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

pg. 6

Community
The Art of Dreaming
Artistic expression and communal networking for a beneficial cause.  

pg. 7
Sigma Phi Epsilon to possibly win IFC Sports Trophy

By Emily Anne Espinosa
News Editor

Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp) was almost undefeated for the Interfraternity Council (IFC) Intramural Sports. IFC Intramural Sports is a competition within the Interfraternity Council at CSUSB, where all the fraternities in the council compete 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, frisbee, and softball. 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.

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. “Kappa Sigma, one of the new fraternities, definitely came up and surprised us at the championship game,” said Chad Reeyes, Phalanx 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 Reeyes on making their teams, SigEp stays inclusive, allowing anyone to play, as well as motivating their new pledges to participate.

Continued from Page 1

The lighting throughout “Mother Courage and Her Children” has no true color scheme, instead, Jones made it so that the lighting complements the scene and helps to set the tone of what happens on stage. He that white lighting to represent a harsh cold, orange and red for a blustering sun or a multitude of colors as if light was coming in from a stained glass window.

“I read the script and got the feeling for the song[s] and based on chord progressions and just how the emotion of the music makes me feel, I just tied that together and came up with the song,” said Erik Hjortnaes, an example of that.

“I read the script and got the feeling for the song[s] and based on chord progressions and just how the emotion of the music makes me feel, I just tied that together and came up with the song,” said Erik Hjortnaes, and a personal connection to the sport, making the competition a lot more passionate and competitive for some individuals.

continued from Page 1

CSUSB alumni that helped to create the music that accompanied “Mother Courage and Her Children.” Hjornaes helped compose the music to the play so it would fit the newer setting and also since for the play the lyrics of the songs exist and while the music is usually created by the group putting up on the stage. The clear message of the play is the uselessness of war and the horror of the mercenary nature of war,” said Professor Tom Provenzano, director of “Mother Courage and Her Children” on what he wants people to take away from the play.

Continued from Page 1

Psychology major Samantha Guevara was also new to public speaking. She competed in the informative speech category with her topic about friendship and how it is a crucial aspect of college life. She prepared by collaborating with her friends and fellow contestants on developing focal points for each other's topics. Judges of the speeches consisted of students of the Forensics team and Communication instructors.

Donna Gotch, Instructor and final round judge at CAST, stated that, “The student speakers demonstrated the skills they learned in COMM120 in what resulted in an excellent public speaking competition.”

Informative Category Judge and Forensics team member, Natalie Gayoso has prior experience with public speaking and debate. While judging, she looked for the contestants’ use of vocal variety (movement), familiarity and knowledge of the topic.

First prize for each category went to Charles Smith for persuasive and Leslie Aguila for informative. The Spring 2017 tournament was a success from participants, attendees, and management standpoints. The Forensics team hopes to gain more members and contestants in future competitions.
Planned Parenthood vs Conservatives

Programs around the U.S. have been receiving defunding threats recently from the Republican Party, one in particular being Planned Parenthood.

Planned Parenthood (PP), a non-profit organization that provides health services to low-income families or people with insufficient health care. PP receives federal funding to support health services provided in their clinics, such as free birth control, condoms, and STD testing.

“I feel that Planned Parenthood is a system that we need in America,” said Women’s Resource Center Student Program Assistant, Naomi Salcido.

“It’s a resource that parents can rely on, especially new moms or teenage parents; they are lost and they don’t know what to expect from it. PP is a resource to help them out.”

Conservative congressmen, as well as pro-life groups, have been urging President Trump to defund PP in hopes to cut abortion rates.

Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan, talked about defunding Planned Parenthood in a CNN town hall meeting in January.

Instead of funding PP, Ryan suggested funding community health centers that provide the same health services, minus the abortions.

“We want to make sure that people get their coverage,” said Ryan.

“That’s where’s there’s no conflict by making sure these dollars go to federal community health centers, which provide these services and have a fast larger network than these Planned parenthood clinics, which are surrounded by a lot of controversies. And we don’t want to commit people’s taxpayer dollars to effectively funding that is morally unconscionable.”

Students for Life of America (SFLA) is an organization that “wants to abolish abortion in our lifetime, and we plan to do that by identifying, educating, and activating this generation of young people,” as stated on studentsforlife.org.

Exercising their first amendment right, SFLA is one of the hundreds of anti-abortion groups in the U.S. that educates their followers and/or protest at PP clinics and marches held around the country.

