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Community

First-Gen Higher Ed
Eduational opportunities and resources are a must for first-gen students.

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Artistic expression and communal networking for a beneficial cause.

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Mother Courage and Her Children

By Robert Klimper
Staff Writer

“Mother Courage and Her Children” presents a cautionary tale on the possible future that is in store for the United States. “Mother Courage and Her Children” is about a mother trying to make the best of a war-based economy while struggling with danger from both sides of the conflict. Desperation and a want to survive accompanies the production with humor sprinkled through out to portray the struggles of the characters. The play was originally written by German dramatist and poet Bertolt Brecht, and was set during the Thirty Years’ War in the 1630’s. For the version that the CSUSB Department of Theatre Arts is presenting, it will be held in the future during a version of America torn up by war in the 2060s. “I try to get as many students on [crew positions] as possible, as the only way to really do theater is to get your hands on it,” said professor Jason Mann, scenographer of the play who helped set up the design of the set for the play. Mann stated that due to the scope of the material, ideas for the design of the play had started to be work shopped around the start of the fall quarter last year. “This [Communication] department has made use of McGraw-Hill content for many years,” said McGraw Hill Education representative Brennan Gosney, “and sponsoring events such as CAST is a way I can say “thank you” and give something back,” continued Gosney. The event was hosted by CSUSB’s Forensics team, is an intercollegiate speech team of students focusing on parliamentary debates and individual events. Communication Instructor and Forensics Director, Amy Wassing, said she enjoys working with the team “to develop their public speaking and debate skills so they are competition ready.” Wassing informed that the competitors were selected by their Comm 120 instructors and that this was a chance for top Forensics Team C.A.S.T. a Net for Speech Tournament

By Jarrod Walley
Staff Writer

Students competed in the first sponsored Coyote Annual Speech Tournament (CAST) last Thursday evening. McGraw-Hill Education, Yvette Jackson, and the Department of Communication Studies were the sponsors of the event. McGraw-Hill Education is the publisher of several textbooks used by CSUSB students, especially in COMM120 classes. “This [Communication] department has made use of McGraw-Hill content for many years,” said McGraw Hill Education representative Brennan Gosney, “and sponsoring events such as CAST is a way I can say “thank you” and give something back,” continued Gosney. The event was hosted by CSUSB’s Forensics team, an intercollegiate speech and debate team. Communication Instructor and Forensics Director, Amy Wassing, said she enjoys working with the team “to develop their public speaking and debate skills so they are competition ready.” Wassing informed that the competitors were selected by their Comm 120 instructors and that this was a chance for top
SigEp Epsilon to possibly win IFC

By Emily Anne Espinosa

News Editor

SigEp Epsilon (SigEp) was almost undefeated for the Interfraternity Council (IFC) Intramural Sports.

IFC Intramural Sports is a competition between the fraternities in the council to win the IFC trophy, Standard of Excellence (SOE) points to win the President’s Trophy, as well as a means of having fun and creating competition amongst the fraternities.

“We use the spirit of competition as a way to celebrate the sports that we like,” said Kevin Pham, Vice President of Communication for SigEp.

Sports included in the competition are football, volleyball, basketball, dodgeball, and frisbee. Two sports are played every quarter, typically on Friday nights.

So far, SigEp has won football and volleyball during the fall quarter, and basketball this winter. However, they earned second place in dodgeball while Sigma Nu landed in first. Regardless, SigEp is in the running to win the IFC sports trophy. The first win for 2016-2017 was for football this past fall, where the competition came really close against Kappa Sigma.

“I feel like the IFC Intramural Sports, football is one of the most competitive due to the amount of players who have experience and a personal connection to the sport, making the competition a lot more passionate and competitive for some individuals,” said Kevin Pham.

“Kappa Sigma, one of the newest fraternities, definitely came up and surprised us at the championship game,” said Chad Reyes, Phlantropy Director for SigEp.

The most recent sports competition was dodgeball which occurred on March 10.

“I think it’s a fair advantage for all fraternities because dodgeball isn’t actually played competitively in high school, like CIF sports, so it’s fair game for everyone,” said Reyes.

“SigEp is working on making their teams, SigEp stays inclusive, allowing anyone to play, as well as motivating their new pledges to participate as well.”

While SigEp has hopes for performing well this year, the first IFC Intramural Sport competition is not their main goal or focus.

“Really, what we’re trying to do is just try to get our members into the spirit of being out and about on campus, to dress up as characters during championship games.

In addition, both Pham and Forcina state that being involved in the sports competition has promoted leadership-networking, and building team opportunities for those within the fraternities.

In order to win the IFC sports trophies, the fraternity must win the majority of sports played within the year.

Currently, SigEp has the IFC and President’s trophy from 2015-2016. While SigEp hopes to win those trophies, being undefeated or trying to win was not the goal or purpose behind participating in the competition, but rather to perform to the best of their ability no matter the circumstances, according to Pham.

“As a chapter, we try to motivate our guys to do their best in everything they can, and sports is just an example of that,” said Pham.
By Noe Ramos
Staff Writer

For the first time in the history of the University, a rabbi was honored at CSUSB. On Mar. 8, an endowed lecture series was held at the Visual Arts building.

The event was named after Rabbi Hillel Cohn and created by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The lecture series was about the understanding of cultural, religious, as well as the rejoicing of the culture of Jewish people, Judaism, and on how they deal with challenges in modern society.

The event featured an inaugural speaker, Rabbi David Ellenson, who had not spoken at San Bernardino in thirty years.

“What I want to do is to be able to place the current situation in Jews and Judaism in the United States in a historical and sociological context,” said Ellenson.

Ellenson is the Chancellor Emeritus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Director of the Schusterman Center for Israel Studies at Brandeis University, and a leader of the Reform Movement in Judaism.

This event was a start of what is to become an annual lecture series.

Additionally, President Tomás Morales had spoken a few words about the privilege of having Rabbi David Ellenson as the initial speaker in this series.

“He is a man that has brought religions together, people together [...] I’ve never met anyone that has those kind of connections,” said Morales.

In regards to what Morales felt the endowment should be named after, he deemed it fit to have the series named after Rabbi Hillel Cohn.

Mores stated that Cohn, for six decades, had worked tirelessly to promote understanding, tolerance, and diversity, not just in the Jewish religion, but within all faiths.

In order for the event to occur, planning and funding was provided by the help of sponsors, promoters, and volunteers.

Through contributions, over $200,000 was raised for this series to happen.

Contributors included Dean Jamal Nassar, Dean Rafik Mohamed, the entire Advancement team, and those who contributed to the funding of the event.

Rabbi Hillel Cohn greatly appreciated the contributions received.

He held great respect for the people involved in making the lecture series possible.

Coming to the end of the lecture, there was a Q&A segment held for Ellenson.

Topics include how Judaism differentiates from other religions like as Christianity, not arguing that one is better than the other, but establishing what the differences are and what the culture is like.

