of fiber, said Maynard. Instead of white bread choose whole wheat bread, and instead of fruit tart go with carrots.

So, now that we know that carbohydrates are necessary, how much do we need?

"100 grams of carbohydrates per day will help to avoid ketosis," Maynard said. "I recommend that 50 percent of the calories you consume come from complex carbohydrates."

This means on the basis of a 2,000 calorie diet 250 grams of carbohydrates should be consumed per day.

Maynard added that there are three areas when giving advice on anything including diets, and that is to lump "balance, vari­ety, and moderation."
Children's art unveiled on campus

Jennie Murray
Staff Writer

Young children in the San Bernardino area will soon have their chance to shine.

Clare Cherry School (CCS) is a private school near Fullerton. This school places a high priority on originality and imagination. In order to encourage the students to achieve extraordinary goals the staff of CCS has also submitted work to be displayed.

The students have produced a wide variety of art. Ceramic pieces, watercolors, chalk, marker, crayon and pencil drawings will all be featured in the art show. Every child attending CCS receives plenty of guidance when exploring their own creative side.

The preschool students have worked on class art projects all year with their teachers. Denise Dawson teaches art to the elementary students twice a week.

"The art show has been a tradition for over 20 years," Monroe said.

The year round for parents, friends and faculty of CCS. This year, the experience is being offered to all community members.

"The artwork our students have created is an illustration of our children's unbounded creativity," Monroe said. Monroe hopes that CCS students and nearby community members will attend the art exhibit.

CCS prides themselves on continuing to offer "hands on" experiences for young people to express themselves.

For much of the art show's history, the show was held on the CCS campus. The Robert V. Fullerton Museum has been home to the show for the past five years. Traditionally, the art exhibit has been held solely for parents, friends and faculty of CCS. This year, the experience is being offered to all community members.

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The art exhibit will be on display in the Robert V. Fullerton Museum between March 13 and March 16.

The silent auction includes items such as award-winning wines baskets from Rusack Vineyards and personal services.

The art exhibit will be on display at the Robert V. Fullerton Museum on March 13.

Like Father, Like Son?

He's your pride and joy — Your son. From the moment he was born, he's been watching you. He has learned to mimic your every move. When he grows up, he wants to be just like you. If you think there's nothing wrong with impulsive driving neither will he. If you endanger the lives of others by getting behind the wheel of a motor vehicle while impaired, chances are, so will he. Kids imitate their parents. What message do you want to pass on?

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“Jaws” star dead at 75

Chief Martin Brody in the "Connecticut." Friedkin's 1971 with the cancer and underwent a bone marrow transplant to treat the film renaissance of the 1970s. Scheider was a stage actor in 1970, where his performance in a production of Harold Pinter’s "The Care of the Living Corpse" and working seven more years before coming to celebrity status with starring roles in "Klute" and "The French Connection.

Scheider returned to the stage in 1980, where his performance in a production of Harold Pinter’s "The Care of the Living Corpse" and working seven more years before coming to celebrity status with starring roles in "Klute" and "The French Connection.

Scheider continued to be in films such as the Robert Benton’s "Betrayal" returned to the stage alongside Blythe Danner and Paul Newman. Scheider is survived by his two children, Molly and Sam Scheider and three grandchildren.

Allison Whiteside Staff Writer

The "King of Pop" is back again with the world's best selling album of all times. The album "Thriller" was originally released in 1982 and was the sixth studio release by Michael Jackson. In the 25 years that the CD has been out, it has sold an estimated 150 million copies, according to sources.

This year, "Thriller" is being released as a special Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Edition. It contains all of the original tracks from "Thriller" plus new versions and a previously unreleased song. The album produced seven number-one singles and was Album of the Year at the Grammy Awards in 1984. The special CD also comes with a DVD. The CD contains five remixed versions of original songs and one unreleased song from the original recording sessions. Wii, the collaboration with Jackson on two songs, while Alan and Fergie also have collaboration. "Wii" was "Forever" is a remix by Kanye West. The "All I Want" is track from the original recording sessions for "Thriller.

It has been mixed and mastered by Jackson, according to reports. All of the new tracks are almost as good as the originals. Even the song for "All I Want" is classic Michael Jackson, but falls short of the genius that was "Thriller."

