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The Runner

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California State University, Bakersfield

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Brian Farinas/The Runner

Hundreds of zombies took to the streets Sept. 25 to raise benefit the Alpha Canine Sanctuary and Orphan Kitten Rescue & Adoption.

Brainless zombies with big hearts

By Christina Ramos
Staff Writer

An infestation of brainless zombies rendezvous at the In-N-Out parking lot on Saturday Sept. 25.

Mindless these zombies may be but definitely not heartless. The walk benefited the Alpha Canine Sanctuary and Orphan Kitten Rescue & Adoption.

The walking dead showed up to the event in the parking lot of the In-N-Out Burger fast food restaurant with items to donate such as dog food and cat food and other items that would help benefit the two charities.

The Zombie Walk was created by the Bride zombie, known as Jennifer Sorkin, who has a degree in theater and English and is currently majoring for a

masters in English. When asked why she decided to do this walk she said "It's for a great cause and is different and also gives zombie fans a chance to come out and support pet adoption." The In-N-Out Burger parking lot on Stockdale Highway was crawling with the undead but a couple of the zombies held

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Fair offers something for everyone

Fair offers entertainment for guests of all ages

By Melissa Villagomez
Managing Editor



Mark Nessia/The Runner

The Kern County Fair will run from Sept. 22 to Oct. 3.

The beginnings of autumn can only mean one thing in Bakersfield – The Kern County Fair is back!

Now in its 85th year, the fair (located at the Kern County Fairgrounds, off Ming Avenue and Union Avenue) offers many of the same attractions that fairgoers have come to expect – free concerts, local art and photography exhibits, plenty of vendors, deliciously unhealthy food and the always-amusing

hypnosis show.

For animal lovers, there are opportunities for elephant and pony rides. There is also a hilarious turkey stampede show, in which a herd of turkeys chase a remote-control truck with a bed full of feed around a small track. The livestock exhibit lets the public get up close and personal with locally born steers and heifers, sheep, pigs, goats, rabbits and

chickens before they are auctioned off.

For thrill-seekers, there is a full carnival available, complete with rides and games. Tickets for rides can be purchased for a dollar apiece, or fairgoers can purchase a bracelet, which allows unlimited access to most rides, for \$30.

Tickets to enter the fair are \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$4 for children ages 6-12 and free for children 5 years old and under as well as active military members with ID.

The fair will be open today and Thursday 3 p.m. till 10 p.m. Friday it will be open 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Saturday noon to 11pm. Sunday, which is it's final day, it will be open noon to 10 p.m.

Students and faculty unite for DREAM

By Lauren Figueroa
Staff Writer

"Si, Se Puede!"

These were the words chanted out of the mouths of CSUB faculty and students.

On Sept. 23, MECHA held a rally in front of the Student Union that many faculty and students participated in. The rally was put together in two days and it turned out to be very successful. The purpose of the rally was to voice their opinion in an orderly manner of their anger and frustration of the DREAM Act getting voted against recently by the U.S. Senate.

Freedom and equality are what the United State constitutional rights give us as American citizens. For many people living in the United States there are residents fighting for their freedom every day, while others don't realize the significance of the freedom we are given.

According to the migra-

tion policy institute, the DREAM Act stands for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act. The purpose of this act is to give immigrants citizenship and access to a higher education.

Joey Williams who is a graduate student at CSUB said: "Failure is not an option. Stand up, fight back. We got knocked down on Monday, but we are not fallen, we are going to fight back." Knowledgeable people all around us redundantly say "go to school, make something of yourself and succeed." Many people do not have the same opportunities as others, and these dreams can't come true.

Brian Whitfield sent powerful words to the minds of the beholders and said, "Kids shouldn't grow up thinking that dreams only come true at Disneyland."

There are many requirements that these immigrants must have to qualify.

[See DREAM, Page 4]

Library displays banned books

By Eloy Vieyra
Staff Writer

The Walter W. Stiern Library has allowed students to access banned or challenged books. The library has a stand with some banned books and also has more available that can be checked out at the front desk. These books have been or in the process of being banned by the government.