One example of a question discussed was in regards to women and anti-semitism, creating a serious atmosphere in the room, to which Ellenson had stated that he sees a brighter future for women.

Morales mentioned that he himself had learned a few things from the lecture.

“He gave a historical perspective and a more contemporary view of the Jewish-American experience and related that experience to other ethnic groups,” said Morales.

For Dr. Ron Fremont, the Vice President of University Advancement, Rabbi David Ellenson’s speech was amazing and very informative.

According to Fremont, having someone speak off the top of his head for over 50 minutes is an amazing feat.
Intersecting different communities: Coyote narrative

By Tevin Daniel
Contributing Writer

Liz Reyes is an undergraduate sophomore at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) who overcomes adversity by elevating herself towards a successful future.

Reyes identifies as bisexual LatinX. Exclusively, each of those communities are faced with a set of challenges that one must overcome.

Since filling the intersection between both communities, she experiences challenges from both sides.

“The impact that The Body of Property had for me, is the way in which 18th and 19th century American writers think about and talk about issues of property and ownership,” said Professor Luck.

Professor Luck is currently working on a couple of articles and plans to write another book on philosophy in American literature.

Reyes stated.

As a result, Reyes has become slightly fearful.

“I kind of scared me a little bit. Since the Vice President [Mike Pence] believes in conversion therapy, it’s a little bit disheartening that my parents are pushing that agenda onto me,” said Reyes.

Reyes is also stereotyped because she does not fit the description of what is expected of some women in the LatinX community.

As a member of the LatinX community, she is expected to be more feminine. “We are expected to be very girly, very delicate. Then there [is] me. I don’t wear clothes that accentuates my body,” stated Reyes.

Despite many instances of adversity, Reyes is still striving for success. She is seeking her bachelor’s degree in English with a concentration in creative writing.

In the near future, she desires to obtain a profession in the entertainment field as a screenwriter.

“There needs to be more representation of a community from someone who is apart of that certain community and it creates stereotypes,” stated Reyes.

Reyes is adamant about generating community in her surroundings. She is student assistant at the Pride Center and offers services such as locating counseling services for LGBTQ students and “free HIV testing” for those who are interested.

Reyes is a first-generation student. She has had to ascertain a large portion of information on her own. As a result of this, she wants to provide assistance for future family members.

“I have a few younger, first and second generation cousins, almost leaving high school and I let them know that they can come to me for any assistance,” said Reyes.

She is also motivated by the “community at the Pride Center.”

She has befriended many like-minded individuals that want to obtain an education and start their professional careers. Ultimately, establishing the community to feel more like a “family.”

By seeing everyone aim to better themselves, Reyes is motivated to also strive for success.

Reyes is overcoming challenges with assistance from several motivational influences, including acting as an example to her family, and wanting to be successful like her campus generated family.

“Strive for success on your own terms. Do not think that my story is the only narrative,” said Reyes.

“The real success is getting to where you want to be,” concluded Reyes.

Research contributions from professors

By Kathleen Ramirez
Staff Writer

CSUSB professors from various departments shared information about their research and its impact on campus and the community.

Dr. Mihaela Popescu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Studies and has published nine books and over 50 other pieces that mainly deal with the risk factors and explanations of criminality.

Dr. Tibbetts also co-authored one of the texts used here on campus for criminal justice studies, titled Introduction to Criminology.

“Since I’ve known Reyes, she has been the person she is today. She is a self-starter and it’s a little bit disheartening that my parents are pushing that agenda onto me.”

Dr. Stephen Tibbetts is a full professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and has published nine books and over 50 other pieces that deal with the risk factors and explanations of criminality.

Dr. Tibbetts also co-authored one of the texts used here on campus for criminal justice studies, titled Introduction to Criminology. “Since I’ve known Reyes, she has been the person she is today. She is a self-starter and it’s a little bit disheartening that my parents are pushing that agenda onto me.”

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Dr. Tibbetts also co-authored one of the texts used here on campus for criminal justice studies, titled Introduction to Criminology.

“This is the second edition, which is easier to develop because you are not starting from scratch and our book is one of the very few that actually has a criminological theory chapter that has a whole chapter just on feminist theory, written by Dr. Schram who is the Associate Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences,” said Dr. Tibbetts.

When asked how his research has affected the community Dr. Tibbetts said, “I am the Principle Investigator of an evaluation program called Youth Accountability Teams in Riverside, which evaluates high-risk youth programs, that is the most direct effect my work has had.”

Dr. Tibbetts also received the Golden Apple award in Spring of 2011, in which he was selected as the Outstanding Professor at CSUSB.

“My evaluation research has had the biggest impact from my perspective. In the last 15 years they have gotten over 30,000 referrals and out of those referrals, over 13,000 youths have graduated from the program,” said Dr. Tibbetts.

CSUSB has more than 1,000 highly regarded professors, and this is just a small glimpse of our fellow educators.
Community

Raising awareness of Palestinians situations through film

By Samantha Flores
Contributing Writer

Farah Nabulsi, a British filmmaker, writer and producer, shared her journal observations regarding Palestinians via films such as “Oceans of Injustice.” “Today They Took My Son,” and an audio piece “The Nightmare of Gaza.”

Nabulsi shared with students a sneak peek of these films that will be released in May of this year.

The Center for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies (CIMES) hosted the event featuring Nabulsi in order for attendees to understand the situation of Palestinians.

“I have written these pieces purely organically,” said Nabulsi. “I didn’t write these to make films, I wrote this as a reaction to Palestinians, and when I got frustrated, I would go back to these readings and realized I could make films out of this,” she continued.

Her goal is to create informative short films so that people around the world become aware of what is happening to the Palestinians. Nabulsi also uses the film medium to contextualize Palestinian situations, so that truths are not obscured.

Nabulsi believes short films are best since they are easier for viewers to consume, given the fact that many do not have time to always watch a full film.

“For me, it’s about doing my part and shifting people’s consciousness. I feel the more people can see these films where ever in the world, can be much more informed, understanding, and feeling the pain and oppression of another,” explained Nabulsi.

Nabulsi wants to provoke empathy rather than apathy through short films because one can comprehend the feelings of another through visualization better.

“The presentation was great and powerful, and showed how the Palestinians suffered, but wished there was more context,” said a student who wished to remain anonymous.

“The Nightmare of Gaza,” was mainly about a mother walking back home to her little boy, aunt, and sister. During the walk back home, bombings occurred and homes were destroyed, leaving many dead or homeless.

The mother reached her destroyed home to find her son, aunt, and sister, across from the home, dead.

The third film was, “Oceans of Injustice,” which was about the desperation of the Palestinians to cross the ocean in an attempt to escape devastation.

When watching the films, one may feel exhausted. It is as if you are trying to gasp for air, which creates the empathy Nabulsi wants the viewers to comprehend.

“Our campus is very privileged to have this type of workshops, that way students can learn more about war affairs and many other issues, and perhaps students now can get involved,” said a student who wished to remain anonymous.