On the other hand, PP supporters at CSUSB and in congress know that issues will arise in communities where PP is a primary source for health of most.

“With cutting funding, you’re stopping students and people who don’t have the greatest incomes from getting what we need that is affordable,” said student Brianna Joiner.

“It would have a very bad impact if we lose this.”

Felicia De La Isla, a Women’s Resource Center student assistant, is a supporter of PP and wants people to know that there is much more PP provides than just abortions.

“Planned Parenthood has helped a lot of people who don’t have medical coverage at all. And not just for reproductive health, but physical health and therapy as well,” said De La Isla.

According to plannedparenthood.org, three percent of their services are abortion services, while 80 percent of their services are to prevent unintended pregnancy.

Along with preventing pregnancy, PP also does health screenings dealing with breast cancer, STDs, and other complications, which Ryan says community health centers would also do.

Defunding PP would have implications on both sides of the spectrum.

Whether one is pro-life or pro-choice, one thing is certain: affordable health services are needed in the U.S.

“The best way to avoid abortions is with education and contraception,” said De La Isla.
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 a 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.

“Women of color, we already have so many odds stacked against us. Then, the fact that sexuality also defines us,” said Reyes.

Since claiming her identities, she encounters multiple challenges from inside her home.

Her parents have treated her differently since she came out.

“They are pushing that heterosexuality into me so that way I can forget the ‘other side of me,’” explained Reyes.

Reyes stated that her parents have tried to “perpetuate” or normalize heterosexuality by telling her to marry “the man of her dreams” and “have grandchildren.”

In addition to being treated differently due to her sexuality, her parents attempt to generate a type of “conversion therapy,” Reyes stated.

As a result, Reyes has become slightly fearful.

“If 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.”

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 a part of the community. There are times when writers [who are] not apart of that certain community and it creates stereotypes,” stated Reyes.

Reyes is adamant about generating community in her surroundings. She is a 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 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, the community feels 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 an M.A. in Society and Politics, an M.A. in Communication and a Ph.D. in Communication Studies from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Popescu has ten different pieces of work published in the fields of First Amendment, cultural policies, and digital media policies.

“I am currently working on a book that is about privacy in the age of data analytics and it is about looking at privacy differently,” said Dr. Popescu.

“You know we tend to think of privacy as data privacy, sharing our private data and I believe that is an incomplete approach. So I am trying to look at privacy as a decision issue and identity issue,” she continued.

Of all the research Dr. Popescu has done, the work that has made the most impact in her opinion is a piece published about cultural capital in Serbia.

“It is about how people develop a taste in culture and the impact the social networks has on that, that is an article that has been quoted quite often and for the past year it has been consistently listed in the top 10 cited articles,” said Dr. Popescu.

Esteemed lecturer Joel Harris in the English Department, has been

with the English department for the past 12 years.

Professor Harris is a CSUSB graduate and previously taught in Japan years ago.

While there, he and a colleague of his created a textbook called Write About It, Talk About It, that was based on interactive small group discussions and receiving feedback from peers.

“It was interesting to see the local perception. Professors at other universities in Japan were using it as an English as a second language ESL test for writing classes,” said Harris.

The English Department is also home to Associate Professor Chad Luck.

Professor Luck’s research interests include 18th and 19th-century American literature and culture, as well as literature and philosophy.

“I had a book that came out in 2014 called The Body Of Property and it is a book that explores the way in which 18th and 19th century American writers think about and talk about issues of property and ownership,” said Luck.

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

“The impact that The Body of Property had for me, is the way in which it causes people to rethink and reevaluate the ways that they thought about culture and literature previously and I hope that the book will open up new questions,” said Luck.

Dr. Stephen Tibbetts is a full professor in the Department of Criminal Justice 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.

“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 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.
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 content,” said a student who wished to remain anonymous.

As explained in the panel, one way America is providing assistance in regards to foreign affairs is through our tax money going to Israel.

“One can have more information about how the Palestinians are living with the condition of new settlement as well as water deprivation, and so forth, by going on the website, OceansofInjustice.com. It was interesting and I am going to check out the website for more information,” said student Mina Lee.

“The short film, “Today They Took My Son,” shows a boy that has been put into a military detention system. In real life every 12 hours a Palestinian boy, sometimes girls too, is taken from these homes between midnight and 5am.