What exactly is a banned or challenged book?

A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A banning is the removal

of those materials.

Access to these books is still possible. The banned books are removed from curriculum and free access.

Thanks in part of librarians, teachers, parents, students and other concerned citizens, most challenges are unsuccessful and most materials are retained in the school curriculum or library collection.

According to the Office of Intellectual Freedom, the top three reasons books are challenge and banned are: the material was considered to be "sexually explicit," the material contained "offensive language," and

[See BOOKS, Page 4]

Blackboard not getting a colorful response from students and faculty

By Cynthia Banuelos
Staff Writer

After seven years of WebCT, CSUB is now on board with Blackboard.

It is a learning system designed to help students and teachers interact with one another about their courses. However, the transition from WebCT to Blackboard has left a lot to say from the stu-

dents and professors of CSUB.

According to Roschelle Pantoja, a sophomore and PEAK major, Blackboard is organized. She said that she has been using Blackboard since her freshman year.

When asked if she has had any problems with it she said, "Sometimes the file won't download so you have to refresh it."

While Pantoja said that blackboard is organized, Andrea Valdez, a junior and PEAK major said she didn't like Blackboard at all. This is her first year using Blackboard and she already has issues with it.

One problem she pointed out was that she had difficulty registering for a class and downloading files.

She said: "It takes a long

time to load. Also, when I needed to get my first assignment it failed on me."

Two other juniors who preferred to stay anonymous for fear of getting in trouble with their instructors had their own opinion about blackboard as well.

One of them said she didn't like it because it was too complicated.

However, the other one said

that she liked it, and she hasn't had any problems with it.

This new learning system has gone well for some students and terribly wrong for others, but what about the professors?

English 310 professor Barbara Bartholomew is using Yahoo instead of Blackboard. She was using WebCT until last year and decided to go on board with

Yahoo because it's easier, students like it and anyone can join it.

Blackboard is here to stay so whether the students like it or not.

Andrea Valdez preferred WebCT because she was so use to it but she said that she is willing to give Blackboard a chance. She said, "I just need to give it a shot, but right now I just don't like it."

Seven-day
weather
forecast
According to
weather.com



Wednesday
Hi: 98
Lo: 71



Thursday
Hi: 97
Lo: 71



Friday
Hi: 96
Lo: 70



Saturday
Hi: 94
Lo: 68



Sunday
Hi: 90
Lo: 64



Monday
Hi: 85
Lo: 63



Tuesday
Hi: 87
Lo: 63

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RUNNER ON THE STREET

By Mark Nessia, Editor-in-Chief and Derek Bato, Web & Opinions Editor

This week, The Runner asked, "How is Blackboard 9 working for you in your classes?"



Edgar Rodas
Sophomore,
Pre-Engineering

"I haven't really been using it, just to check assignments."



Abeer Aldhulay
Senior,
Biochemistry

"It's not that bad, it's slow some-times. I'd rather not have it, WebCT is much better."



Rebecca Galloway
Freshman,
Nursing

"It's pretty good, it's useful"



Raymond Bond Junior,
Business
Administration

"It's not really great, the connection sucks sometimes and you can't log on."

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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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Money vs. Merit

By Lauren Figueroa
Staff Writer

Let's face it, we live in a money obsessed country. We want that authentic Marc Jacobs purse and brand-new BMW that we can't afford just to look "pretty."

The Nov. 2 elections are just around the corner, it gets me thinking about the significance and role money plays with our vote in elected officials.

Meg Whitman and Jerry Brown are running for governor. The question is; who will win and why?

According to Whitman's and Brown's official website, Whitman's main policies, in a nutshell, are: to help improve California are to create jobs, cut spending and fix education. Jerry Brown's policies are: create jobs, educa-

tion, and the environment. These policies, which they believe in, are quite similar, but the way they go about these strategic issues are quite different.

Daniel Figueroa, who is a junior and business major, said: "Merit should (be) the main cause for elected officials no matter what the case. Too bad, that is not always how it turns out. Merit and money are both the main cause because they both sway opinion."

