

# The Runner

California State University, Bakersfield

Vol. 36, No. 16

www.csub.edu/runner

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## First ever Coffee Talk discusses revolution in Egypt

By Anne Stephens  
Staff Writer

The department of Arts and Humanities managed to fill the bookstore last Wednesday with CSUB's first ever Coffee Talk. The topic was about the revolution going on in Egypt.

Altogether there were five panelists: Judith Pratt, Jackie

Kegley, Alem Kebede, Robert Yohe and Tim Vivian, along with Dean Richard Collins.

Collins, who introduced the panelists, also said how the idea to have a coffee talk about Egypt came about.

"There are a lot of different initiatives within this, but the overall point of it is to articulate our values in the discipline of arts and humanities,"

he said.

Collins said, "At a time where we're experiencing a lot of cutbacks, we want to make sure that the arts and humanities don't suffer about Egypt came about.

Yohe, who works in the Anthropology Department, was the first to speak. He gave details about the years he spent working in Egypt

and described the living conditions he witnessed there.

"One of the things that I learned very quickly when I first started working in Egypt in 2003 is that it's a country where the people are very open and friendly but also very concerned about the poverty," said Yohe.

Throughout Yohe's travels, he saw the difficulties that the

Egyptians went through and found some of the living conditions painful to look at.

"The poverty that you see is mind-numbing, and it's unacceptable. You say how do people live like this? Well, what are their choices? And it's also then you learn that people are not happy with the government, but they're afraid to say anything about

it."

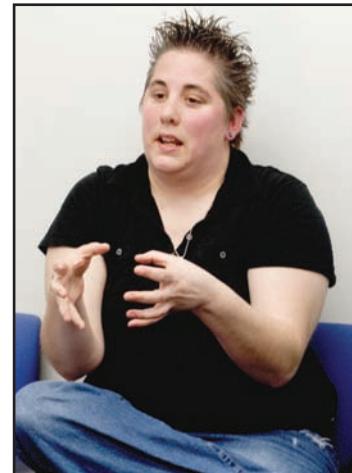
Yohe eventually gave his opinion on what he believes will help the economy in Egypt.

"One of the things that has to be put back into order in order for the economy to get kick started again is the tourist industry," he said. "Depending on who you talk

[See TALK, Page 4]

## GLSN discusses DADT

By Zachary Gonzalez  
Staff Writer



Taylor Gombos/The Runner  
Shannon De Marah, who was in the military, tells the story of how she was harassed for being gay during the Gay Lesbian Straight Student Network's Don't Ask, Don't Tell discussion March 4.

tain reserve centers and have the crap beat out of me because I am gay."

De Marah explained that she was punished by her superiors because of her sexuality. Although she could not openly say she identified as a lesbian because of the DADT policy, people found out.

"Chain of command would ask my friends, or shipmates, [See DADT, Page 4]

## STREAKING!



Brady Cabe/The Runner  
The CSUB baseball team extends its winning streak to 10 games, after taking the tournament championship at the Coca Cola Classic in Surprise, Ariz., defeating No. 10-ranked Arizona State, Kansas, Air Force and Northern Illinois in the process. Story on Page 8

## No football in near future for CSUB athletics

*Changes include redesign of Icardo Center but no feasibility study for football*

By Chris Davis  
Staff Writer

Let the rumors be put to rest, the athletic department is not launching a feasibility study for football - yet.

"With Seattle putting football in their video, we need to put it in as well,"

CSUB Athletic Director Jeff Konya said. He was referring to the fact that with fellow independent, Seattle University, putting that they are doing a feasibility study for football in their video to potential conferences, it forced CSUB to do the same.

"We as an athletic department and as an institution

need to everything we can to build our resume so that we can attract a dance partner," Konya said when asked about conferences that might be interested in the 'Runner athletic teams.

There are some groundbreaking things that will be happening with the marketing of the department.

"We have a concept of the redesign of the floor of the Icardo Center that should grab some people's attention, both regionally and nationally," he said.

Social media will also be making a jump forward.

"We are really focusing a lot of our efforts on social media to get the department's message out to the masses," Konya added. "Right now our marketing is tied to events, we need to change that to more of an annual plan. Certainly in our revenue generating sports."

A hot-button topic when talking about the athletic department is conferences.

"With the athletic landscape in such a state of

flux," Konya said. Konya is talking about the astounding realignment that will take place nationally. Six schools this summer, and another seven taking place in the summer of 2012 will change conferences.

The Western Athletic Conference is being hit especially hard with the realignment as four of the current nine institutions will be moving out of the conference over the next two summers. Boise State will depart this summer and will join the Mountain West Conference.

In the summer of 2012, Hawai'i, Nevada and Central Valley rival Fresno State will all defect the conference. Hawai'i will join the Big West in every-

thing except for football where it will join the other two schools in the Mountain West.

While the three schools will be exiting in the summer of 2012, three others will be replacing them. They are University of Denver, UT-San Antonio and Texas State.

Once the WAC has stabilized the football portion of their conference, then the conference might look to fill out the other sports it offers according to Konya.

"The Western Athletic Conference went on record and mentioned us by name as a potential fit down the line," Konya said. "I'm hopeful that we will end up in a very positive situation sooner rather than later."

## Casino Night takes on Mardi Gras theme

By Eloy Vieyra  
Staff Writer

A little gambling along with Mardi Gras celebration was the scene at the Icardo Center for the 16th annual CSUB Casino Night and Auction held on March 5. The party started at 5:30 p.m. and went to 8:30.

This year's event featured a wide range of food to choose from. There were over 10 local restaurants, which included Goose Loonies, Black Angus, The Garden

Spot, Marie Callender's, Si Senor Grill, Hourglass Kitchen and Bar, The Junction at Best Western, Crystal Palace Inn, Brookside Deli and Catering, Pasta Fazool Family Restaurant and Firehouse.

In the past, Casino Night only had one food vendor, but this year guests had a wider variety of foods to choose from.

"I've seen people walking around with different plates and I wanted to try them all. The food made my night," said Valerie Castillo, who has attended Casino Night in the past.

Casino Night has usually been scheduled on a Friday, but this year the event was pushed back a day to Saturday.