The military detention system tortures the boys, who can be there for as long as 20 years, with limited food and water.

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The military detention system tortures the boys, who can be there for as long as 20 years, with limited food and water.

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 seen as, rather than conforming to pre-set generic ethnic labels.

I decided to find individuals who have invested themselves in decolonization and re-choosing.

I consulted two colleagues I have come to admire, due to their amazing work for our community and for their political involvement.

CSUSB graduate student Jasmine Castro and Gullit Acevedo (Alias: Jaguar) liberal arts major at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona were the first to introduce me to the meaning of Chicana@.

Although I had heard the term before, I never truly invested myself into assessing its meaning.

“The term Chicano defines someone of indigenous ancestry to this continent who has a non-Anglo image of themselves,” explained Acevedo.

A Chican@ recognizes that they are 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 began 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@ entitles.

“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 women 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 proponent. I think 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 Latino@/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.
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,” said student Alba Valeriano. “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 struggles of being from a minority group.”

Fatima Rivera Ortiz

Many first-generation adults desire, in one way or another, to repay their parents for the hard work by making them proud. However, students must persist, as they tend 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 to me how much my family are will to support me due to that,” student Sara. “The fact that I didn’t feel pushed or obligated to look more ahead and try harder outside of high school affected me mentally, because my parents only said to me ‘just do whatever makes you happy.’ I’m still trying to discover who I am,” said Valeriano.

There has truly been an impact on how students get counseling and resources available to them that has done a lot with their career choices and the time they spent in trying to graduate on time that must be looked at by the universities and advisers to make it more available to first time generation students.

“We must teach our children to believe in themselves, to be proud, or the obstacles they face. You must keep going and you will make it,” said Rivera Ortiz.

A new adventure awaits

By Erika Chavez

Contributing Writer

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

“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 struggles of being from a minority group”

Fatima Rivera Ortiz

By Justine Lopez

Contributing Writer

A new adventure awaits

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.
Activism, solidarity, and art: expression for a cause

By Loydie Burmoh
Executive Editor

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 what 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 12 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 Ortizaga. “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.
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. Alumni Areri 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.career的趋势.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.

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 going into the uterus which include male condoms, female condoms and diaphragms. Oddly enough, men seemed to think condoms as an uncomfortable method, yet it appeared to be the preferred choice. “I use condoms, but I hate it because it’s not as spontaneous,” said Rick Johnson. 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 reinserts 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 clot, 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 rump every three months. The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists states progesterin, 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 Jo-hanna 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. “I 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. “Yes, mood swings here and there, nothing serious. As long as I’m safe I don’t really mind it. Also they say there is a massive weight gain, however I haven’t experienced that yet,” said Jackie Martin. “I’ve used Plan B once, the morning after pill, I got it from the Health Center […] I applied for the family plan and so I got it for free,” said Lisa Modelo. Modelo continued, “It messed up my hormones, I got my period early, felt dizzy, nauseous, and sick.” There’s always a slight possibility that regardless of using contraceptives one can still get pregnant. “If anything were to happen, I’d buy a Plan B at school, if that failed, I would keep my baby,” said Hanna Jasmim. “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.
Rise of the Bitmoji

Features

By Elina Urrutia
Contributing Writer

Bitmoji’s, a new filter with Snapchat where you can create a small digital 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 Kik 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 happier emojis in comparison to countries like Argen-
tina, 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 Orsco. “Nowadays, emojis are consid-
ered by many to be its own ‘language.’”

As emojis continue developing and growing as a “lan-
guage” of symbols, there may also be the potential of the for-
mation of emoji “dialects.” One of the possible dialects being Bitmoji.

The Bitmoji 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 Hintrips 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 Aidee Avila. “If you already have Snapchat can’t you just take a picture and send that? I don’t get it,” continued.

With loads of classes, tons of homework, and studying, it is no surprise that college students consume the most pizza.

A study done by USDA reveals that “26 percent of males and 18 percent of females ages 12 to 19 reportedly consume pizza on any given day. Also, 16 percent of males and 13 percent of females ages 20 to 39 consume pizza on any given day.”

Pizza is practically accessible in every community and on every col-
lege campus, in the United States.

“Pizza is convenient for college students because its cheap, its good, and it’s really good.I think college students consume the most pizza be-
cause its cheaper than many other foods,” said student Destiny Guzman. University of Texas has reported that their University dining venues sell a combined total of over 250,000 slices of pizza every semester, which is 6.5 slices for each of the Univer-
sity’s approximately 40,000 undergraduate students.