Advertisements, as we all know, play a huge roll in our decision making. How many times have you been sitting on your couch, delicious food comes on the TV and you impulsively want it? Is it for the value of the content it holds, or the way it looks?

Whitman has outspent

Brown in advertising, which commonly means that she has more money. Go figure, since she was formally the CEO of E-bay.

Advertising equals money.

Sandra Chavez, who is a sophomore, said, "Good advertising makes me want to get the objects I see."

So, this Nov. 2, let's hope you are checking in the box for governor on your knowledge and understanding of what they are trying to achieve and basis on their character; not for how many commercials, billboards, bumper stickers and other advertisements you see.

Lets have faith Whitman and Brown are putting their money where their mouth is.

'The Dispatch'

Services provided by the University Police Department

By Justin Gildner
Sergeant, CSUB
Police Department

Aside from the general law enforcement services provided by our department, we also offer various programs available to all members of our campus community to promote safety and enhance your overall experience while on campus. Below are just a few of these services.

Livescan

California State University Bakersfield Police Department is proud to announce the availability of Livescan fingerprint services at the University Police Department. Any current student, staff or faculty may receive fingerprint services when referred or authorized by a department or agency authorized to receive Department of Justice Livescan information. Fingerprint services will be available by appointment only. Please call the CSUB Police Department at 654-2111 to schedule an appointment during the time slots below.

Escort Service

The University Police Department provides escort services across campus, to your vehicle, or to your dorm residence. If, for any reason, you don't feel comfortable or safe walking to your destination a member or our department will escort you. Just come by our station or call us at 654-2111.

Bike Registration

Register your bicycle's serial number with University Police. We will maintain a record and photograph of it in case of theft. Just bring your bike to the police department and tell our dispatcher you would like to have it registered. Completed while you wait!

Just a reminder we are here for you 24 hours a day and seven days a week. Call us or stop by whenever you need assistance day or night. These are just a few of the services we provide. For additional services and information visit us online at <http://www.csub.edu/bas/police/> or our Facebook page. Stay safe.

Times to call and schedule fingerprinting

Tuesday: 12pm to 3pm
Wednesday: 9am to 11am
Thursday: 12pm to 3pm

If you have any additional questions, contact Corp. Johns or Mary Barnes at 654-2111

Paying more for less and less

By Victor Maldonado
Staff Writer

Walk past the Cashier's Office in the first week of school and you'll certainly see a line of students with glum expressions on their faces, no doubt asking themselves, "Why am I paying so much more each year for less of an education?"

It's no secret that there have been a number of fee hikes in the last few years, it is also no secret that the number of available classes has decreased.

What causes such a phenomena you ask?

Well, simply put, the state budget and the fiscal crisis in California is "what."

Short of writing a letter to the governor, there is not much that can be done at the state level.

The office of financial aid is tasked with the responsibility of handling the payment and disbursement of financial aid to students in need.

"We try our best to service students," Assistant director Pell grant coordinator Chad Morris said.

The money is simply not there.

While students who receive financial aid are grateful, they concede that it is not enough. Many feel that there is more that can be done at the university level.

"It's time to start trimming the fat," said senior psychology major Elihu Borrero.

And by "fat" he doesn't mean

Master's programs. Ask any student the following question: what exactly does Horace Mitchell do? Most students can tell you he is the president but as far as his function goes, it's a mystery.

There are a lot of different administrative positions that can be eliminated or absorbed. It seems like some of these administrators are eternally out to lunch.

In my four years attending this school, I have found that I have received the most help from Katherine Plunkett, the egregiously underappreciated secretary for the Art Department and I have never directly dealt with the dean of anything.

Some would argue that you get what you pay for. It is true that even as the tuition fees increase, they are nowhere near the tuition fees of more prestigious school; however, students are not seeing a return on their ever-increasing investments. Many would agree that an online class was not what they had in mind when they decided to come to a university.