"I've always seen advertisements for Casino Night, but in the past, it has been hard for me to make on a Friday because I work late. This year I saw it was being held on a Saturday and I knew I

[See CASINO, Page 4]

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"We as an athletic department and as an institution

According to weather.com

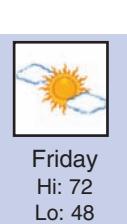
Seven-day weather forecast



Wednesday  
Hi: 75  
Lo: 50  
Precip: 0%



Thursday  
Hi: 75  
Lo: 48  
Precip: 0%



Friday  
Hi: 72  
Lo: 48  
Precip: 0%



Saturday  
Hi: 67  
Lo: 44  
Precip: 0%



Sunday  
Hi: 71  
Lo: 49  
Precip: 10%



Monday  
Hi: 68  
Lo: 47  
Precip: 10%



Tuesday  
Hi: 69  
Lo: 47  
Precip: 10%

Julian Wilson's contributions to alma mater earn him Alumnus of the Year honors. Page 5

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Brady Cabe/  
The Runner

# RUNNER ON THE STREET

By Brady Cabe, Staff Photographer, and Derek Bato, Web & Opinions Editor

This week, The Runner asked, "What could you not give up for 40 days?"



**Sweeny Decroos**  
Senior,  
Business  
Administration

"Friends, just to hang out and interact with them."



**Brock Day**  
Junior,  
Psychology

"Internet, pretty much everything I do is through the internet."



**Beatriz Dominguez**  
Sophomore,  
Criminal Justice

"Cell phone, I'm just used to it."



**Tony Williams**  
Freshman,  
Art

"Internet, everything today uses it, it's become part of our natural lives."

## THE RUNNER

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are encouraged; however, they must be signed and verified to be considered for publication and should be no more than 300 words in length. All letters may be edited for clarity and length.

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## In defense of digital bloodshed

By Sara Gunn  
Staff Writer

It has come to my attention lately that some folks have a problem with video games.

I've heard them called many things from an utter waste of time to the downfall of civilized society. While both of those statements may be a bit of an exaggeration, they do reflect a generally common idea that games of the digital persuasion are not worthy of serious consideration or critical analysis.

I argue that this is untrue, firstly because they are the modern epitome of recreation. We, as a culture, have been advancing to the point of interactive virtual entertainment since the Industrial Revolution. What better recreational pastime is there than the one that is both interactive and essentially infinite in its potentials of environments, characters and situations?

Philosophy major Grant Bradshaw argues that "video games are the new Legos, the new board games. So why not accept them as a viable leisure activity? If we are to condemn video games, then we are condemning advancement."

If you, the consumer, are worried about the negative influence this particular media may have on you, then perhaps the answer is moderation as opposed to denial.

Video games, however, are far more than just a "viable leisure activity." They're the popular art of the future. Why sit and watch a linear plot when you can interact with it, bend it – at least to some degree – to your will? The game world isn't just a simulation of real life. It's an exaggeration of it. Every color, every character, every important moral choice is stripped down to its basics and presented to us as the virtual reality.

Even games that don't present a morality system can teach the player something about the consequences of actions: "Shadow of the Colossus," on top of hav-

ing gorgeous aesthetics and sound, is an excellent example of the consequence of a lack of consideration of morality.

Within the game world the unnamed protagonist is led blindly to kill 16 divine colossi and thus unleash a world-threatening demon, not by any choice

something rotten is going to happen to you at the end because you went around drinking the life essence of innocents.

The point is, though, that while the choice itself may be shallow, the player is still making a choice and experiencing the consequences of it, something that no

kid play an adult game like "Grand Theft Auto," shame on you. It's your job as a parent to monitor what your kids are interacting with.

In my days working in retail, I sold more than one mature-rated game to a parent who, even after I explained to them that the game

It's also important to observe the presence of brutality in other media, like television and film, that is much more prevalent in our everyday world and that is rarely criticized as exuberantly as video game violence.

Basically, we got used to blood, gore and guns long before 12-year-olds were playing "Call of Duty," so we need to stop trying to argue that video game violence is anything new.

Finally, I believe that, as opposed to encouraging us to be more violent, video games give us an outlet for our natural aggression that would otherwise not exist without repercussions.

According to Tan, critics of the industry "make it sound like games that allow players to perform heinous acts would lead them down the road of depravity. Participation in virtual murder for these critics is equivalent to actual murder."

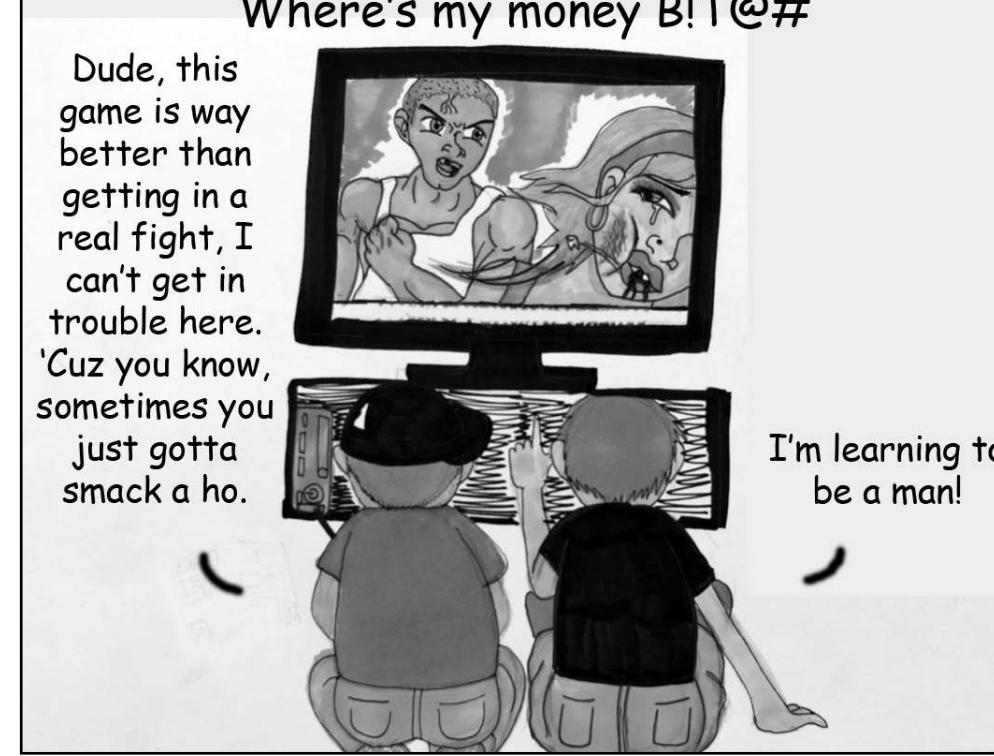
Obviously, since no one is actually dying, virtual and real-life murder are not the same.

I personally have a lot of pent-up anger – mostly generated by my frustrations with having to deal with the absurdities of everyday existence – and I like to let it out by playing a little "Left4Dead" and shooting zombies in the face instead of punching actual people.

The catharsis created by video games is unmatched by any other medium.

I'm not trying to argue that everyone should run down to their nearest electronics retailer and grab an Xbox and a copy of "Halo." Video games aren't for everyone in the same way that TV and movies aren't for everyone; some people just aren't into them.