By Connie Mejia
Contributing Writer

Latino, Hispanic, Mexican, American, Mexican-American, Immigrant.

These are all terms that we come across on a daily basis yet fail to understand their true meanings due to misinformation and misconceptions.

It is only fair to question if as natives to the land we exist upon, whether or not we should fight for the identities we wish to be invested in, decolonization and especially not children of foreigners as to why he rejects terms like Latin@/Hispanic and especially not children of immigrants, not immigrants or children of immigrants, and especially not children of foreigners as we are made to believe.

“They acknowledge and recognize the fact that they are the descendants of the original people of this continent,” he continued.

“The initiation of people identifying as Chican@ has already begun to rise ever since [President Donald] Trump came into office. In my community and small circle of friends I have seen a pretty large awakening this past year,” said Castro.

A term like Chican@ is one that people least identify with but also know the least about.

Karla Duarte, former student at Chaffey College and daughter to parents from Guadalajara, Mexico explained: “When asked about my ethnicity I respond with Mexican-American even though my roots are native from Mexico.”

“It is hard to define the term Chicano because you do not really see Chicanos nowadays. I feel like it is an outdated word but one that is taken for granted,” said Duarte.

There is no set definition for what a Chican@ entails.

“I am a work in progress. My definition of being a Chicana continues to change as I learn more,” said Castro.

The importance that Castro sees in being able to identify as a Chicana means: “Being a woman who rejects European beauty standards; being a women that loves her brown skin, dark her, dark eyes.”

“The term Chicana@ does entitle you to some responsibility not necessarily being an activist, being an organizer, or a protestor. I think it means you need to look a little further, do some research and find out a little bit about yourself and your ancestors,” added Castro.

When asked for his personal reasons as to why he rejects terms like Latin@/Hispanic when asked for his ethnicity, Gullit shared: “My perspective on terms like Latino and Hispanic is that they are an erasure of culture and way of white-washing brown people.”

While labels may not be important, like Castro explained: “We’re human beings and we are deserving of dignity.”

The political figures we currently find ourselves surrounded by will tear us apart if we subdue to their ethnic generalizations and labels.

My research has allowed me to continue labeling myself as a Mexican-American. Perhaps someday I, too, can confidently identify myself as a Chicana.
A new adventure awaits

By Erika Chavez
Contributing Writer

Starting a new adventure or a new chapter in life may be frightening, yet exciting.

This is the case with many young adults who are planning their college life. But what if you are the first person in your family to even think about embarking the adventure of obtaining a higher education?

Many first-generation college students are faced with not knowing who to ask for help, where to apply or where to attend, what is necessary to be accepted in certain colleges or universities, and most of all how to make all this possible.

“I didn’t even know what exactly I was going to do after high school,” seems to be a common response of many first-generation students.

Although some first-generation students harbor this uncertainty, some are certain that they want to achieve great success in order to make their parents proud.

“The fact I came to college makes me feel like I will have a better opportunities and advantage from others in the work force,” said student Alba Valeriano.

Valeriano explained that seeing her mom work hard in the conditions she had to work in, inspired her to not want to stay home and work towards to having an education.

“Having a higher education to me is achieving the American dream and overcoming the struggles my parents had to face since we do not come from a high standing social class and breaking the stereotypes of being from a minority group,” said student Fatima Rivera Ortiz.

“Being the first one in the family to attend college, means everything my family has done for me also that I can do something to benefit me in life, it means that it shows me to how much my family are willing to support me due to that,” student Sara.

Many first-generation adults desire, in one way or another, to repay their parents for the hard work by making them proud.

Obtaining a better career that does not allow them to struggle economically, is one of their main goals, as well as attended college.

“I wish to have my dad out of work and look after him some day,” said Sara.

“I would see my mom coming from work tired and dirty by working at the dumpsters that I realized I wanted something better not only for me but for all of us in the family in general,” said student Alba Valeriano.

The experience that many first-generation student’s face is different from those that have had family in college because they do not know what type of assistance is available and where they may receive it.

In fact, many are faced with financial aid questions that are sometimes left unanswered, leading them to question whether or not they can be successful in higher education.

When applying for FAFSA her senior year in high school, Rivera Ortiz’s family was unaware of how to assist in the application process.

“I was led to going to a 2-year college since my family and I did not have the resources for me to come to a 4-year university at the beginning,” said Rivera Ortiz.

Not knowing about available economic resources makes it difficult for first-generation students to obtain a higher education.

“It’s the word of mouth that we hear from other students that we find out about what’s out there for us and sometimes it’s already too late even” said Sara.

“Even though I had to work full time while being a full time student, I did not really experience the college life,” Juan Salas

Juan Salas’ family was deported back to Mexico and as a result he lost his chance to enjoy the college lifestyle.

How deportation affects lives

By Justine Lopez
Contributing Writer

Many students can agree that throughout their years in college, life outside of school can be difficult.

However, students must persist, as they still have their educational responsibilities. But how does a college student still continue to succeed when their life is entirely turned upside down?

This was once the reality for a 25-year-old college graduate Juan Salas.

When Salas was 19, his life had changed forever.

He arrived home one day to a house that he thought would be filled with his mom, dad, and three brothers. However, they were not—and would not be coming home.

Salas had learned that his father had been deported back to Mexico, followed by his mom and two brothers one year later.

When asked how he would describe his emotions when he learned about his family’s deportation, he described it as one of the lowest times in his life.

Salas was left to care for himself and survive on his own.

This meant he would live in a friend’s garage for seven months until he could find himself a place.

During this time, Salas was also still attending Cal State University, Fullerton, majoring in health science with a concentration in health promotion and disease prevention.

He was not living as a typical 19 year old would anymore, and said that he had to mature faster than a lot of his friends.

“I had to work full time while being a full time student as well. I did not really experience the college life,” stated Salas.

Salas also explained that he began to lose confidence in his education, questioning if he could actually accomplish his goal of graduating college. However, he mastered strength to graduate with his B.A. in Health Science.
The Art of Dreaming Workshop was held on March 7, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. in Visual Arts 303. Materials were provided for participants to express themselves via mixed media. Savory foods, melodic music, and diverse forms of entertainment catered to attendees, contributing to a peaceful, communal atmosphere.

The Coyote Pack, Transcultural Commons Collective (TCCC), Mass Productions, as well as the Art, English and Communication Studies Departments were featured sponsors.

This workshop displayed that community networking can garner massive support for imperative causes that need attention and most importantly, amelioration. Even more so, it provided a “proactive safe space of healing.”

Donated artwork created by guests will be auctioned in a gala event at The Garcia Center for Arts in Downtown San Bernardino sometime in June.

Proceeds gathered will be used to establish an emergency fund for Dreamers and undocumented students.
Gender expectations and violence

As the idea of “equality” is being expressed more so than ever, should we allow gender to dictate how we defend ourselves?