A number of students are stuck in a situation where prerequisites or classes needed to graduate are not offered until the winter or spring quarter of the next year, so they are forced to return when the fees have been hiked 30 percent.

"That's how people become fifth and sixth year seniors," said senior communications major Porshay Spencer.

The alien-American dream

By Sandy Ornelas
Staff Writer

Did you know there are many students living in the United States are here illegally?

For these students it's hard to continue their education because many of them can't pay or afford to go to college. They can't get help from the government unlike those who were born here. Many are forced to drop out or not even continue on with their education.

But the Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act can give hope to these students.

When I think of the United States I think of a land of opportunity. Many people from all over the world come to America to receive a better life. I'm glad that the Dream Act is planning on giving those opportunities to the people who didn't have any in their coun-

try. The DREAM Act gives opportunity to immigrants who came into this country by helping them gain residency and allows them to continue on with their education.

The DREAM Act was recently rejected by the Senate because they're afraid it will take away jobs to those who were born here. They're also worried that it will bring more immigrants into the country.

Yes, we are in a difficult economy right now, but I believe that this act will really help those who came into this country for more opportunities. I think that the Republicans are being very hard headed and they should think about the students who would like a chance to learn and to have the same rights as everybody else in this country.

Check out our website, updated weekly at:

www.csub.edu/runner

Also look for us on Facebook:

runner@csub.edu



The Generation Trench

Returning to school years later

By Stacey Williams
Staff Writer

It is hard to attend a university where the majority of students were born a decade or more after I was. The generational gap at CSUB is very broad and while walking around campus it is very noticeable to me.

I don't seem to notice the students that are older than I am, but that could be because they fit in better as a possible instructor than a student.

I am 28 years old and this is only my second week attending CSUB and I find myself out of place at times. I had a late start in continuing my education, but in today's society a bachelor's degree is almost a must to ensure a job of our choice or at least one that will give you some job security and sometimes even a BA is not enough.

I also think that being a little older and having prior responsibilities other

than just school, or school and a part time job, is evident. Some may have families, or other prior engagements that can consume a lot of time that might take away from studying. So, it can be a real challenge finding the right balance.

My advice would be to take it slowly, it might take a little bit longer than it might take the younger generation, but the point is that your degree will come.

Transfer student from Los Angeles, Rebecca Wright said: "First off I think that you would first need to know that I, like most of the student on campus, are going through this for the first time; being away from family and my comfort zone. I think that for me I am taking it a little harder, being away from my 10-year-old, my hubby and my mom for the first time."

Wright continued, "In class and on campus most of the kids do not know

that I am almost 11 years older, unless I ask their ages. Every time I sit down in a classroom, I wonder if I am doing the right thing but I realize for my daughter and my female friends I am doing something much greater... I am giving them hope at a better life.

I am showing them if I can do it then they can too. I am the first generation in my whole family on both sides to attend the university and I am so proud to gladly show off my CSUB ID. I hope to finish here and go on to law school. So that is me, and my two weeks of being one of the university's older students."

"I am struggling to keep up with students fresh out of high school that are still open to learning while I am trying to go back to learning how to balance my time with my other responsibilities. I am slowly gaining confidence that I can get this done."



Photo courtesy of codepinkseattle.org
The talentless talent, Ke\$ha, "performing" at Saint Valery school in Caux, France.

Modern Music

The Pretentious Generation

By Joseph Andreas
Staff Writer

Britney Spears, Kanye West, Ke\$ha, Chris Brown... artist or pretentious?

Why are they disguising their voices via post-production?

What are they really hiding?

An artist is someone who creates from the heart and shares from the soul. They are vulnerable and available emotionally.

An artist creates to release their own voice. They spend countless of hours creating and fine tuning their art so that the viewer sees their vision.

When a "singer" uses the studio for vocal effects, this stops becoming their voice. It is now a machine that we are hearing.

When a handful of artists uses the same disguise, then how can they consider that origi-

nal?

The aforementioned artists do not possess this quality. Yet they are billed as artists and most importantly paid as such.

In the following years of the "American Idol" age, are we as a society selling out along with these so called artists?