But don't try to argue that they aren't a valid form of entertainment or that they are somehow lesser than other mediums (I'm looking at you, Ebert). While they may be a little new and different, they are still as worthy of our attention as any other media.



Christina Ramos/The Runner

**Some kids are smart, some are quite dumb, some say games inspire violence in schools, some say the Bible has inspired more violence than any other medium.**

of the player's or by force, but by his own unquestioned love for a dead and also unnamed female.

The game paints a clear portrait of consequence in that a person's inability to look beyond his own selfish motivations can lead to terrible destruction.

Many modern games with morality systems, unfortunately, don't have very mature ones.

Bioshock's choice between killing the Little Sisters to harvest their genetic material or saving them basically equates to "be a dick and kill little girls for your own personal gain" or "be a hero and save everyone with your perfect goodness."

There's not really a lot of moral ambiguity there.

Even if a player chooses to harvest the Sisters, there's still no question as to what the game's outcome will be: Obviously,

other artistic or entertainment medium can claim to do.

"Ethics go straight to the core of the player, so even if the choices feel artificial or cliché in their portrayal of good and evil, they have private impact," wrote Nick Tan in his article "Morality, For the Modern Player" on gamerevolution.com.

This leads me to the ever-controversial topic of violence in video games.

I've heard many concerns about this violence and I'll focus on just three: that game violence is having a negative impact on children who are exposed to it; that violence in this medium is desensitizing people to violence in real life; and that video games are somehow encouraging us to be more violent, aggressive and primal.

First of all, if you're letting your

was rated M for violence or sexual content, still said (and I really wish I was joking), "Oh, it's okay, my child doesn't understand those things."

Maybe, then, the problem is with your parenting. The media your child may or may not be exposed to seems inconsequential in light of your apparent inability to teach your child that what they can do in a video game is not the same as what is acceptable in real life.

Second, video games are not desensitizing us to violence. We, as a culture, were desensitized to violence long before the first Pong console was available. Footage of both World Wars was being shown in movie theaters across the country for decades and that was before those shocking full-color images of dying soldiers in Vietnam.

the U.S. interferes, wouldn't that be considered a gesture of an attack once they enter Libya?

I believe it would because the U.S. does not have to get involved in this situation since it just got out of the Iraq and Afghanistan mess. This is going to cause chaos within the next month all over the world to make a final decision. He shows no sign of leaving because he respects his word with a strong assurance that cannot be ignored.

The U.S. is now responsible for this issue, they put their hands into the burning fire demonstrating the power that they always do claiming to be the hero, when in reality they are the ones who suffer the most at the end. Overall, be on the lookout for a new civil war.

## U.S. continues to interfere, pokes in on Gadhafi

By Rogelio Alvarado  
Staff Writer

The United States is once again involved in the middle of a problem that began at the other end of the globe. This time it is with Moammar al-Gadhafi, ruler of Libya.

The U.S. is pressuring Gadhafi to step down from his position as leader. Gadhafi is on a killing rampage that has caught the attention of humankind. He is being asked peacefully to quit right now so that this problem will not go to the next level which would be a civil war. Yet, Gadhafi is not intimidated by this request. He is confident that, if a battle were to begin, he and his military would come out on top and succeed by killing anyone who gets in the way.

Elojio Ortiz, a sophomore and music major, said, "I really do not

care about this Gadhafi guy – he does not sound like a big threat; the media just turns small issues into big dramatic news. There are more important things that need attention first instead of this nonsense stuff."

To assist Gadhafi in this problem, his son threatened the western part of the world, telling them to not attempt any absurd missions against his father because the decision is final that he will continue to rule and command Libya. These men are not afraid they will die for their country and defend it to the fullest. Gadhafi believes that force should not be used against him and Libya since he has not messed with anybody's business. Numerous countries agree with the U.S. They think Gadhafi is not properly commanding Libya and that he will lead the country to failure and turmoil since he is killing his own people on a daily basis.

According to Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, "Libya could become a peaceful democracy or it could face protracted civil war."

The main U.S. concern is the loss of lives that Gadhafi is wiping off the map with his commands. The issues with the oil prices need to be stabilized in an effort to reach an agreement that can benefit both countries.

The U.S. is always one step ahead of its opponents they are planning to send airplanes for surveillance around the border area of Libya to prevent Gadhafi from attacking first. There are also going to be ships sent because this North African region is unpredictable and can change drastically overnight.

But what are the consequences of this plan if Gadhafi does not step down?

If Gadhafi is killing his own people with his technological weapons and

## Letters to the editor

### Actor's notes

#### In response to "Bette and Boo's twisted marriage" from the 3-2-11 issue of The Runner

My name is Kevin and I had the pleasure of playing Matt, Bette and Boo's son, in The Marriage of Bette and Boo. I read your article and was disappointed to see that you said there were a few things that confused you about the play, so I hoped that sending an email your way could at least clear up some of that confusion for you.

First, no you did not see something incorrectly, the chairs were actually shaped like a sperm and an egg. This was done because of the very heavy influence that male and female gender roles have on the play. You may not have noticed, but the suns on the backdrop of the set were also sperms and an egg.

Next, there were costume changes. Quite a few actually.

The way you seemed to be criticizing the characters in your article disappointed me a bit. The play in and of itself is an absurdist piece. It is not a reflection of life as life is in reality, which is how most plays are, but instead it takes all of the evils inside of us, the deep-seeded feelings that we don't want to bring up, and puts them right out there on display in a comical, unrealistic manner. Hence the two-dimensional, colorless props. So naturally all of

the characters are going to be this way as well. They will be absurd versions of human beings doing things seemingly unnatural or uncharacteristic, so that they serve to expose what is on the inside, or as one of my opening lines paradoxically states, so that "if one looks hard enough, one can usually see the order that lies beneath the surface."

Now as for the theme, well this is something that we as a cast had many, many discussions about. What you suggested was not far off from one of our ideas, but it really only scratches the surface of what the play is about. The moral may have been to be thankful for what you have, but that most certainly was not the theme. Bette is definitely not thankful, as she keeps trying to have more children. Boo is not thankful because he tries to drink himself into oblivion. And Matt is not thankful because he is desperately searching through the annals of historic literature to make sense of his family. And in these we see a theme starting to arise, and that theme is desire. A desire for the things you yearn most to obtain and possess. An endless search for something you know can't have but desperately reach for, though you know it is in vain. This theme is most obviously reflected in the fact that the play itself is Matt writing an essay trying

to explain why his family is the way it is.

And as for you saying that Matt was being neglected, this was not true at all. Although she does want to have more children, Bette is a very loving mother and does care for her only son.

The relationship Bette and Matt have in the play is very loving and warm. If it wasn't, we wouldn't see Matt showing up to all of these things that he does later in life, such as the dinner that, albeit fake, he has with his mother, his parents' divorce, and, of course, his mother's death.