By Genely Barajas
Staff Writer

S
hould the term “never hit a woman” still apply today, when women are fighting for equality in all aspects of life? Or is it sexist?

Approximately 1,500 women are killed each year from domestic violence, according to a study conducted by the U.S. Justice Department.

The U.S. Justice Department also reports that two-thirds of violent attacks on women are committed by someone they know, such as a boyfriend, husband, friend, or family member.

The FBI reports that over two billion men beat their partners, meaning a home can be the most dangerous place for a woman.

An anonymous commenter shared his thoughts on the matter by saying the term no longer applies “due to the fact that [women] want equality, if a woman hits a man with the intention of causing harm she should expect the man to defend himself.”

However, many people disagree because a woman’s stature and strength cannot be compared to that of a man’s.

“It is never okay to hit a woman! Regardless of the circumstances we are powerless when it comes to the strength of a man, but women should also never lay hands on a man. Fighting for equality is like fighting for respect, we both deserve it,” said student Adriana Granillo.

Even if men have been hit, scratched or punched by a woman, they do not report being afraid of her, according to the National Crime Victimization Survey.

No matter who initiates the altercation, women are seven to ten times more likely to end up injured as supposed to men.

The U.S. Department of Justice reports 95 percent of domestic violence victims are women and they are more likely to live in fear.

“I had a boyfriend who was emotionally and physically abusive and that made me feel like I was worthless as a person. Whenever he would come home I would be afraid of what the day would entail,” shared student Alyssa Rodriguez.

Men usually use intimidation and force as a tool to show power and dominance over women said Dr. Susan Hanks, Director of the Family and Violence Institute.

Although domestic violence is the most common case, self-defense seems like a convincing argument against the idea that a man should never lay hands on a woman.

86 percent of voters who participated in a “Should Men Hit Women Back” poll conducted by PBS said they would hit a woman as a form of self-defense.

However, 14 percent say men should not fight back because they are bigger, stronger and will easily inflict more pain on a woman.

Student Jose Gomez brings up a safe way for men to approach a situation where their being domestically abused.

“The majority of the time a man can diffuse an argument by simply walking away […]” said Gomez.

All in all, the majority of people can agree that violence is never an answer and should be avoided in the first place.

Cramming for graduation

By Monica Rosales
Contributing Writer

Students are overloading on units in an attempt to graduate in a timely manner, however it may be causing a hindrance rather than a benefit.

Unit overloading is available to all students on campus who maintain a 3.0 GPA and better, in efforts to allow them to graduate on time. For others, unit overloading is a cheaper and quicker way to ensure graduation.

“I did it for two quarters and managed to fill 21 units each because I just liked staying busy, but it just burned me out, and I didn’t feel like it actually benefited me the way I wanted to,” said student Gabe Sanchez.

Some students enjoy staying busy as well and take advantage of unit overloading to fill gaps in a schedule that is convenient to them.

“It benefited me because I now have the classes I needed and haven’t delayed my graduation as much if I waited. It was a lot on my plate but I guess that’s just what you got to do sometimes,” said student Valeria Hunter.

Along with many perks students find with unit overloading, it can also lead to a strain on personal health for multiple reasons.

“I just always feel stressed and sometimes fear I won’t get my homework done in time for certain classes,” said student Keith Thompson.

“I feel like I have no choice in the matter, it is either overload or spend another quarter at school longer than everyone else. I just want to get my career started,” continued Thompson.

Currently CSUSB stands with a graduation rate of 55 percent for students graduating within six years, compared to the lowered percentage of 32 percent for students graduating in four years, according to CSUSB’s Facts and Stats under the About webpage.

With the low graduating rate in four years, the pressure of graduation falls on student’s shoulders, putting pressure on them to find ways to finish school as soon as possible.

“I am trying my best to graduate on time and current course rotations in some quarters there are classes I need or want to take that are not offered,” said student Edgar Herrera.

The life of a college student can be stressful, and the fight for classes so close to graduation does not make it any easier.

Many students find obtaining classes stressful but prefer to avoid any future worries that overloading may cause.

I like that we can do it to speed up our graduation but don’t like the idea of being overwhelmed and having to come multiple days a week,” said student Steven Ortega. “With bills needing to be paid, sometimes it’s just not the best idea,” he continued.

Creating a balance between obtaining an education, having a personal life and maintaining health is difficult but necessary for any student who is trying to succeed.

“Overloading caused me more stress than I thought that actually made me feel like I was falling behind rather than advancing,” said student Mario Alvarez.

Unit overloading can provide multiple benefits to students, but there is no shame in completing an education one step at a time.

“I did it for two quarters and managed to fill 21 units each because I just liked staying busy but it just burned me out and I didn’t feel like it actually benefited me the way I wanted to,” Monica Rosales.
Living the “big” dream

By Stanisha Parker
Staff Writer

For generations, people have been told to work hard and go to school in order to achieve the “American Dream” or in other words: success. To determine how attainable this is, CSUSB alumni discuss their experiences with life after graduation.

“I think the ‘American Dream’ can be a wonderful thing; for those who it works out for, it can be a dream come true! However for those who come here with such high hopes and get nothing, I think it is a whole new nightmare,” said student Chrisma Lurie.

Alumna Areli Astorgia explained, “For me, the American Dream was the constant idea of me pursuing my education and have dual citizenship. The American dream is what’s happening right now in my life.”

People tend to have a hard time even finding a career to obtain the American Dream when they cannot find a career even with their degrees.

“The unemployment rate in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario was 5.6 percent in January 2017, up from a revised 5.1 percent in December 2016, and below the year-ago estimate of 5.9 percent,” stated EDD.ca.gov.

Although there is a decreasing unemployment rate, it can still be difficult for students to have a livable income.

“I live in an apartment with my husband and roommate who is, also, a student,” explained student Lurie. “I get financial aid and have taken out a student loan. My husband has a job and I rely on his and roommate’s income. I am currently looking for work,” continued Lurie. Even against the odds, students and alumni still strive for the American Dream.

“I decided to continue with my MA in Spanish literature,” said graduate student Areli. “I am currently a teacher assistant at CSUSB. The fact that I was a graduate candidate for the Teaching Assistantship position facilitated this opportunity,” said Areli.

Although some alumni have found jobs, they are still having trouble finding careers that give them the ability to sustain their livelihoods above the living threshold.

“A single adult with no children would need to work 55 hours in a week to be above the cost of living threshold of $617 per week in Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario,” states cost-of-living.careertrends.com.

Even when alumni can find jobs, the pay is sometimes not substantial enough to support themselves.

“I do entertainment at Disneyland. Getting the job was not bad. I had to go through an audition. Not really hard,” said alumnus James Hazel. “The pay is not too well—not a living salary. It is enough to rent a room, pay bills, and eat.”

With concerns like these, there are ways of achieving personal success for future alumni.