Are we buying the image they are selling or do we actually believe that they are "Artists"?

If these are the new evolved artist, then what happens to their predecessors?

How are they honoring artists like Michael Jackson, Aretha Franklin and Marvin Gaye?

Do they not find it disrespectful to impose a similar billing that the great artists have earned?

It seems that to be an artists today one must have the correct image, correct story, and to just call themselves an artist.

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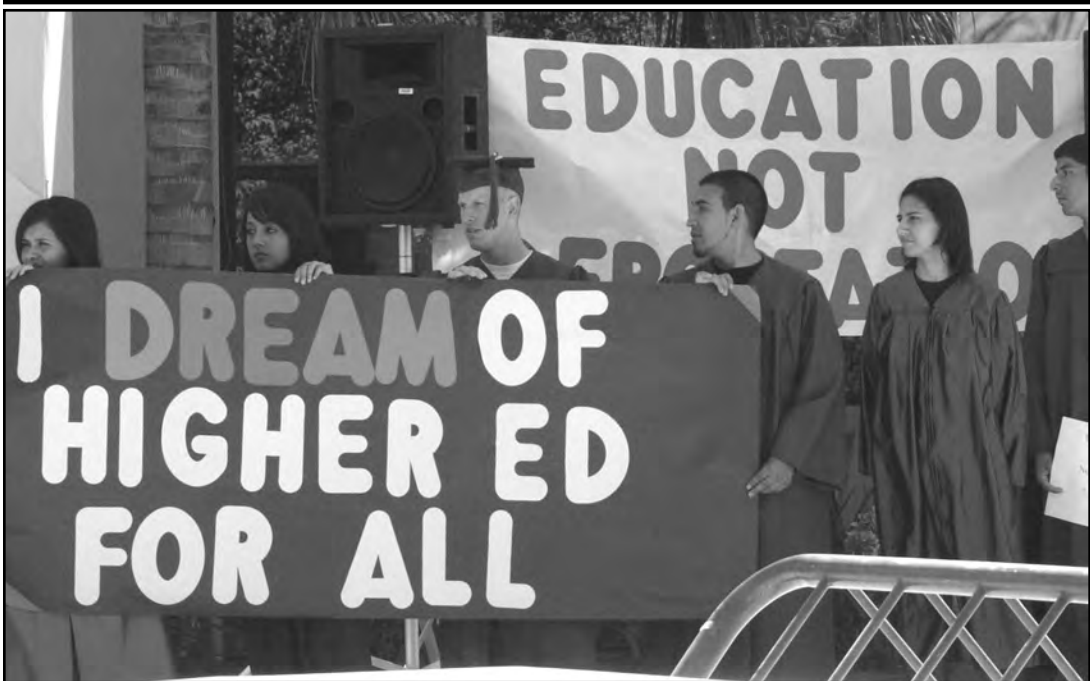
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Lauren Figueroa/The Runner
Protesters show their support of the DREAM Act.

Dreaming of higher education

[DREAMS, from Page 1]
Students must have a high school diploma or GED and be accepted into college of higher education, or must serve in the U.S. armed forces for at least two years. Also, the students must enter the United States before the age of 16, no criminal background record, and of good moral character.
Students go to school everyday and do not have legal documents. If there are no papers then students can not receive grants or financial aid. This leaves many students not financially stable enough to be able to support the cost of education.
Paola Fernandez, who is a junior and political science major and also was one of the leading forces behind the

rally, said, “It is nice to see the students come out support what we are fighting for.”
At the rally students were dressed up in their caps and gowns and many posters and banners were put up for display. The signs read: “I dream of a higher education for all.” “Believe in the DREAM Act now” and “what now.”
The news media was present during this rally. T17.3 Telemundo and Kero 23 ABC of Bakersfield were taping exerts from the speeches given by students and faculty.
After the rally, there were several students who went up to voice and show their support and many signed up for MECHA club.