And one of my biggest fears was that people wouldn't be able to follow along because the play jumps from point to point often ignoring chronology. However, there were intros to every scene that stated if time was changing or not. "Twenty years later, Boo has dinner with his son," followed by "Back into chronology..." is just one small example of this. And again the short scenes that seem to fly by so quickly is another aspect of absurdist theatre.

And lastly I would like to thank you for saying that we put on a great show. We did so much hard work and I am glad that you had the chance to see it. I do hope this cleared up a few things for you.

-Kevin

#### In response to "Apathy will be the destruction of our culture" from the 2-9-11 issue of The Runner

I try to read The Runner newspaper whenever I find a new issue out. When the February 9th issue came out, I picked it up looking for an interesting read. However, I was disappointed and even angered by the article entitled "Apathy will be the destruction of our culture." I thought it would be a good article, and it certainly seemed so up until I got to the third sentence. I highly disagree with the author saying "Why would we want to talk about something uncomfortable when we can just veg out on MTV or chatter about who won the Super Bowl?"

Perhaps I do not fit in with the stereotype because I am a bit of a nerd, but none of the people I meet on a regular basis have ever watched MTV, and very few of them even thought about watching the Super Bowl. I do not appreciate being lumped in with the kinds of people being so far mentioned. And even if a great deal of people are concerned with nothing more than what's on MTV, the author's sweeping generalizations can be insulting to the people who do not fit.

For the very next sentence, the author said "people seem to want to avoid discussion of things that may make

them think deep thoughts."

Doesn't that seem a little awkward? Or is it phrased that way so as to be dumbed down and condescending? I happen to know a myriad of people, and not all of them pursuing a degree in philosophy, that like to deeply ponder moral issues and enjoy challenging their own previously unexamined notions of the metaphysical and religious. People tell me that philosophy is one of the most sought-after degrees here at CSUB, and at many other campuses as well. So many people can't be so eager to watch MTV and avoid topics that "make them think deep thoughts."

The author then goes on to "inform" these people how, as she says, "conflict is the catalyst of consciousness." Then she goes on to say these people, who she's been complaining about and educating" about conflict are entirely hypothetical! Why should I care about one of your authors calling hypothetical people unintelligent? The "hypothetical" part just seems to be a pitiful attempt to cover up the author's complaints about every other student at CSUB. How does any of this benefit or even interest me at all? I can think and reason for myself, thank you very much.

Furthermore, the author says that the students who showed up to the discussion mentioned in the article did not care about the topic, thought they seemed to have a lot to say in an online discussion on the same topic. The obvious and far more logical reason, that your writer seemed to miss, is that the debate was too sensitive for people to want to talk about in person.

People obviously still have strong opinions; anyone who watches the news can see people filled with passion, shown either as hate or compassion for their fellow people.

And the dorms at CSUB have social justice boards where people can anonymously write opinions on topics ranging from racism to homosexuality. A little bit of research on your writer's part would have turned up a myriad of opinions; she was too busy insulting students to care, perhaps. But the problem, obviously, is not that people are becoming apathetic. They're merely afraid to express their opinions and face criticism. And with other people (like your writer) making such broad and insulting generalizations, who can blame them?

-Anon

## True Hollywood story

"Churning out formulaic sequels and generic stories designed to sell merchandise and generate revenue."

By Alexander Helland  
Staff Writer

Before the 2000s, one of the primary driving forces behind movie production in Hollywood was the quality of the film. Animated films such as Disney's "Aladdin," "Beauty and the Beast," and "The Little Mermaid" had professional songwriters and animators dedicated to recreating popular classics in an animated form. A list of the highest grossing films, adjusted for inflation, has a top 13 films premiering before 2000. Without including Avatar, number 14, the list goes up to 27 top movies released before the 2000s, until it reaches "Dark Knight." It is no surprise that Avatar is so high on the list, as an original and creative movie with the famous name of James Cameron attached to it. Other top films, such as "Star Wars" and "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial," are entirely original productions.

Nowadays, Hollywood is churning out formulaic sequels and generic stories designed to sell merchandise and generate revenue. "Pirates of the Caribbean" is based off of an amusement park ride, and when a trilogy wasn't enough to fill the pockets of greedy corporations, they expanded the series to include yet another sequel. "Toy Story 3," while generally agreed to be a good film, was obviously never part of the originally-planned series. That's why an animated movie like "Cars," which earned \$5 billion in sales, is getting a sequel. Yet when Pixar made "Up" and "Wall-E," also widely agreed to be entertaining, their stocks fell. Pixar did not make "Up" or "Wall-E" of inferior quality, but toy companies can't make a profit from them. It's easy enough to sell tiny model cars with googly eyes, but who

would buy an action figure of an old man or a short chubby kid? Or a tiny robot in the shape of a cube or pill?

Making a marketable movie gives a huge boost to the revenue generated. A fancy movie company charges a licensing fee, so even if the toys don't sell, it's the merchandiser's loss. And even if the toys sell moderately well, the advertising boost is phenomenal. No matter what, a film with easily marketable characters is a film that makes more money.

Because of this, original movie ideas and good writing are taking a back seat to merchandising. Hollywood is churning out sequels to series that were already supposed to end, movies based on toys, and adaptions of cartoons, comics, and books.

One of the most recent and memorable original films not guilty of this pattern is "Inception." Yet the script for this movie had to go through nearly a decade of rewriting, while the author and director worked on other films, such as "The Dark Knight," to gain

some fans from the unbelievably successful Twilight series. The book it was based off of had a 15-year-old main character, yet Hollywood casted an occasionally shirtless 20-year-old. They have the sci-fi edge to draw in the male audience, and a forced and unbelievable romance to draw in the girls. Instead of valuing good writing and acting, newer films such as this are following a simple formula in order to market toys, books, and so on to their target audience.

The movie industry is so entrenched within the toy market that they're not going to give up any time soon. The best way to ensure that writers are more in charge (and therefore better movies are produced) is to refuse to buy silly little toys of movie characters. But with so many parents buying toys just to quiet screaming children, and wasteful spending from people who can't manage money, it doesn't seem likely to change any time soon.

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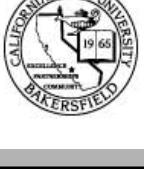
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California State University  
Bakersfield  
School of Business and Public Administration

# Faculty discusses Egypt in first ever Coffee Talk

## [TALK, from Page 1]

to, 11 to 20 percent of Egypt's economy is based on tourism."

Yohe went on to say that there will be great difficulty trying to get people to go over to Egypt and visit as tourists after the chaos that has broken out.

"Most of the people that I know—especially the lower-middle-class people— their income is based solely on the dollars that are brought in by foreign visitors," said Yohe. "The question is, how do you get people in the West confident to go back to Egypt when things seem to be volatile?"