The first nine songs on the CD are all the original tracks from "Thriller." Those songs are really all you need. The entire CD was created with the help of other musicians. The original was produced by Quincy Jones, who won 27 Grammys for his work in the music industry. "Best It" was the album’s crossover rock single. The track features Eddie Van Halen on guitar. The DVD contains short films of "Billie Jean," "Beat It," and "Thriller. It also contains Jackson’s performance at a Motown television special.

In that performance, Jackson demonstrates his legendary “moonwalk.” The CD’s pamphlet describes the performance as legendary and full of excitement. It was Jackson’s best commercial performance.

Even though this CD has been out for 25 years, it is so easy to see what makes this one of the best albums of all time. The songs are timeless and remarkable. You can feel the emotion coming from Jackson’s voice. This is a classic that everyone should own. It is one of the best selling albums of all times, and once you listen to it, you will know why. Perhaps Jackson fans now have another disc to add to their collections. Fans can also look forward to a new music from Jackson in the fall of this year.

His new album is produced by Wissam, who’s featured on the 25th anniversary celebration.
Sharp Chinese words slice through the packed Fire room in the Lower Commons whose audience listened in silence. The tight feeling of poetry amplified the weight of Ling's words on behalf of those killed in Tiananmen Square.

But Ling, a poet essayist, has written two books in Chinese, "Memorial," and "Wandering in March," which have been translated into six different languages and published in the Los Angeles Times. Ling has also won numerous awards.

Ling taught at Harvard and Brown University and has been on the board at the International Center for Writing and Translation at UC Irvine.

Ling received his poetry in Chinese while Julie Paege, assistant professor of poetry, read the poems in English.

The poems mainly reflect on his life in China before his exile in 2000 by the Chinese government. While the poems were rich even in English, it was his native language that carried the gravity of his words.

"Disaster, impassive and total," Joins with pain that is my life in China before his exile in 2000 when he was arrested for his work. He has written several books of poetry and is the founder of the literary magazine "Tendency," which publishes works of Chinese authors and translates other writers into Chinese.

The poems for an hour then opened the door to questions from an audience that was eager to learn about the inspiration and how he started his work.

The literary journal was just poetry, yet after Tiananmen, I was told to stop by the police," said Ling.

It was during this time that Ling travelled to the then British-controlled Hong Kong and Taiwan where he could write and promote his work while still in China.

"This was the beginning of my life in exile," Ling said. "I made preparations to put out a journal of literature and humanities called "Tendency," Ling said.

The journal was made with grants from Brown University by way of the creative writing program.

"This arrest came with a harsh penalty—life in jail or exile to America."

The extent of this oppressive order was described in the Los Angeles Times article "Thank you Warden" published Feb. 18, 2001.

In America, exiled, Ling was deeply reflective about the experience.

"I was at first here, I was a refugee, I needed help," Ling said. "Now I am an immigrant, I have learned to become self-reliant."

"Yet, this is still not home," he said. "I feel [after the arrest] that part of my home [China] is permanently changed."

But Ling is scheduled to return to Taiwan this month to continue his writing and promotion of his underground literary work.

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"I would travel [to China] at least once a year," Ling said. "I wanted to transport my work to the underground literary circles I knew."

It was this dedication to his home and writing that incurred his arrest by the Chinese government in 2000.

"I knew this time it was going to be different, from the other arrests," he said. "That something more would happen."

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Kenya in turmoil after presidential elections

Adrian Vargas
New Editor

Hundreds of youths armed with machetes and guns, hundreds of burnt homes and thousands homeless are the scenes in Kenya. More than 1,000 Kenyans have been killed and 300,000 have been displaced from their homes, according to the Kenya Red Cross Society.

The disputed December 2007 presidential elections, which brought President Mwai Kibaki to power for a second five-year term, have turned the country topsy-turvy.

Opposition candidates and favorites to win, Raila Odinga, rejected Kibaki’s victory and accused the government of rigging the results.

Although the unrest was triggered by the disputed election results, rioting, killings and arson continue to play. The current tensions can be traced back to 2002, when Kibaki first came to power. Kibaki is protected by a management team that includes former Kikuyu president Daniel Moi.