ASI Executive Vice President Ahmad Rafah spoke upon the DREAM act and said, “This is not a political issue, it is a people issue. We need to give students liberty by law.”
Gonzalo Santos who is a professor on campus fiercely said, “What do we do first, let us express our rightness anger. Catch up with the realities of the 21st century, they are tearing our families apart and build walls to get us to leave this country. I have an answer; we are not leaving, it is you (Americans) that can leave anytime. Get ready to fight, get ready to unleash the greatest wave of disobedience this country has seen this century. Si se puede.”



Photo courtesy of www.pamunkeylibrary.org/
Some of the many banned and challenged books are available at the Walter W. Stein Library.

Banned books available in campus library

[BOOKS, from Page 1]
the material was “unsuited to any age group.”
Some may argue that the banning of these books violates our First Amendment rights.
John Stuart Mill wrote in “On Liberty”: “The peculiar evil of silencing the expression of opinion is, that it is robbing the human race: posterity as well as the existing generation; those who dissent from the opinion, still

more than those who hold it.”
Some of the books that are banned we may recognize as being part of the curriculum growing up. The government has deemed them as being unsuitable for children.
CSUB sophomore, Laura Cardenas remembers some of the books.
“I was walking by the stand in the library when I noticed some of the titles of the books. They brought back

memories from when I was younger and reading them in school. Then when I saw that they were banned books I couldn’t believe why they would ban some of the books that everyone used to read growing up,” she said.
For more information on the banned and challenged books go to your Walter W. Stiern Library or visit the American Library Association website.



Mark Nessia/The Runner
Daniel Haymond rents his textbooks at the Runner Bookstore.

Alternative, less expensive ways to get textbooks

**By Dara Gholston
Staff Writer**

As CSUB students enter the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year, a very common goal enters with them: the fastest and cheapest way to get the books that are needed for the quarter. This fall quarter there are many more options than there have been in the past for getting books.
The most popular way that students are getting their books is either by buying (new or used) or renting them at the CSUB Bookstore.
“I got them from the CSUB Bookstore this year and luckily all were available through the new rental program,

which I now love. My books that should have cost me close to \$400 only cost me \$150,” says CSUB junior Chase Hicks.
Although buying books from the Runner bookstore is still the most effective method of being prepared for classes, buying or renting books from helpful book websites is not far behind and is quickly becoming the trendy way to get books. Sites like Half.com, Chegg.com, and even eBay.com have generated much student usage because students can buy or rent their books for much cheaper.
“I purchased my books through Amazon.com. Their new prices were better than

the used prices at the bookstore,” said CSUB grad student Maria Brown.
A recent survey sampling approximately 50 CSUB students showed that 56 percent of the student body have bought or is planning to buy their books at the Runner Bookstore. The survey showed that 20 percent of students have bought or will buy their books online and 24 percent of students will use both online resources and the campus bookstore to make their purchases.
Ultimately, no matter which way students choose to buy books this year, here’s to hoping they will actually be used this quarter!

Volkslauf event benefits children

**By Matthew Patrick
Staff Writer**

The Volkslauf is back on Saturday, Oct. 2. The 14th annual event is a mud run, where contestants take on a 5 kilometer or 10 kilometer obstacle course that was designed like a Marine Corps obstacle course.
The Volkslauf is full of hard-to-beat obstacles. Participants can go in teams of four or they can even take on this grueling obstacle course solo.
Glen A. Pruett, race director and former Marine, said , “This is a mud run, so one needs to expect lots and lots of mud. We have numerous Marine-style obstacles in the course including ditches, trenches, tunnels, rope

bridges, etc.”
The Volkslauf is a charity event put on by a committee of former Marines, as well as friends of the Marine Corps. It is funded 100 percent through sponsorships, donations and runner fees. Since its beginning in 1997, the Volkslauf has been raising finances in support for the annual Toys for Tots program as well as many other charity organizations around Kern County.
Glen Strong, a runner in a previous Volkslauf said, “It is so much dirty fun running the Volkslauf. Not only are you helping a great charity like the Toys for Tots, but you are also getting great exercise and having fun at the same time.”
The first Volkslauf mud run

had around two hundred contestants. Every year the mud run consistently has grown in the amount of participating individuals. This year there are over 2,500 contestants that are running in teams or taking on the course solo. This cast of runners include both residents and non-residents of Bakersfield.
Registration for the Volkslauf was closed as of Sept. 2, but even those not racing are welcome to come out and watch the event.
There will be food and drink booths set up on site. Event location and driving directions can be found on the official Volkslauf website at www.volkslauf.com.