With graduation approaching, one can start planning how they will achieve this milestone; even considering the odds of obtaining the “American Dream” or how successful others have been in achieving the dream.

“I plan to continue and get my Masters to teach at a community college then maybe get my Doctorate to teach at a university,” stated student Lurie.

Everyone has their different walks of life and standpoint on the American Dream, but nonetheless, success is subjective and attainable for all.

Selecting contraceptives

By Kiara Perez
Staff Writer

Condoms, pills, injections, skin patches, and the vaginal ring. All are methods of contraceptives, a way to prevent pregnancy—but what exactly do people prefer?

There are so many different types of contraceptives today and they categorized differently. For example, they are listed as barrier, hormonal and sterilization methods.

The barrier method is made to stop the sperm from entering the uterus. The most common barrier contraceptives are condoms, the diaphragm, and cervical cap. In addition to stopping the sperm from entering the uterus, condoms can also prevent the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). The diaphragm and cervical cap prevent sperm from entering with the help of a chemical called spermicide which kills sperm.

Male condoms are used by both men and women. A male condom is a thin latex sheath that is inserted into the penis just before penetration. Female condoms are used by women. A female condom is a sheath that is inserted into the vagina just before penetration. Female condoms are effective at reducing the spread of STIs.

Another available option is injectable birth control, also known as the the DEPO Shot, which is either injected into the arm or ramp every three months.

According to the National Institute of Health (NIH), “hormonal methods of birth control use hormones to regulate or stop ovulation and prevent pregnancy [...] Ovulation is the biological process in which the ovary releases an egg, making it available for fertilization.”

The ring is thin, flexible and approximately three inches in diameter [...] the ring is inserted in the vagina...The woman removes it for the fourth week and reinsets a new ring 7 days later, according to the NIH.

NIH warned, “Risks for this method of contraception are similar to those for the combined oral contraceptive pills, and a vaginal rings is not recommended for any woman with a history of blood clots, stroke, heart attack, or with certain types of cancer. Currently, the NuvaRing “R” is the only FDA-approved vaginal ring.

Another available option is injectable birth control, also known as the the DEPO Shot, which is either injected into the arm or ramp every three months.

The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists states progester, as a hormone that plays a role in the menstrual cycle and pregnancy is the chemical in injectable birth control.

“Personally I prefer the DEPO shot [...] I only need to get my shot after every three months. I get the shot, and I wait about a week just to be safe, then I’m good to go,” said Joanna Ruby.*

“I get mine from the health center here at CSUSB, they are free as long as you’re a student here,” continued Ruby.*

Most female students preferred the shot or pill, which is commonly used.

“Take one pill everyday so my body can get used to it, it won’t be effective ‘till a month later,” said Luisa Lantern.

However, there is a possibility of side effects when it comes to some contraceptives.

“Me being 19 I’d probably go the abortion route, it depends on where I am in the future on whether or not I keep the baby,” said Rosa Harrison.*

Not to mention there is still a chance of getting a Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) or Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) despite the use of contraceptives.

According to the NIH, “Only male and female condoms are effective at reducing the spread of STDs.”

The sterilization method is a “permanent form of birth control that either prevents a woman from getting pregnant or prevents a man from releasing sperm.”

This however did not appear to be a common method here at CSUSB.

Contraceptives not only prevent accidental births but even take the dangers of a virus out of the equation, of a good time.

Names with (*) are given to keep students anonymous.
Bitmoji's, a new filter with Snapchat where you can create a small avatar, has people going crazy with the new options for Snapchat users.

Researchers at the University of Michigan analyzed an estimated 427 million messages via the Kika Emoji Keyboard and found that the most popular emoji was the face with tears of joy.

The second most popular emoji was a heart emoji, and that the third most popular emoji was the heart shaped eyes emoji.

“I use emojis to express my emotions and bring my words to life while telling a story,” said student Aaron Valencia. "If I didn’t have emojis, my text would be boring and have no meaning to them,” he continued.

In the same study, they found that the French used emojis associated with love the most.

They found that countries with higher levels of individualism such as Australia, Czech Republic and also France used more happy emojis in comparison to countries like Argentina, Chile, Columbia, Mexico, Turkey and Russia who are known for self-discipline.

“When I’m testing my close friends or especially my boyfriend I tend to use the different heart emojis because they’re cute and it’s a way of expressing my love to them,” said student Anahi Orozco. “Nowadays, emojis are considered by many to be its own ‘language.’”

As emojis continue developing and growing as a “language” of symbols, there may also be the potential for the formation of new emojis “dialects.” One of the possible dialects being Bitmoji.

The Sandojo app is not new but many people are just now finding out about it. Essentially, it is a keyboard that allows people to express themselves with their own custom emoji.

It is pretty amazing popular,” said CEO and Creative Director of Hitstrip Jacob Blackstock.

Ever since Bitmoji was launched, tens of millions of people have shared Bitmojis throughout social media, with Snapchat being one of the main ones.

“I have the Bitmoji for my snapchat but I don’t think it’s genuine because I don’t think that the expression is real,” said student Aileen Avila. “If you already have snapchat can’t you just take a picture and send that? I don’t get it,” continued Avila.

Bitmojis are similar to emojis, which are known to be small digital images or icons used to express an idea or an emotion in electronic communication. They are simply a more personalized emoji for users.

The likeness of creating a cartoon avatar is quite odd because making a personalized emoji using the app is a very subjective process.

In order to create a Bitmoji, a person has to start by picking a face shape, and a skin tone color. Then, the person is given options to choose a hair color, a length, a type of hair and hairstyle.

The person then proceeds to choose a jaw shape, a set of eyebrows, a mouth and so on. The details, when creating a Bitmoji, are so precise that the person is able to choose whether or not they want dimples. After the process is done, a cartoon version of that person appears. The person may then dress his or her Bitmoji by choosing between a wide variety of outfits.

The person may go back and change or modify any details as many times as needed in order to get the look they desire.

“We’ve found that people love designing their avatars,” Blackstock told Business Insider.

“Bitmoji puts the face or identity back into communication. I really believe Bitmoji is the next level beyond emoji – and what we’re seeing from users is that they’re not looking back,” continued Blackstock.

Features

Rise of the Bitmoji

By Elina Urrutia

Contributing Writer

Pizza on campus

By Manny Sandoval

Contributing Writer

Women and men have different food etiquette rules when it comes to first dates in terms of what type of food to eat, how to consume it, and who decides to pay the bill.

While planning for a first date men and women have different expectations on how to go about it.

“When going on a date 51 percent of men would prefer going to a restaurant for a first date, where as 52 percent of women would prefer to go to a coffee shop for a first date and skip the meal completely,” stated The Huffington Post.

To some couples, the first date is an opportunity for them to get to know each other through conversation and not focusing on the meal.

“The place the date was at and the food we enjoyed was not an important aspect of the night, the conversation we had during the date how ever was, because we were able to learn new things about each other instead of worrying about how much food we were consuming and how we looked in front of the other person,” said student Ramon Avila.