Staff Writer

Natasha Hamid

Outsiders have been heard among the world against the recent death sentence ordered to a 23-year old Afghan journalism student for allegedly distributing blasphemous articles. Odinga has been spoiled by the manner in which Sajil Parwez Karakhsh’s sentence was announced.

Human rights activists argue that his trial was conducted in unfair conditions. The young journalist remains in prison.

In 2002, Kibaki’s National Rainbow Coalition (NARC), formed by Odinga and former Mau Mau president Daniel Moi, won the presidency on a platform to end corruption, improve the economy and defend a new constitution.

However, hope for improvement came to an end when the dynasty died: Oginga and Kibaki had a falling out.

In 2005, Karakhsh was convicted of distributing blasphemous articles after judges and an attorney sitting behind their desks, Kenneth Karakhsh told the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWRP), “The death sentence had already been written. I wanted to say something, but they would not let me speak.”

“Today, we are not talking about a book of paper on which a word was written that I had written,” Odinga said.

A man was arrested on July 23, 2007, on charges of distributing anti-Islamic propaganda that was questioning the prophet Mohammad’s views on women’s rights and the Qur’an.

Students took offense and complained to authorities that Karakhsh was passing around blasphemous articles.

Karakhsh and his brother, Sayed Yaqub Brakhsh, also a journalist, continue to uphold that the article in question, which contained the alleged blasphemy, had been downloaded from the Internet.

They maintained that Karakhsh was not involved in the production or distribution of the so-called blasphemous article.

This article was downloaded from the Internet. Why should Parwez be punished?” The court argued. “The court has announced without considering human rights, the laws of Afghanistan, or Sharia [Islamic] law. It was biased solely on the article’s information, which contained the alleged blasphemy, and Parwez was ignored altogether.”

“I think it’s sad that we live in a world filled with such enemies on both ends of the spectrum. We need to evolve as humans or these kinds of injustices will continue to take place for another century,” said CSUSB student Estal Omar Brakhsh.

By the time Karakhsh was convicted, the government was already targeting him for his views on religion, according to the organization.

Karakhsh remains in prison while the case makes its way to the higher courts, which have the power to overturn the sentence.

The government of Afghanistan is considering an amnesty in response to the International Federation of Journalists to intervene in the case to secure Karakhsh’s release, and to guarantee that the due process will be followed in any verdict-related case.

President Hamid Karazi has been called upon to intervene personally in the case. Karazi, who is attending the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, has said publicly the case.

Outrage over Karakhsh’s conviction led to a massive lobby by Human rights activists and the international community to secure Karakhsh’s release, and to guarantee that the due process will be followed in any verdict-related case. Karazi, who is attending the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, has said publicly the case.

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Multi-Cultural

February 18, 2008
Chronicle Page 9
The truth about your vote

Scott Sanderson
Staff Writer

It’s scary how many people don’t vote. It’s even scarier that those who do vote know nothing about the electoral college.

It would help America if citizens knew how much power the electoral college has. In presidential general elections, the electoral college usually sides with the majority vote of the people, but it can and has voted for a different candidate in the past. The electoral college uses two different systems for determining the casting of electoral votes: the winner-takes-all and the district systems.

The electoral college uses two different systems for determining who wins the presidency. In the winner-takes-all system, the candidate who wins a majority of the popular vote receives all the electoral votes of the state. In the district system, two candidates are elected in each state, depending on who has the majority votes state-wide. The electoral college usually uses the winner-takes-all system and the district system.

The electoral college elects two candidates based on who has the most votes state-wide. Maine and Nebraska are the two states on the District system. Each state has a number of electors equal to its senators—two per state. The remaining electors are based on population. California has 55 electors. Texas is the next largest state with 34 electors. The total amount of people in the electoral college is 538. Those are from the District of Columbia. For a candidate to win the electoral college’s vote, the candidate needs to win 270 electoral votes.

According to the U.S. Archon website, there are no extensive requirements to be an elector; only guidelines regarding what they cannot be. An elector cannot be an office, a high-ranking U.S. official in a position of trust or profit, or someone who is engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the U.S. There are a few ways to become an elector. The first, and most common way is to be elected by a party committee like Democrats or Republicans. Another way is to campaign for a spot in the state’s party convention. Most electors in the electoral college are politically active in their party or have ties to presidential candidates.