“I buy pizza on campus frequent-
ly and I love it,” said Guzman. “I like the large huge slice and its delicious,” she continued.

Here at CSUSB students have two options for pizza: Pizza Hut in-
side the Student Union, and Sodexo located in The Commons.

“I eat pizza on campus about once a week,” said student Adam Sandoval. “Pizza is easy for me to grab on the go when I’m busy with school and work, and it only takes about two minutes to stop and grab a slice or two.”

Former Pizza Hut employee Ja-
son Alexander said he is not surprised to find out that college students eat the most pizza because he is seen first hand hundreds of pizza being sold during any given shift.

Pizza is definitely an American comfort food, one that has something to offer for everyone.

“My favorite topping is spicy chicken, but sometimes I like to keep it simple and stick with pepperoni,” said student Joel Morris.

With pizza, one has the opportu-
nity to choose from so many flavorful toppings, the type of dough, cheese and dipping sauces used; which is one of the reasons this convenient col-
lege food footer is popular among the masses.

“My all time favorite pizza top-
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erved is that most college students are basic and order cheese and pep-
perorini.

Another reason pizza is so popu-
lar among college students is because a majority of pizza places are open late.

“The main reason college stu-
dents consume so much pizza is be-
cause many pizza places open late and it makes for a perfect meal while you are up studying late at night,” said student Joel Morris.

It is transparent that college stu-
dents love pizza.

In a country where everyone is always on the go, it makes sense why this American favorite is a big hit among the masses.

Along with that, the fact that there are seven pizza places within walking distance to CSUSB makes pizza even more all the rage.

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 be-
cause making a personalized emoji using the app is a very sub-
jective process. In order to create a Bitmoji, a person has to start by pick-
ning 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 varieties of outfits.

The person may go back and change or modify any de-
tails as many times as needed in order to get the look he or she desires.

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

“Bitmoji puts the face or identity back into communica-
tion. 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.

Pizza on campus

By Manny Sandoval
Contributing Writer

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prise that college students consume the most pizza.

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Pizza on campus
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 hatchets 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 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.

“It’s 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 panza. The panza represents 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 Gonzales.

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 the book 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, which is the way it looks, continued Wollard.

Wollard said that in the book, the author discusses that part of activism is self-care. “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 it 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 Hiddenness: A Framework For Defense”, a lecture presented by Dr. Daniel Speck, 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 min. of speaking I sat there and just nodded my head in acknowledgement.

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 Joselyn 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 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 finish just so I can turn in something for some credit,” said student Ashli 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 schedule of work and school 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.

Continued online @ Coyotecronicle.net

Letter to the Editor

Women’s Basketball Seniors

By Megan Vina

The women’s basketball team ended its 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 men’s basketball had a season with a 15-10 overall record. In the California Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAA), they went 12-8, earning them the no. 5 seed in the CCAA tournament.

Only three of the 18 players on the roster were returners. With 16 new players, the Coyotes faced with the challenge of recreating the chemistry of the previous years team.

Other teams in the conference had players that have been playing together for one to three years and didn’t face the same challenge. “Every practice we learned more and more about how everyone plays and it became easier and easier,” stated guard Michelle Okoroike. They started the preseason strong with a six-point loss to Division I Weber state that was followed by a series of wins in Washington. The Coyotes were off to a good start. Their largest winning streak was four wins in early February.

In the first round of the CCAA tournament they faced the no. 3 seed, Cal Poly Pomona, whom they had an 0-2 record against in the regular season. They were unable to pull off the win, ending their season with a close five-point loss.

Head coach Susan Crebbin complemented the teams work ethic on the court during practices and games. Each member of the team pushed the others to reach their full potential. “Every player had an impact on the success of the team whether they played big minutes or not,” stated Crebbin.

What stood out most for the Coyotes was their resilient defense. The Coyotes, as a team, led the conference in field goal percentage defense. This means that they held their opponents to a .35 average shooting percentage.

Forward Genaya Wilkinson and guard Summer Ramsey were outstanding on the defensive end for the Coyotes. Wilkinson led the CCAA in blocks per game with 1.8, while Ramsey finished second in steals per game with 2.5 per game.