Suzanne Greenberg comes to CSUB

**By Keith Koski
Staff Writer**

Last Thursday The California Writers Series was proud to present 2003 Drue Heinz Literature Prize winner and 2004 John Gardner Fiction Book Award finalist, author Suzanne Greenberg to give a free reading in the multipurpose room at CSUB’s Student Union.
The evening started out at 7 p.m. with three readings by

her. She read “Under the Radar,” “Remodel,” and “Speed Walk.” Preceding the readings was a question and answer discussion from the audience. The questions and answer segment of the evening is something that could really be a benefit for people looking into becoming writers or just interested in the author. Much could be learned about the author during this time such as the fact that her favorite book is A Home at the End of the

World by Michael Cunningham. When asked how long it takes her to write a story she said, “It varies, sometimes a few weeks, maybe a month.” Suzanne Greenberg said, “When I first started out writing I wrote poetry, and I also only used to write from a point of view of a man so that people wouldn’t ask me if the story was about myself.”
Now of course she writes from both a man’s and a woman’s point of view.

Suzanne Greenberg said, “The greatest challenge to writing is time, as well as all the other tedious things you do everyday such as paying bills or having to get your car registered.”
She said as well that, “the internet, although it is good for research, can be distracting.”
Her advice for beginning writers is “when you write do not think of a big long thing, think about writing in sections, and don’t be afraid

to cut things out.”
She said as a joke, “I became a writer because I wasn’t good at anything else.”
Suzanne Greenberg also said “sometimes I listen to music for inspiration when I write, but I will turn it off if it becomes a distraction.”
A raffle was held where two lucky attendees got a free copy of one of her books. After the raffle there was a book signing. Russo’s Books was on hand with books that

you could purchase and get signed.
Julia McDaid, a sophomore, said, “I decided to attend this event this evening because I am interested in reading. My favorite part of the evening was the second reading that the author gave.”
Maxwell Holland, a senior, said, “I attended this because I write in his my time and my favorite part of night was listening to the stories.”

Withdrawal: One week without Facebook

(EDITOR’S NOTE: “Withdrawal” is a challenge where a staff writer goes one week without something they are “addicted” to. This week: Facebook)

By **Mary-Kate Alderete**
Staff Writer

Can there be life without Facebook?

As I sat in my Media Arts class Professor and Chair for the department of communications, Mary Slaughter, challenged us to consider, “When are people ever alone with their thoughts anymore?”

This really got me thinking. Our “tech savvy” generation rarely takes time to be alone with our thoughts. Even if we are alone, we have many distractions whether it is Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, Skype, texting, cell phones and so on.

“Twitter is a legal way to stalk people, think about it, you’re following people” states freshman and psychology major Quin Eillis.

As I sat pondering my assignment, I wondered how in the world would I adapt to a week without

social networking, a week without scoping out possible new date-ables, a week without checking out what’s up with my ex-boyfriend, a week without seeing who else among my friends are now engaged, and how big their engagement rings are. I sighed and figured I could do it. It’s only one week! It might even be good for me-just me alone with my thoughts.

I became quickly aware that checking my Facebook is a habit and that I feel obligated to check my page daily. Immediately, I started to feel guilty.

I didn’t want my friends to think that I was ignoring them. What would they think if I didn’t respond to them for days?

(I also realized that I am constantly reminded of its presence, calling me back even when I try to ignore it.)

I couldn’t even check my e-mail without seeing notifications of activity on my page.

To top it off, I realized that I had a practical need for Facebook.