The top three most common restaurants chosen were based on an age range from 18 to about 35.

“In the age range of 18 to 24, they choose a fast food restaurant […] ages 25-34 couples choose The Cheesecake factory and at about age 35 and up couples choose Olive Garden,” stated The Huffington Post.

Majority of the couples that go to a restaurant for their first date most commonly choose a more pleasurable plate of food that can be easily consumed and is not going to be messy in the end.

“The most common meals purchased on first dates are the steak meal and the pasta meal,” stated Cosmopolitan.

When choosing a meal some couples look at the reason for the meal choice before consuming the meal.

“The main reason why the taste and pasta meals are most commonly chosen is because steak and pasta are considered the sexiest foods to eat on a date because it shows your date that you know how to eat a meal in a clean way but it also shows that you have control over your food,” stated Fox News.

According to a survey funded by restaurant chain TGI Fridays’ One in 10 men are turned on by a woman who eats messy food like burgers or ribs, and 26 percent want you to get in there and enjoy that meal. Go nuts, get it on your face — whether it’s a burger or a sandwich.

“On my first date with my girl I took her to all you can eat Chinese buffet, I do not mind how much she eats,” said student Bryan Martinez. “I prefer her to eat whatever she feels it when my lady can enjoy her meal and stuff her face.”

All though some men do not mind a woman that can eat some foods women find it a bit embarrassing to eat a larger portion on a first date.

“On a first date I get nervous,” said student Eliza Martinez. “I was concerned about what he would think of our conversation we had during the date however was, not an important aspect of the night, the joy we enjoyed was not important.”

The fact of the matter is that some men and women have rules, whether they pertain to the food they eat, the way they dress, or who pays the bill whether these rules are individually or socially motivated.

As potential couples engage with each other on a first date, they are able to figure out what type of rules each other have.

“One lot of people put much pressure on a first date,” said student Kim Khansen. “One of my rules is that there are no rules. When I am on a date I want to be able to enjoy everything and if I want to get a steak, salad, and desert I do not mind paying half the bill.”

In 2017 there are more the means and the right to pick up the check on the first date there is a majority of people that would disagree.

“Even though this statement is true for both genders, 77.4 percent of people believe that men should pick up the first date check,” stated Nerd Wallet.
This past weekend was the third year that the Holi Festival Of Colors was held in Riverside at Martha McLean Park.

The colorful and vibrant event was open to all ages as hundreds across the Inland Empire community came together to celebrate the passing of winter and the arrival of spring. Holi is an ancient tradition in India, that is celebrated a welcoming of the change of seasons. The festival is a way for those to “bury their hatches with a warm embrace and throw it into the wind.”The main goal of the festival is to send a positive and powerful messages to each and every individual as diverse people, of ethnicities, gender, sexuality and even religion, we are all united here, but we should all be unified.

With the different colored dusts (that vary) from red, yellow, green, pink, blue, and silver, (they) each represent our different backgrounds. We come together by throwing colors, hence becoming one. “Holi is a consciousness raising event,” stated Arcita Dasa. “It is for people who wonder who they are, who everybody else is, and what they are supposed to be doing,” Dasa continued.

Festival of Colors hosts on an environment that allows people to come together and in a fun and entertaining way. “I would describe my first time here fun and exciting all my worries went away and it was a fun experience I would defiantly do again. Nobody was judging me because we were all doing the same thing we are all equal,” said first time attendee Arin Tanji.

There were different types of music, such as traditional Indian music, hip hop and rap. Many people joined the yoga sessions and also people participated in yoga practices to release tension.

What seemed to capture people’s attention was learning how to dance to the Indian music. The atmosphere at the event appeared to be full of enjoyment as everyone participated in either dancing or throwing colorful powders. Some fun activities included: a bouncing house for small children to play in, acrobats, and plenty of dancing.

“Its been really great; I love the unity among everyone. There is a really good sense of peace and humanity that I think a lot of people need to experience around this time in our country,” stated CSUSB videographer Giacomo Thillet.

This event embraces the idea of meeting new people, exchanging colors with others, and most importantly spreading peace and unity.
The Panza Monologues

By Erika Aguilar
Contributing Writer

The San Manuel Student Union Theatre presented its first play, “Panza Monologues,” on March 3, organized by the Women’s Resource Center (WRC).

The play is based on the book, “The Panza Monologues,” written by Virginia Grise and Irma Mayorga. It is a solo performance based on women’s stories about their panzas, which means “bellies” in English.

The book features Chicanas speaking with humor and honesty about their stories, including their panzas. The panza represents a symbol, revealing the truths about their experience with life, love, abuse, living conditions, obstacles and political concerns.

The monologues are a combination of comedy and drama, in which 11 performers acted out the stories at the event.

“The first Panza Monologues was a little chaotic because we had not done that before; we had to make sure the props were right, the lighting and the music was set up right, but it turned out really good because we almost had a packed full of theatre for the performance,” said WRC student assistant Felicia De La Isla. De La Isla said the Panza Panza Monologues is similar to the Vagina Monologues, except it is much more specific to Latina experiences dealing with: identity, body image, domestic violence, poverty, immigration, love, loss and more.

The Stories that were presented during the play were from the perspectives of Latina women of different ages and backgrounds.

Majority of the students who participated in the play did not have any experience with acting, but could relate to what the monologues talked about.

Natalie Gonzales, a performer, who said it was her first time doing a play on stage.

“I had a lot of anxiety going up there because I am not really an outgoing person to begin with,” said student Gonzalez.

Gonzalez said she pretended she was talking to one of her family members to overcome her anxiety of performing on stage.

“The monologue I read actually was really relevant to my life and that made it much easier for me to pretend I was talking to a family member and like spilling all the gossip about it,” said Gonzales.

Saira Ortega was another performer who participated in the play for two reasons.

The first reason was because she watched the Vagina Monologues back at Riverside Community College (RCC) and enjoyed the play and was encouraged to attend to see how the performers were going to expand the topic of body image.

“The second reason was because it was a way of overcoming her fear of public speaking,” continued Ortega.

“It made me feel a little more confident about speaking in front of others because going up on stage was not as bad as I thought it was going to be,” said Ortega.

Ortega said the audience reacted well to her performance, which encouraged her to keep on doing things like this to become more involved in school.

The majority of the stories that were presented included the belly as a way of empowering women to love their selves the way they are.

The WRC coordinator, Janet Monusz-Alex, said some women have had issues regarding their belly at some point in their life, which is also represents a lot of factors.

“It represents giving life, nourishment, comfort, self-care and it is an important part of our identity in many ways,” said Monusz-Alex.

WRC graduate assistant Marissa Wollard said that in the book, the author discusses that part of activism is self-care.

“If you are not taking care of yourself, you are not able to continue your activism,” said Wollard.

“It is a balance that you need to have and that your self-care is represented in your panza in the way it looks,” continued Wollard.