“Even when our shots weren’t falling, we could always count on our defense,” stated Crebbin on the dedication of her team. “Each game we had an outstanding defensive effort.”

Forward Mya Johnson was a standout for the Coyotes. She was named to the CCAA All-Conference first-team. She finished second in scoring, rebounding and shooting percentage.

Johnson averaged 16.2 points and 9.6 rebounds per game. She also led the CCAA with 13 double-doubles.

In the 25 total games she played, there were only three times where she failed to score in double digits. “Every game, Mya brings a high degree of consistency and toughness,” stated Crebbin. “She averages nearly a double-double per game and that shows you her will and determination.”

The Coyotes are now focused on getting stronger in the off-season and fine-tuning their fundamentals.

They plan to build on the team connection and off the court as well as build upon all the positives gained throughout the 2016-17 season.

NFL Combine record broken

“The man was a monster, he looked like he was already an elite professional football player,”

Brandon Davis

John Ross from the University of Washington set an all-time 40-yard dash record setting it at 4.22 seconds just barely beating Chris Johnson 4.24 record.

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 combining.

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.

“Leonard Fournette is going to be the next Adrian Peterson and he is going to take the league by storm, and I think he will win the Rookie of the Year Award,” said Flowers.

The results of the 2017 NFL Draft will be announced on April 27, and we will then see where all of these NFL hopefuls will land.
The World Baseball Classic (WBC) has begun in multiple countries around the world, with the goal of finding the best group of players from one specific country. The WBC is a tournament that was started in 2006 by the International Baseball Federation. Different countries such as Mexico, Japan and the United States play in this tournament with a chance to be the best in the world.

Within the baseball classic, 16 teams play through three rounds to see who will be crowned the WBC champion. Japan so far has been the most dominant within the tournament, winning two out of the three tournaments so far.

After a three-year gap between the first two tournaments, it was decided that it should take place every four years, like the Olympics. The International Olympic Committee voted baseball out of the Olympics in 2005. This caused the Major League Baseball Players Association to link with Major League Baseball (MLB) to form the WBC. The current champions, the Dominican Republic (2013), won their first game in pool C, 9-2 over Canada on March 9, placing them in the right direction.

The USA looks to walk away from the classic as champions, going in as the probable favorite with odds of 2-1, according to CBS Sports. Israel, who was projected to finish in last place, with odds at 200-1 according to CBS Sports, currently have a 3-0 record and advanced to pool E in Tokyo.

The classic championship games will be played in Los Angeles at Dodger Stadium from March 20-22.

Many of the MLB’s top players from around the world are participating in the Classic. Giancarlo Stanton looks to hit the USA to the championship in Los Angeles. Stanton won the home run derby in the 2016 All-Star Game, hitting 61 home runs in total.

Pitcher Eric Gagne is looking to come back from retirement with the chance to participate for Canada.

Gagne last played for the Milwaukee Brewers in 2008 at the age of 32. He was originally drafted by the Chicago White Sox in 1994 before signing with the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1995.

Bartolo Colon, a pitcher for the Atlanta Braves, is looking to use his experience to try and repeat back-to-back championships with the Dominican Republic.

Colon is also known for an odd hit every now and again, which isn’t too common being a pitcher. At age 43 he is currently the oldest active player in the MLB.

Colon’s Dominican Republic teammate, Robinson Cano, looks to repeat the team’s success of the 2013 tournament and hopes to pick up the MVP trophy for the second time.

Julio Urias, the Dodgers 20-year-old pitching phenom, will be suiting up for Mexico. Urias was previously ranked as the fourth best prospect in all of the MLB in 2015.

Urias has a strict pitching limit because he is very young, but is definitely a player to watch in the WBC.

All of the players will attempt to impress in the WBC, but especially the younger players who will attempt to make a name for themselves.

Over the next few weeks, games will be played in: Miami, Fla., Jalisco, Mex., Tokyo, Jap., San Diego, Calif., and Los Angeles, where the winner will be crowned.
Women's team graduates five seniors

By Yera Nanan
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 guard Cassie Johnson was in the top three in steals, points averaged and minutes played for the team this season.

“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.

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. “I obtain 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.

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Megan Vina with her family and friends, Emily and Paige.

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Megan Vina with her family and friends, Emily and Paige.

“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, 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.

Eaton played in 28 games for Pepperdine and 13 at North Carolina Central.

Eaton 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 give 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.