Vivian, who is a teacher for religious studies, also added his thoughts about the poverty in Egypt.

"The radical groups do their recruiting in the cities primarily from the desperately poor. Egypt has the highest percent of unemployed people with bachelor degrees."

Kebede, who chairs the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, gave her opinion on the complexity of Egypt and also added her opinion of how we may never fully understand the circumstances going on in Egypt.

"It's a very complex history ... and to know what's happening over there I think is anybody's guess," said Kebede.

Kebede also explained some of the reasons that people are starting revolutions is because they are



Mark Nessia/The Runner

Members of the CSUB faculty form a panel to discuss the events taking place in Egypt March 2 in the Runner Bookstore.

tired of living in the fear that is put upon them from dictators.

"I think they're demanding the right to be citizens and not to be subjects. They want freedom of expression, the right to free open elections ... the freedoms of citizenship that most of us have."

Kebede spent most of her time speaking about the rights of freedom and security all over the world and how we as Americans are extremely lucky to have all the freedoms that we have, some of which we don't realize we have.

"We all want to be secure in our countries, our homes [and] in the United States. We are very fortunate in the United States to have all

kinds of freedoms that others do not have. My students are surprised all the time to learn that certain freedoms are taken away that they assume that they have," said Kebede.

Kebede lastly gave her opinion on what the United States should do about Egypt. She said how we need to look to our scholars who are learning about Egypt and who will overall find the right stability that they are looking for.

"Scholars have played an important part in understanding what is going on in Egypt, and that scholars are constantly forced to determine what will cause stability. Stability is when you have a government that is elected on the free and fair

basis," said Kebede. "Freedom versus security - I think it's a false dilemma and a way of hiding from courageous support."

Kebede, who works with the Department of Sociology, mostly focused on the topic of the revolution that has happened for the Egyptian people. He also said why he believes Americans will not get involved with the chaos going on.

"People in Egypt are saying, 'Give me freedom or give me death,'" said Kebede. "I don't think now that Americans or Europeans will directly intervene because it is going to harm what is taking place ... If you do that he, (Gadhafi) will have a good

reason to react badly."

Kebede, then added how people presume that countries like Egypt don't have any idea how to create a democracy on their own, and that Americans always have to help bail other countries out.

"Let them have their constitutional convention and not actually intervene but give support to what is going on," said Kebede.

Pratt, a communications teacher, spoke mostly about the social media that started this revolution. She explained that out of the one in nine people in Egypt who use the Internet also use Facebook to blog, and it didn't take long for the citizens to start blogging about their frustrations in their

country.

"When you don't have a job, you're not allowed to gather in the streets, you can't stage a protest ... so instead you take to the blogs," said Pratt.

After the Egyptian government saw how many people were blogging negatively about the country, the government decided to shut off all Internet access. Now outraged, the people of Egypt decided to go to the streets and protest.

Pratt said, "They vented their frustration, and they refused to leave."

When the event was over, Collins commented how he felt the coffee talk went.

"I thought it was great. There were about 60 or 70 people here. There was a good mix of faculty, staff and students; it was great. The information we got from the panelists, I thought it was an excellent overview of personal, scholarly and cultural viewpoints," said Collins.

Marit MacArthur, one of the creators of the coffee talk also commented on the overall event.

"I think it's a good start for the Arts and Humanities. It was nice to hear a range of perspectives," said MacArthur.

MacArthur also said students can now see these coffee talks starting up every year with different topics each time.

## Students share experiences concerning Don't Ask, Don't Tell

### [DADT, from Page 1]

[about De Marah's sexual orientation] which under DADT you aren't supposed to say anything," said De Marah. "As soon as you say something like that, though, you might as well just say it."

De Marah's military experience ranged eight years, although she had originally planned to stay in the Navy for 20 years before retiring. Before she was supposed to be shipped to Afghanistan last summer, her orders were canceled for reasons under DADT.

"They didn't want to send me to another country and have to keep tabs on me," she said.

Former GLSSN President Beatrice Boswell believes DADT is not only a gay issue, but a feminist issue. She believes women in the military are immediately subjected to questioning because they do not fit the traditional male role in the military.

"When you are a woman in the military you are a whore, a lesbian, a man hater," said Boswell. "I worked with so

many women who were lesbians and men who were gay, and the only harassment I got was from the straight man who was pinning me up against walls and feeling me up. Good thing I knew how to fight."

De Marah said one struggle she faced as a woman in the military was the style of her hair.

"I always kept my hair short," she said. "I got sir a lot, that would cause a situation and they (authority) would ask me to grow my hair out."

According to Boswell, who was in the military before DADT was signed into action in 1993, homosexuality in the military was not a big issue on a personal level between soldiers.

"Afterward it became more of an issue," she said. "When I was hearing at first about DADT, I thought that it was the stupidest thing in the world. You are less likely to be blackmailed if you are out in the open."

De Marah said she would like to one day re-enlist in the Navy or another branch of the military. She doesn't know, though, if she would be up for it

again.

"I don't know if I could handle the pressure," she said. "I don't know if it would do me more harm or do me any good, especially if I join another branch."

The discussion ended with De Marah giving advice to those who are worried about joining the military because of their sexual orientation, or fear of being labeled.

"You have to take that risk," she said. "You have to learn to trust, although it is hard to trust because you don't know who to trust."

Overall, those who spoke believed sexual orientation shouldn't matter in the eyes of the military.

"I took my job seriously," said De Marah. "I wasn't there to display my personal life to everybody."

The GLSSN will be holding a campus-wide tolerance panel in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Student Center on Thursday, March 10, at 5 p.m. Students and members of the community are urged to attend, according to GLSSN President John Davies.



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## Casino Night takes patrons to New Orleans

### [CASINO, from Page 1]

had to make it. So far I'm enjoying myself and definitely looking forward coming next year," said Victor Orozco, who attended the event for the first time.

Along with several different casino games, there was a live auction that consisted of 12 items. There was a

week vacation stay at a beach house in Mexico, a weekend trip to Las Vegas along with a private jet, a gourmet meal prepared by an executive chef of Holiday Inn, a home security system from Tel-Tec, a week vacation to the Channel Islands, Los Angeles Lakers tickets and many more prizes. Guests also had the opportunity to bid on 400

prizes in the silent auction.

All the proceeds from the event benefit the CSUB Student-Athlete Scholarship Fund. Pre-sale tickets were \$35 and \$40 at the door. Guests had to be 21 in order to attend the event according to the publicity for the event.

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# CSUB Alumnus of the Year: Julian Wilson gives back to CSUB

By Steven Gaede  
Staff Writer

Julian Wilson graduated from CSUB in 1991 but he probably still spends more time on campus than most enrolled CSUB students.