One of the attendees at the event said she enjoyed the play and was encouraged to attend to see how the performers were going to expand the topic of body image.

“I had a great experience,” said student Daisy Saucedo.

“I did not know what was going to happen next so when they did different things each time, it kind of surprised me,” added Saucedo.

Saucedo said she would definitely attend another event like this because she enjoyed how it was enacted.

The Panza and Vagina Monologues serve as motivational plays to let attendees know that they are capable of performing, and thus encouraging participation.

“We hope students audition in the future so they can see what is like to be on stage,” said De La Isla.

De La Isla hopes that now that many students have seen the play and know what it is about, they can audition the next time the WRC does the play again.
Lost in translation

By Arturo Brooks
Staff Writer

Last Friday, I found myself lost within one of the most passionate, civil, and back and forth discussions I have ever seen.

The event was a Philosophy Colloquium, “Hope and Hiddedness: A Framework For Defense”, a lecture presented by Dr. Daniel Speak, a Philosophy professor who teaches at Loyola Marymount University.

Attending this discussion was like being in Philosophy 191. I went in totally unprepared, thinking it was about politics.

Being caught of guard, I soon realized that it was about questioning the existence of God.

Taking only the general education class on Philosophy, I was able to keep up for a good 10 minutes of the conversation.

Once 10:01 hit I was completely lost. For the other 30 minutes of speaking I sat there and just nodded my head in acknowledgment.

Many different ideas, concepts, and terminology were mentioned that I never heard before.

Once the lecture was done, the discussion shifted toward how they could improve and increase the amount of information currently available on the subject at hand through research.

There was an exchange of ideas, between the main speaker and two other colleagues who could not come to a final agreement.

They would agree on one aspect, then argue again saying percentages that I had no idea what the number meant, or why the percentages were significant.

These philosophers all reminded me of a court case, trying to find a way to disprove the other.

Even though it was comical to me due to my lack of understanding and knowledge, it really was a different type of experience.

Seeing these men who have Ph.D.s have this not only intellectual conversation, but a civilized and passionate debate, opened my eyes to a different experience, especially in regards to handling conflict.

Student wedding planning difficulties

By Amber Childress
Staff Writer

Students who are attending school and planning a wedding find it difficult to juggle both responsibilities along with work.

Being engaged for a year and attending school has been a stressful process for myself.

While attending school I found myself struggling to focus in class and be mentally present at work.

“Planning our wedding was a challenge while attending school while working an average of 30 hours per week,” said student Joeslyn Cariaga. “I often found myself very distracted in class. Instead of being completely present in lectures, I was researching wedding decor and planning my schedule.”

Since wedding planning is an important event, I have not been present mentally, and some students have seen their grades are slipping due to planning their wedding.

Some students cannot handle the stress of both juggling their jobs, school life and planning their wedding.

“Since I was so focused on planning the wedding, I found myself forgetting about assignments that are due or when I did know about the assignments that are due, I would stay up all night to get it finished just so I can turn in something for some credit,” said student Abhi Holloway.

Another big issue that I found while planning my wedding was managing my time.

Since I knew my school and work schedule would not be flexible for me, I had to create time around work and school to do anything for the wedding.

“When setting up a meeting for the wedding I had to create a specific time line so I would be able to attend school and work in between the meetings,” said student Alicia Centro. “It was hard because I was not able to have a flexible school or work schedule so I had to miss class or leave work early in order to set these meetings.”

During the meeting time is needed to meet with food caterers, photographers, DJs—even need to set up time to ask your wedding party to be apart of your wedding.

The cost of each of these different companies varies on what you are looking for in your wedding.

While planning the wedding you also need to make sure that the wedding party will be available and you need to make sure they all have their dress attire and accessories fitted, and paid for.

While also adding these additions to the wedding, couples have to think about ways to cut costs.

One way to save money is to make the party favors, center pieces, and thanks you cards yourself.

In order to create all these do it yourself projects (DIY) you would have to do it yourself, which needs time and money.

When I started planning my wedding the first thing my fiancé and I went over was our budget.

Staying on the budget that you and your fiancé set is hard because depending on the theme of the wedding your decorations can become expensive.

“When planning a wedding some things you need to remember are the budget, food, guest count, guest gifts, flowers, and decorations,” said Wedding Coordinator Vicky Flores. “Each part of the wedding is going to cost money and every little detail is an extra expense that will be worth it in the end.”

The cost of a wedding has become a very important issue for couples. The most expensive thing in a wedding is the venue and the bigger the venue you want the more the wedding will cost.

Illustration courtesy of Matthew Miller

This letter is in response to the opinion piece “Debunking ‘who are the refugees?’” on behalf of the center for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies (Cimes) board, which includes a diverse group of CSUSB scholars of different disciplines versed in the study of the Muslim and Arab worlds. Unfortunately, we found the piece very problematic, with slanted characterizations of both the content and intent of panelist contributions. Our panel consisted of community organizers who have been working very closely for years with both refugees as well as the U.S. government, which has funded many of their projects. They are experts on the resettlement of refugees, how they are vetted, and the kind of support they receive from the government and other sources. Therefore, rather than responding line-by-line to these mostly inaccurate observations, we invite the campus community and beyond to view the event at https://youtu.be/R7hUCVlV7zO and to conduct their own research.

Continued online @ Coyotechronicle.net
Women’s Basketball Seniors

By Megan Vina
Staff Writer

The women’s basketball team ended their season with a winning record and a trip to the conference tournament for the third consecutive year.

The Coyotes were predicted to finish 10th in the preseason conference poll but they didn’t let that set them back. They used it as motivation to prove everyone in the conference wrong.

Coyote’s season was not only good, but also featured many talented players; they featured many of the best players for the NFL draft.

Prospects gather for physical tests, so that the NFL combine is where all of the top college players are evaluated. The best players for the NFL draft.

Through speculation that wide receiver John Ross from the University of Washington could possibly break the record. Before this year, the record for the 40-yard dash was held by Chris Johnson in 4.24 seconds just barely beating Chris Johnson 4.24 record.

NFL Combine record broken

“...That man was a monster, he looked like he was already an elite professional football player,” said Davis.

His showing at the combine is one that will probably get him drafted early. That potentially means more money for him but it also means higher expectations.

They had a lot of athletes that came out and gave it everything they had to prove themselves to teams that might be interested in drafting them.

A projected top draft pick, defensive end Myles Garrett from the University of Texas A&M, also had an excellent combine. Due to his work there, he is now projected to be the first draft pick in the upcoming draft.

After placing in the top five in every category he participated in, most NFL scouts were blown away, along with fans of the sport like Brandon Davis.

Brandon Davis

“...That man was a monster, he looked like he was already an elite professional football player,” said Davis.

Another standout athlete was running back Leonard Fournette, from Louisiana State University. He is known as a large running back with power, but does not have much speed.