In some circumstances, if a candidate cannot win the majority of votes from the electoral college, the decision is then sent to the House of Representatives. Having a winner-takes-all system means that a candidate who wins even up to 50 percent of the popular vote will receive no electoral votes at all. In California, the winner takes all 55 electoral college votes. This would mean that larger states that abide by the winner-takes-all are really taking away any of the minority side’s electoral college votes unless the electors disobey the law. Electors can decline to cast their vote for a specific candidate, like the ones who win the popular vote of their state. Some have either voted for alternative candidates or not submitting a vote at all.

In 2000, Barbara Lettsimmons, elector for the District of Columbia, cast a black ballot for her vote in protest of the district’s unfair voting rights. I feel that it is unconstitution­al to have kept a system like this in place for so long. It seems like little unfair, not to mention antiquated, and I wish that more electors would go against the winner-takes-all system.

It’s time to take the issue to the Supreme Court so they can decide if it is unconstitutional or not.

With all today’s advanced medical breakthroughs, we still can’t cure the common cold.

David Reid
Staff Writer

I hope, by the time you read this that I will be over my cold. I feel miserable. My nose is red. My throat hurts. Like I said, miserable. I don’t ask for much from the federal government. Since we’ve got national defense, public uni­versities and the postal system working, I figure I’m getting my taxes worth.

However, as I sit here with my handkerchiefs and cold medicine, I’m wondering, “Where is the care for the common cold?”

Sure, the common cold isn’t a very deadly disease to cure. It’s easily fixed. It’s more of an incon­venience than anything. I mean, I’m still able to go to school. I’m going to go to work later. If my job allowed sick days, though, I’d be at home recovering. I wouldn’t be the only one.

According to estimates from the federal government’s National Institute of Health, people in the United States suffer one billion colds each year. The Centers for Disease Control’s website shows that about 22 million school days are missed by American children each year due to the common cold. That’s more than 150,000 school years lost every year, give or take a bunch of leap years.

NIH scientists point out that the cold is actually about 200 different viruses, so a vaccine is unlikely anytime soon, though research continues. Maybe they would take cold vaccine research more seriously if they saw the fig­ures from a study published in 2003 in the Archives of Internal Medicine about the economic impact of the cold.

It is $40 billion every year. That’s more than congestive heart failure ($21 billion), asthma ($14.5 billion) and migraine headaches ($14.2 billion).

“Because there is no cure for the common cold it pays far less attention than many less common conditions,” the lead author of the study told the University of Michigan Medical School in 2003.

Dr. A. Mark Fendrick also said that a discovery that could prevent or stop the cold in its tracks “would have a huge clinical and economic impact, far greater than for chronic diseases that we hear about on a regular basis.”

People who get the common cold are usually miserable. And I want to get better, soon.

If the government has to buy one huge submarine or establish one fancy national park to rid me of the droppy nose, sneeze throat and general unhappiness, well, I can only hope they made the right, cold-free, choice.
Tennis warms up for successful season

Rick Trujillo  Staff Writer

After beginning the season with two wins, the women's tennis team hopes to put their first loss behind them.

The season opener left a great taste in the Coyote's mouths as they vanquished the University of La Verne 9-0.

The match marked the debut of freshman Kara Jenkins who dominated her singles match in straight 6-0, 6-0 sets. Along with Jenkins, freshman Brittany Choate won her singles match, 6-4, 6-2 to help the Coyotes in their victory over the Leopards.

The Coyotes' continued to keep their pace with a win over the Master's College. The team came out with an 8-1 win over the Mustangs.

During the match a come-from-behind victory from Dotti Dillow with a 5-7, 6-4 (10-6) tiebreaker was a highlight of the game that displayed the confidence that the Coyotes are known for.

"The only loss against Master's College came at the hand of our doubles as Dillow and Choate lost a close match 6-5 against the Mustang's Pacific Higuchi and Jennifer Baughman." Despite the two sets that the team accomplished, UC San Diego handed the Coyotes their first loss of the season.

The team is looking at the loss as a chance for improvement in the infancy of the season.