Wilson officially received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from CSUB in 1987, but decided to come back to obtain his second bachelor's degree in fine arts.

"When I was doing the criminal justice degree, I got to the end of it and I just did not feel fulfilled," Wilson said. Wilson then went on to ponder: 'What else is it that I like, what else is it that motivates me, that drives me?' It was my artistic side; I liked painting, drawing, and writing."

Wilson's interest in the fine arts eventually made him want to try film and video. He started off small, but grew his skills and acquired a business along the way.

"My first thing I did was I started writing for little magazines [and] newspaper articles, stuff like that, and then I started dabbling in script writing," explained Wilson.

Wilson understood that rejection in script writing was a part of the process, but he did not let it affect him. He continued writing scripts until he got that big break that he had long awaited.

Wilson explained how it occurred: "After I got a couple scripts that I felt comfortable with . . . I started sending stuff off to Hollywood and different places. Then one day I got a call."

The call came from a producer that wanted to talk to him in person.

"I was in Hollywood . . . talking to a producer director, and when he met me, he said he liked my script but he [would] rather have me in the movie. So that is how I got started," Wilson said. "He had me in the movie . . . I do not even know if it went to video."

Wilson kept writing and eventually started his own television show called "The Zone," which



Brady Cabe/The Runner

Alumnus Julian Wilson holds his video camera at the Roadrunner baseball game last week.

took place here in Bakersfield. The show involved him going around and finding interesting things to do in the city that no one knew about. He would then cover these activities or events to spread the word.

"Everything that I do has that theme to help people, to inform people, and somewhere in-between entertain," Wilson explained.

Wilson's love and passion carries over into his business. Nu Dawn Productions and in the time he spends volunteering. Nu Dawn Productions was formed with Debra Plante (writer/producer) in 2006, with the purpose of providing a place for aspiring actors to start their careers.

"I am fortunate in this way, because this does not happen very often that you can find a profession that you like, that is your passion. In other words, if I were not making a living doing this, I would do it for free," said Wilson. "It is like I am not working."

As Wilson was getting on his feet and starting to make a living by

doing what he loved, CSUB was about to go through the process of transitioning from a Division II to a Division I program.

"I approached the university and said 'would you have a problem if I captured the transition period?' I wrote up a whole proposal, and right before the first season started in the transition they said 'Yes lets do it,'" Wilson said adding that this was how he got started with filming CSUB athletics.

Wilson did not have a budget, so a dilemma arose. He was no longer sure if he was going to be able to capture CSUB's transition, but as he looked around at the campus and at the students; he came to the conclusion that he had to do it.

"It was very exciting . . . because we did not know what was going to happen. We did not know from one day to the next, from one game to the next what the story would be like, how it would come out," Wilson remarked on the transition.

Wilson made it clear that he would not be in the situation that he is in now if it were not for

President Horace Mitchell and his vision. Mitchell has created an environment that is optimal for learning and honing skills.

"He (President Mitchell) created an atmosphere where the vision he implemented is not one that you only buy into, but that you personally can actually own," Wilson explained. "It (college) is what you make of it."

The decision on whether he was going to come back was an easy one. He recognized what past students had done for the university while he was enrolled and now he saw an opportunity to give back.

"When I was a student, there was alum somewhere doing something that benefited me. I did not know who they were and I did not know what they did, but I knew they were there. So, that is almost my sole motivation for coming back," Wilson remarked on the past.

Like any gracious person, Wilson has recognized the honor that the Alumni Association has bestowed upon him.

Wilson said, "I am very honored to have received the award. The

Alumni Association has done a terrific job here at the university, taking the time to organize ways to recognize alum when they come back."

As for a company goal or future benchmark for Nu Dawn Productions, Wilson does not have one set.

"I do not have a goal per se, other than to be able to look back and see that I made some quality features that people enjoyed and people learned from and people grew from," said Wilson.

All of Wilson's productions are based on actual people's lives and their habits. He does not produce projects that are too far out there, so to speak.

"You are not going to see any ray guns; you are not going to see any spaceships. You are just going to see stories about people. Not so much of who we are and what we are, more so of how we need to be with each other," Wilson jokingly said.

Wilson explained some of the intricacies of owing your own business by saying, "I spend a lot of time thinking of the next thing that I can do, because [when] you own your own company you got to make sure you always have some sort of income coming in from somewhere."

There is one downside to Wilson's filming of CSUB athletics; when he travels to away games he has to pay his own way. In other words, Wilson will be paying for the plane ticket to South Carolina when the baseball travels there for a game on March 8, he will pay for all his necessities while he is there, and he will have to pay for the plane ticket to come home. Wilson's love for CSUB and its athletics is very apparent.

Wilson made it clear that if CSUB students want to prosper to the fullest degree, each individual has to make sacrifices that give back to the school in some way.

Wilson put it very simply, "There can be no prosperity without sacrifice."

## Food for thought: Are Café prices too high?

By Rhianna Taylor  
Managing Editor

The Runner Café may fill the bellies of students, staff and faculty, but their wallets are going hungry.

Natasha Harris, an evaluator for Admissions and Records, has breakfast at the Runner Café every day and eats lunch there about twice a week.

She said: "I think [the food is] overpriced. All of it."

For breakfast, Harris usually has toast, bacon and potatoes – noting that the potatoes "are not the greatest in the world." She estimated that on a weekly basis she pays about \$30 for food on campus.

"They should cost a lot less than they currently are," she said.

Veronica Eckles, who is also an evaluator for Admissions and Records, has bacon and toast from the Café every morning. "Bacon is 95 cents for two pieces. Toast is 99 cents for two pieces of toast." She feels like it should be much cheaper, saying, "For bacon I think it should be like 50 cents."

"I don't eat on campus for lunch because it's too expen-



CSUB student Ashley Nolasco pays for her purchase at the Runner Café.

sive for what you get," Eckles said. "I leave (for lunch) every day. And I'll fight for a parking space just because I don't want to pay for the prices."

Sisters Yesenia and Veronica Felix, who are both sophomores double-majoring in psychology and Spanish, have only bought food at the café a couple of times. Yesenia said that while she likes the variety that the Runner Café offers as well as its healthy options, she would

rather go elsewhere. Veronica agreed, adding, "I think it's because of the amount of food people get. As far as a fast-food restaurant . . . you could get more for the same price."

Jami Rhea, a cashier for The Runner Café, said that she doesn't feel the prices are too high. "For the quality of the food, the price is right," she said.

She sympathizes with student concern over prices because "they're on a budget."

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# Sing off!