Photo Credit: Sports News
MLB introduces new rules for new season

By Breeze Rivers

New rulebook changes for Major League Baseball (MLB) will alter how games are played this season, proving that even a league that has been around for nearly 150 years, still enacts necessary alterations and touch-ups from time to time. MLB is a professional baseball organization that is comprised of 30 teams, 29 in the United States and one in Canada. Established in 1869, MLB is the oldest of four major professional sports leagues in the United States and Canada.

The most significant change is the no-pitch intentional walk rule, which will allow defending teams to send a batter to first base without pitching the four intentional balls. Instead, if the pitcher wants to intentionally walk a batter, their managers will signal to the umpire from the dugout, and the umpire will award first base to the batter without a pitch being thrown. “Teams will usually intentionally walk a batter if they think he is good enough to hit a home run,” said Alfred Souza, starting pitcher for Simpson University in Northern California. “I think the rule is necessary because it will save time and make the game run a little smoother.”

Another MLB rule change is directed to the replay challenge system. Team managers are now given a 30 second time limit to decide whether to seek a review. The new rule also gives the replay official a two-minute “guideline” to render a decision. These replay challenge rules were enacted to avoid unnecessary delays in game time.

Other rule changes are aimed towards preventing unfair advantages. Teams are prohibited from “the use of any markers on the field that could create a tangible reference system for fielders.” This rule prevents teams from using technologies such as laser rangelinders before games to find the best positioning for their outfielders, then using paint or golf markers as tangible reference points for the players during the game. A pitcher can no longer “take a second step toward home plate with either foot or otherwise reset his pivot foot in his delivery of the pitch,” according to the MLB rulebook.

“I heard a lot of controversy about that rule,” said Souza. “That kind of pitch causes an unfair advantage because it closes down the space between the pitcher and the batter.”

The final rule change is directed towards coaches. First and third base coaches must stay within the lines of the coach’s box prior to each pitch, though they can move out of the box to signal during play as long as they do not interfere. The MLB opens up their 2017 season in the beginning of April, which is when these new rule changes will be implemented to speed up the pace of the game.
Seniors trade uniforms for caps & gowns

Women’s team graduates five seniors

By Yera Nanam
Staff Writer

The women’s basketball team celebrates the upcoming graduations of seniors Mya Johnson, Cassie Johnson, Summer Ramsey, Megan Vina and Michelle Okoroike.

Ramsey played an important role this season, being the team’s starting point guard. She averaged 2.5 steals and 3.2 assists, leading the team in both categories. “The impact I left with this team was my defensive skills,” said Ramsey.

According to Ramsey, she hopes the younger players keep up the defensive intensity and listen to head coach Sue Crebbin.

“I don’t call myself a basketball player, I call myself an entertainer [...] I like playing defense for so long because whatever excites the team excites me,” added Ramsey.

Ramsey plans to use her kinesiology degree to get a job as a physical education teacher, and possibly become a basketball coach in the future.

Forward Mya Johnson has played with the Coyotes for two seasons, averaging nearly a double-double in each game in her last season while leading the team in points and rebounds.

Johnson was named All-CCAA first team as she finished second in field goal percentage, scoring and rebounds in the conference.

“It doesn’t take skill to rebound, just hard work and that’s the impact I left on the team,” said Mya Johnson.

She plans to use her degree in criminal justice to become a 911 dispatcher or a juvenile detention officer.

Forward Cassie Johnson was in the top three in steals, points averaged and minutes played for the team this season.

“There’s something different than anyone else was my work ethic,” said Cassie Johnson.

She has a love for the game, so she plans to continue her career as a basketball player possibly playing professionally overseas.

“I’m trying to play semi-pro basketball while I’m in school and run Track & Field to stay in shape, so I guess I’m going to school just to play sports,” continued Cassie Johnson.

Michelle Okoroike really put on a show this season, doing things you wouldn’t see on the stat sheets that are all important to a winning record.

“I was a hustle player and always gave maximum effort [...] when I’m gone someone is going to have to step up and do that,” said Okoroike.

Okoroike describes that her energy was unmatched, and that helped push the team to play hard as well. She obtains a career after graduating, or enter into a graduate program.

Vina, who is seen more as a soccer star on campus, was also a big asset to the team and constantly amazed her teammates throughout the season.

“I’m not going to just stand back and watch, I will run and jump for the rebound.”

Michelle Okoroike

Men’s basketball with three leaving

By Megan Vina
Staff Writer

The Coyote men’s basketball season has officially ended, and with it comes the ending of a CSUSB basketball career for three senior players. Everett Turner (#3), Ramon Eaton (#24) and Shawn Joseph (#2) will be leaving the Coyotes basketball program.

In his freshman year at Cal State Dominguez Hills, he started in 21 of the 25 games he played. As a sophomore, he moved to CSUSB and averaged 9.3 points, 3.2 rebounds, 2.7 assists (71 total) and 1.9 steals (49 total) per game, which earned him a spot on the 2015 CCAA Honorable Mention Team.

Turner’s senior year for the Coyotes was impressive. He increased his stats from the previous years in every category: 11.8 points, 4.7 rebounds and 3.4 assists. He earned CCAA Honorable mention for the second straight year, being the only Coyote on the squad to be recognized by the CCAA. “Everett is a big part of our team,” stated head coach Jeff Oliver.

Turner reflects on his favorite moment from his career, which is when he earned CCAA Player of the Week.

“That was a big achievement for me because I proved to be one of the best players in the conference,” stated Turner. “I owe a lot of my success to my coaches and teammates; I would not have been able to obtain the award without them.”

He’s not sure what his future holds for him, but would love to continue his basketball career upon graduation.

Eaton, a psychology major from Sacramento, played his final year of eligibility with the Coyotes. He previously played for Pepperdine, New Mexico Junior College and North Carolina Central before transferring to CSUSB for his senior year.

Michelle Okoroike walked with four of her teammates on senior night, proving the strong bond sports teams form.

“I always worked really hard and I love the game.”

Cassie Johnson

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Eaton, a psychology major from Sacramento, played his final year of eligibility with the Coyotes. He previously played for Pepperdine, New Mexico Junior College and North Carolina Central before transferring to CSUSB for his senior year.

Eaton played in 28 games for Pepperdine and 13 at North Carolina Central. He played in 24 games, starting 20, as a Coyote and averaged 8.3 points, 4.3 rebounds and 1.3 assists per game.

Eaton describes his favorite moment to be “When I broke my nose during a game, but went back.”

“It showed character and heart to all the younger players; even though the odds were not in our favor, never gave up and to play with heart, always,” added Eaton.

Joseph, an entrepreneurial management major from Riverside, was a three-year member of the Coyotes basketball team. He played a season at Riverside City College, playing in 23 games. His sophomore and junior years, he played in 18 games for the Coyotes.

His senior year he played in 20 games for the Coyotes and had a season-high 29 minutes against Cal State East Bay. The Coyotes finished their season with an 11-14 overall record and in 10th place in the CCAA.