"Playing a team as good as UCSB can only make us better," said Ashley Hofstetter. "We learn more from tennis that challenge us."

The UC San Diego Tritons women's tennis team extended their winning streak to 41 straight. The competition coming from San Diego is the best that the Coyotes will face all season.

"We knew that San Diego was a very good team, and all we could do was give it our best and see what would happen," said Leslie Horn.

One spotlight shining on the Coyotes' side for the match was Jennifer Joy's victory over Ina Dann of the four-time division champion Tritons.

Joy continued unscored for the week at No. 1 for the Coyotes. The victory marked Joy's 46th singles win and earned her the California Collegiate Athletic Association Player of the Week award.

"We hope to bring more confidence next week," said Horn. "We realize that we have a couple more league games next week that we need to win and with confidence good things will happen."

The team will be hosting their second league match against Cal Poly Pomona on Feb. 20 at 2 p.m. The women's tennis team will return to the courts for their third league match on Feb. 27 at 4 in hosting California State University at Los Angeles.

Freshman Kara Jenkins practices her backhand to prepare for the season ahead and the conference matches the team will face.

Coyotes focused on CCAA Championship

Scott Heaton  Staff Writer

Senior guard Marlon Pierce has shown that he has what it takes to lead CSUSB men's basketball team to the next level.

Pierce won named CCAA conference player of the week two weekends ago.

The next level for the team is a national championship.

The Coyotes were one game away from the championship game last year when they lost by one point in the semi-finals to the eventual national champions, Wisconsen State.

Pierce averaged 21.5 points, 5.5 assists and shot 79 percent from three-point land two weeks ends ago in leading the Coyotes to two victories over Cal State Dominguez Hills and Cal State LA.

The wins put CSUSB in sole possession of first place in the CCAA conference.

The Coyotes success has not gone unnoticed nationally as they moved up in the national polls to number 5.

Pierce has been red hot the last five games.

He is shooting 60 percent from three-point land and averaging 16.6 points a game over that span.

Pierce had a season high of 29 points in a victory over UC San Diego on Jan. 19.

The timing of Pierce's surge is good for the Coyotes as they are only four games away from the playoffs.

CSUSB plays two of their final four games at home.

At home the Coyotes have found success with a 7-6 record in CCAA conference games.

On the road the Coyotes have a mediocre record of 3-5 in league games.

CSUSB needs to play better on the road in order to go far in the playoffs. There will be even more pressure on them because of the success of the program in recent years.

CSUSB has gained national notoriety over the past several years by doing very well in the playoffs and consistently being ranked in the top 25.

Opposing teams will not take the Coyotes lightly.

The Coyotes will depend heavily on three key players: Pierce, senior guard Lance Ortez and center Michael Earl.

All three of these players average double figures in points scored and lead the league in at least one major defensive category.

Earl averages 13.3 points, 5.4 rebounds and has a league leading 47 blocks on the year. He has been the presence down low to dominate the paint, exactly what is needed to win a championship.

Ortez is enjoying a very good year averaging 12.1 points, 4.4 assists and has a league best 59 steals for the year.

Pierce averages 13.3 points per game and leads the league in assist/turnover ratio (2.26).

More impressive, however, has been the stellar defensive play by these three players.

Pierce and Ortez have been controlling opposing offenses and causing a lot of turnovers, while Earl has been forcing players into taking bad shots and making opp­onents think twice before taking the ball to the hoop.

The Coyotes have all the ingredients to be a very dominant team, but they will have to prove they can live up to their potential.

CSUSB students and fans get a chance to see them in action against two very good opponents.

The Coyotes will play Cal Poly Pomona this Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. and UC San Diego Friday Feb. 22 at 7:30 in the Coussoulis Arena.
Water polo under the surface

Freshman Jennifer Goetz pressures her opponent in order to give the Coyotes their biggest lead for the game and 13.6 rebounds per game leading scorer, Brittany Eighram, along with her 11 point effort. When we did that we pulled away 23 points and gobbled up a game with 15 rebounds.

T he Coyotes are looking tough on crime or drug use, Congresspersons and their staffs.

Women's basketball in hot pursuit

Sarah Schweiger

The Coyotes women's basketball season is coming close to an end, but it is not over for them yet.