## Wahoo's hosts karaoke contest

### Students brave the stage and perform in front of their peers

By Emmanuel Price  
Staff writer

Wahoo's was filled and full of energy on Thursday March 3. Karaoke 'Runner started at 6 p.m. and ended at 9 p.m. The first performer (Fernando) could not keep up with the words on the

screen he sang "Umbrella" by Rihanna. A few of the audience members booed, but the majority of the people present supported the brave soul.

The next performer, Dustin was too embarrassed to give his last name but had enough heart to get up on stage. Dustin lost his place while reading the lyrics also, but he had a very soulful sound, according to crowd members. After forgetting about being perfect, he started to sing in

a different pitch, as if he was a woman. The audience began to look perplexed and started laughing. "It is so different from singing, it is like – karaoke you are not singing, you are following," said Dustin.

Jordan Carter, who is a nursing major, got on stage and showed off her talents. Carter performed a Beyonce song and danced like a professional. She and her partner danced in a somewhat sexual manner, and the crowd cheered. Carter

believes that "life is a song and love is music."

Wahoo's filled to capacity, and pitchers of beer were downed. Prizes were given to the best performers and a raffle was held.

"Karaoke night is an excellent idea to help liven up the campus and make our community feel interconnected. It may be in its infant stages right now, but with some more time, effort, and planning it could become one of the most fun activities on campus," said

senior philosophy major Uriah Burke.

Nursing major Lucilla Noa said that karaoke is as hard as it looks, and that just getting up on the stage and not knowing if you will make a fool of yourself is crazy. Noa was one of the many observers who did not want to get up in front of the crowd and be the center of attention.

"The karaoke performances were all great, there just was not a wide selection of songs to choose from," said

senior political science major Amer Akthar.

Akthar was one of the performers that had a whole lot of fun, as he danced and made the crowd laugh. According to Akthar, Lady Gaga songs were the most popular on the list, but he chose to sing "Sweet Dreams" by the Eurythmics.

Akthar believes that all of the students that performed were good, even when they did not sound like the original artist.



Grace Vega/The Runner  
Jordan Carter performing Whitney Houston's "I Have Nothing" in acappella, on Thursday nights Karaoke event at Wahoo's.



Grace Vega/The Runner  
Fernando Miranda reading the lyrics while his karaoke performance at Wahoo's on March 3.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

MARCH 9 WED	MARCH 10 THURS	MARCH 11 FRI	MARCH 12 SAT	MARCH 13 SUN	MARCH 14 MON	MARCH 15 TUES
<b>Softball vs. Utah State</b> 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Location: Runner Softball Complex <b>Muslim Students Association Meetings</b> 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Location: DDH E107 <b>Softball vs. Utah State</b> 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Location: Roadrunner Softball Complex <b>Piano Recital, Art Exhibit</b> 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Location: CSUB Todd Madigan Gallery <b>Dr. Soo-Yeon Park Chang, Piano Recital</b> 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Location: CSUB Todd Madigan Gallery <b>California Writers Series</b> 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Location: Walter Stiern Library Dezember Reading Room	<b>Tolerance Forum</b> 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Location: Student Union Multipurpose Room	<b>ASI Programming Committee Weekly Meetings</b> 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Location: DDH K104 <b>Kaibigan Meetings</b> 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Location: DDH GJ102 <b>International Dinner</b> 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Location: CSUB Runner Cafe <b>International Dinner 2011</b> 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Location: Runner Cafe located on the CSUB campus. <b>35th Annual Jazz Jam</b> 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Location: CSUB Dore Theatre <b>35th Annual Jazz Jam</b> 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Location: CSUB Doré Theatre	<b>CSUB Theatre Students &amp; CSUB Singers perform Math Field Day</b> 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Location: Rabobank Theatre <b>Kaibigan Meetings</b> 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Location: CSUB Dore Theatre <b>Psi Chi Research Conference</b> 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Location: Student Union Multipurpose Room <b>CSUB Theatre presents NEW KID</b> 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Location: CSUB Dore Theatre	<b>CSUB Theatre presents NEW KID</b> 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Location: CSUB Dore Arena Theatre <b>New Kid</b> 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm Location: CSUB Dore Arena Theatre <b>A Midsummer Night's Dream</b> 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm Location: Rabobank Theatre	<b>Greek Council Meetings</b> 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Location: EDUC 121	<b>Education Doctorate Information Session</b> 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Location: Walter Stiern Library ITV Studio A/Antelope Valley Room 124

## CSUB Concert Band performs at the Doré Theatre



Brady Cabe/The Runner

The CSUB Concert Band, directed by Dr. Leo Sakomoto, performs at the Doré Theatre March 5.



Brady Cabe/The Runner  
Dr. Leo Sakomoto stands beside guest composers Sara Carina Graef, Michael Mikulka and Greg Simon at the CSUB Concert Band performance.



Brady Cabe/The Runner  
A closer look at the string section of the CSUB Concert Band.

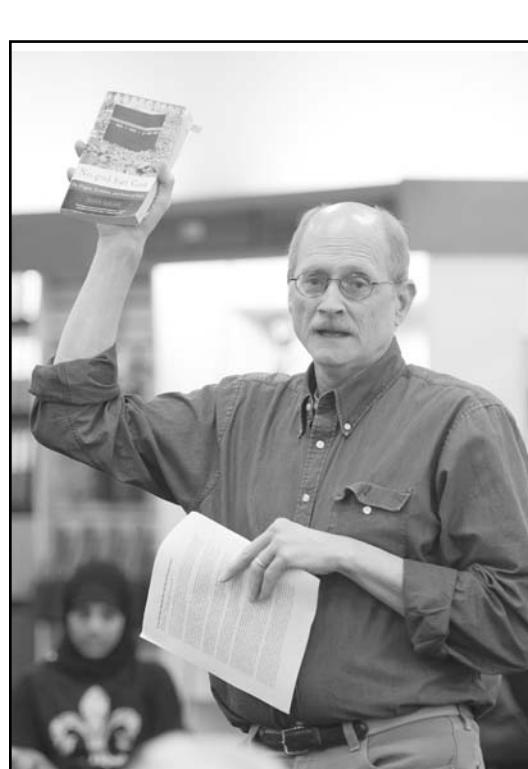
### Photographers take pictures around the CSUB campus last week



Taylor Gombos/The Runner



Taylor Gombos/The Runner



Mark Nessia/The Runner



Grace Vega/The Runner



Mark Nessia/The Runner

Clockwise from bottom left corner: Philosophy professor Jackie Kegley discusses the situation in Egypt during Egypt Now. Shannon De Marah tells her story at GLSSN's discussion of don't ask don't tell. Johnny Davies, outgoing president of GLSSN speaks during a discussion about Don't Ask, Don't Tell March 4. Religious studies professor Tim Vivian holds up a copy of "No god but God: The Origins, Evolution, and Future of Islam" during the first ever Coffee Talk March 2. Fernando Miranda reading the lyrics while his karaoke performance at Wahoo's on March 3. Jordan Carter performing Whitney Houston's "I Have Nothing" March 3.