In the last three games, the Coyotes have been victorious beating CSU Monterey Bay, CSU Dominguez Hills, and CSU Los Angeles by a landslide.

"I am looking forward to closing out the season with a conference title that we deserve to have this year," said junior forward Rachel Johnson.

The Coyotes are spreading the performances against CSU Monterey Bay which led to the victory.

The Coyotes were up by 10 points early in the first half. The score was 25-13 when the team went on a 13-2 run to lead Je-15 at the half.

A remarkable three-point play by freshman Phyllis Eighram gave the Coyotes their biggest lead for the night at 5-29 with 10 minutes left in the game.

The Coyotes kept pouring on the punishment as senior Leslie Pittman contributed 11 points.

Piknon nailed a three-pointer inside of the 10 minute mark to close out a Coyote victory over the Otters. The Coyote's main assistant coach Montie Nelson stepped up to lead the Coyotes to the win due to head coach Kevin Bowe's being out on suspension.

The Coyotes rank to third in the West Region poll. Despite the absence of the Team's leading scorer, Brittany Eighram, they still made a game of it, trailing closely the entire game until the Coyotes finally pulled away in the final minutes of the game.

"Our team definitely kept in playing hard and going, they did not give up, but there are times when we have to come together as a team and say 'ok, its time to step up. When we did that we pulled away and got the victory," said sophomore point guard Ashley Ford.

Vanessa Wilts, the Coyotes leading scorer had a game high of 25 points and gobbled up a game high of 14 rebounds as well. Wilts, who ranks among national leaders in scoring, rebounding, field goal percentage and blocked shots, connected on 16 of 26 attempts from the floor. Wilts emerged the game averaging 21.1 points per game and 13.6 rebounds per game along with 46 blocked shots and 60.4 percent shooting accuracy.

CSUSM now has a two game lead on the two teams tied for third place.

Against CSU Los Angeles, With his seven of 13 field goals and eight of 11 foul shots to go along with 13 rebounds.

Johnson also contributed with three of his six three-pointers on route to her 11 point effort.

The Coyotes are now 17-4 overall, 11-3 in conference, 8-0 at home and 7-3 away with six games left in CCAA play.

The team will host Cal Poly Pomona on Thursday Feb. 21 at 5:30 p.m. The CCAA quarterfinals begin March 4 at Cal State Fullerton.

Opinion Piece

T he U.S. House of Representatives took time out of its busy schedule last week to investigate whether a man took drugs to help him throw a little white ball.

They also wanted to know if he lied about the alleged drug use and whether his wife took drugs to look more attractive in a baking suit.

Ever since the government solved the Iraq problem, dealt with our country's homeless and cancer cure, I see nowhere they have all this extra time to investigate criminals.

Ok, well, all the country's problems are still unsolved.

What is the law going to do? If Roger Clemens used human growth hormones or strength enhancers or rubbed sheep fat on his pitching arm, what is the House of Representatives doing looking into another ridiculous drug deal.

Roger Clemens plays a game for entertainment. Clemens has made more money in his career than a single multi- um of fans will make in their whole lives.

He doesn't have the same concerns over poppy field like the average American does.

The House should focus on real laws affecting our children.

Congressmen Henry Waxman (D - CA) and Elijah Cummings (D - MD) com that Clemens' alleged behavior might have an impact on America's children, encouraging them to do drugs.

As a country, are our largest concerns about our children that they will take strength-enhancing drugs? What are Reps. Waxman and Cummings doing about our high school graduation rates? Or gang violence?

I understand that Clemens is famous (various news reports said he was signing autographs for Congresspersons and their staffs before the hearing).

Do Waxman and Cummings just want to appear on the evening news?

Is the House going to focus on real matters affecting real people?

My guess is yes. It never hars a politician to look tough on crime or drug use, or alleged drug use.

For, the House members face elections every two years. The campaigning never ends.

The next time a politician goes out of way to keep them out of a camera would be the first time.

Waxman and Cummings have a beautiful goal.

They, like most everyone else, want America's children to enjoy American's game in a drug-free environment.

However, high profile lawsuits about what one man may or may not have done several years ago whether they lied about it or not the way.