Grace Vega/The Runner

# 'Runners capture Coca-Cola Classic, take down No. 10 Arizona State



Above: There has been much to celebrate early on for the 'Runners this season including a grand slam by Martin Medina against Valparaiso.

Top right: Freshman second baseman/shortstop Oscar Sanay has been an integral part of the 'Runners success with solid defense and consistent hitting.

Bottom right: CSUB players congratulate each other after a victory.



Brady Cabe/The Runner



Mark Nessia/The Runner

By Chris Davis  
Staff Writer

What happens when Tommy Hoenshell, Johnny Montoya, Cael Brockmeyer, and Jeremy Rodriguez along with the rest of the Roadrunners have a great weekend?

They win a championship in a major college baseball tournament and compile a 10-game win streak, that's what.

Juniors Hoenshell and Montoya were both named to the Coca-Cola Classic All-Tournament Team after the 'Runners went 4-0 in the tournament.

The current win streak is tied for the second-longest in the nation with Florida International in the Sun Belt Conference. The longest streak so far this year is Oklahoma with 14 as the Sooners are 14-0 on the season.

The 'Runners (11-2) defeated No. 10

Arizona State (2-1 in 10 innings), Kansas (12-0), Air Force (5-0) and Northern Illinois (6-1) at the Coca-Cola Classic in Surprise, Arizona. The tournament was held at the Texas Rangers and Kansas City Royals spring training facility in the city located just outside of Phoenix.

The win over the Sun Devils is the highest ranked opponent the third-year program has ever defeated.

Brockmeyer, a freshman from Massachusetts, hit his first collegiate home run blast to left field into the bullpen at Surprise Stadium.

"I was looking for a fastball in that count (1-1)," said Brockmeyer. "It was up a little and I was able to get the bat around. I saw a fastball away and then I swung and missed a change-up. I figured that he was going to come back with another fastball."

On the mound, junior transfer Hoenshell threw a gem. Hoenshell threw nine innings while scattering nine hits and allowing a single run while striking out three.

"I still have to look over some box scores, but I think that was the best pitching performance against ASU in years," head coach Bill Kernen said after the game.

"This is the first time we have been able to beat a team in the top-10 and a team that has a decades-long story of making it to Omaha," coach Kernen said. "They have produced dozens of major leaguers and have been a quality team for years."

The 11-2 record through the first 13 games of the season is the best start in program history. It is also the seventh-best start in the nation this year right behind the University of Oklahoma.

Martin Medina came on in the 10th inning to

lock down the win while collecting his school-record third save of the season and sixth of his career, also a school record.

Montoya was also named to the All-Tournament Team for his shutout performance against Air Force.

The junior lefty allowed seven hits in his 127-pitch-complete-game effort. Montoya allowed two walks while striking out nine.

The 'Runners return to the road to face the reigning College World Series champion, South Carolina, this weekend.

It will be the second time in the program's history that they have faced the reigning CWS champion. In the program's inaugural year they faced Fresno State, which had won the title the previous June and became the only team in the history of the NCAA to be a first-year program and defeat the CWS champion.

## CSUB's women's soccer coach Nicole Van Dyke to take job at Stanford

Courtesy of Sports Information

CSUB Head Women's Soccer Coach Nicole Van Dyke has announced she is leaving the Roadrunners' program to take a position on the women's soccer coaching staff at Stanford. Van Dyke will replace Theresa Wagner, who took over the head coaching job at Dartmouth.

"It is a bittersweet departure as I am leaving a very dedicated group of girls that I have enjoyed watching develop into not only good soccer players but wonderful young ladies," Van Dyke said. "I wish them success in both soccer and in life and will be rooting for them as a former player at the institution."

"We wish Nicole well on her new endeavor," said CSUB Athletic Director Jeff Konya. "As an alum, she has much to be proud of as she helped get the program

on the right track."

Assistant coach Melissa Phillips will serve as the interim head coach in the transition for the Roadrunners.

Van Dyke, a 2002 CSUB graduate, finished her fifth season as Head Coach this past Fall. The 2010 season was the first year all CSUB teams were post season eligible after the school completed its five-year transition period. On their way to posting a 4-9-5 overall record in 2010, the

Roadrunners earned impressive wins over WAC members Hawai'i and Sacramento State as well as WCC member St. Mary's and earned an impressive draws with WCC powers Pepperdine and San Diego.

In 2009, Van Dyke's team posted the program's most wins against Division I oppo-



Van Dyke

nents, earning a 6-11-2 record. The Roadrunners defeated No. 13 San Diego, marking the first time in program history the 'Runners defeated a nationally ranked opponent and also making them the first CSUB team to beat a nationally ranked opponent at the Division I level. The 2009 team went on to post a 3-1-2 record against Big West schools including wins over UC Riverside, Cal Poly and

Cal State Northridge while putting up ties versus Cal State Fullerton and Long Beach State.

In her second and third seasons at the helm of the Roadrunner program (2007 and 2008), Van Dyke led her teams to identical records of 5-13-1 while playing the pro-

gram's first two full NCAA Division I schedules.

Van Dyke's first season as the Roadrunner head coach was CSUB's last season competing at the Division II level. Her Roadrunner squad finished 7-9-4 overall and posted a 4-9-3 CCAA mark in the school's final year competing in the conference.

"I will always be a Roadrunner and will continue to support and wish the entire Athletic Department success," Van Dyke said. "I cherish the relationships that I have with coaches, administration, faculty and staff and I am thankful for their continued support. The soccer community of Bakersfield has been wonderful and has truly become my family. I value and appreciate their support and I want to wish all the young soccer players and Cal State campers much success and enjoyment in the game."

## Male Athlete of the Week



Courtesy of Sports Information

Freshman Cael Brockmeyer's tenth-inning home run lifted the CSUB baseball team over then-ranked No. 10 Arizona St. in the Coca-Cola Classic Tournament held in Surprise, Arizona. The 2-1 victory was the seventh in a row for the 'Runners and was the beginning of a positive tournament having won every game in the tournament including victories over Kansas, Air Force and Northern Illinois. Their win streak is now up to 10 games. After the weekend's tournament CSUB baseball is now ranked No. 30 in the nation.



Courtesy of Sports Information

## Female Athlete of the Week

Sammy Rodriguez pitched a complete game shut-out in the second game of a double-header against Cal State Northridge. Rodriguez had seven strike outs with two walks while allowing just three hits. The 2-0 victory was the fourth straight victory of the season after losing their first 10 games—five against nationally ranked opponents. The 'Runners next home game will be a double-header against UC Riverside on Sunday March 20. The first game will start at 1 p.m.