I went to Los Angeles to visit some friends, I quickly realized

that I only had one of their phone numbers, and the rest I had communicated with through Facebook. Not being able to login and send a quick message proved to be a huge inconvenience in my pursuit of trying to get a hold of them.

So this isn’t just an annoying, time-consuming habit after all. Facebook meets a practical need. And here I am, alone with my thoughts, with a single phone number and lots of hope that I would find who I was looking for.

My time off of Facebook caused me to re-evaluate how I spend, or in this case, waste a lot of my time. Many times I would log into Facebook “for just a sec,” then find myself logged on for hours looking at friends’ pages. Freshman and criminal justice major Victor Lopez said that if he lessened his time on Facebook that he would, “Probably get a lot more accomplished (and) save all of that time.”

Time waster, indeed.

The case against Facebook usage keeps growing stronger.

Ellis states, “Facebook is a cesspool for drama.”

It is true that Facebook can cause

a lot of drama. I’m sure I’m not the only one who’s decided to click on an ex’s profile page, and then quickly regret it after it appears that they’re well past moved-on. Engaged, smiling happy faces and me, alone with my thoughts.

As I shut down my laptop at the end of a session of Facebook surfing, I’ve found myself all too frequently feeling defeated, disappointed and promising myself to never do this again.

When asked about Facebook, freshman Lauren Bailes said: “I used to get on more until perpetual drama started. ... It makes me sick that people use it for that.”

Since her time off of Facebook, Lauren’s life has been “a lot more peaceful.” She concluded, “I’d say ignorance is bliss, a blessing and a curse.”

My conclusion from my week without Facebook would be to “Facebook responsibly,” meaning that it’s a good thing to turn it off for a while! This is true especially when you realize that the online world is slipping into your own world and affecting you negatively.

It can be a great social media, but it has to be balanced with real world communication.

What have I learned?

I want to live my own life and not be consumed with others’ lives. Before I began this assignment I found myself fascinated with other people’s lives and, in turn, compared their lives with my own.

Now, after completing this assignment I have found myself becoming fascinated with my own life and its possibilities.

This brings me back to Slaughter’s original question: “When are people ever alone with their thoughts anymore?”

I’ve found that in this day and age, we are only alone with our thoughts when we physically turn off our distractions and choose to be alone.

We all have thoughts; imagine what these thoughts could turn into if we give ourselves the opportunity to marinate them into great ideas? The possibilities are endless. All that’s needed on our parts is to take the time to be alone with our thoughts!

Living large on a budget

By **Lauren Figueroa**
Staff Writer

Students at CSUB may receive many benefits and discounts, just for being an active college student. Many college students are struggling to eat cheap, work, go to school, pay rent, study, have fun, and still manage to have money in the bank.

“Save your pennies, every penny counts,” may sound like a broken record coming out of parents mouths, but the truth is: they are right.

Some of the on-campus benefits are that students are admitted for free to all regular season games for athletic events.

“This is my first quarter, but I do plan on using the gym a lot and go to the basketball games for free,” said Mich-L Gutierrez, who is a junior and a sports management major.

The Student Recreation Center is available for free for currently enrolled CSUB students. It also offers memberships for staff as well as alumni from CSUB. The gym is fully-equipped with rock climbing, weights, suspended track, indoor volleyball/soccer, towel service, personal trainers, cardio equipment, ping-pong tables and group classes varying from zumba, yoga, butts and guts and more.

Taking advantage of the SRC may build self-development, motivation, mental well-being as well as physical and a better heart.

Paris Alshaif, who is a junior and art major as CSUB said, “If I had time I would use the gym and whatever they offer, you have to take advantage of it (benefits) nowadays.”

Need to get doctored up? There is a health center on campus for students at a economical cost to meet your medical needs. Student accident and health insurance is also available. The difficul-

ties there are for having the responsibility to take care of children and being in school just got a whole lot easier for students. There is a children’s center on campus and reduced fees are available for CSUB students.

Outside of campus, there are many businesses that offer a discount on products and services that many students are unaware of. The only thing needed is to get a discount is a CBUB student ID card.

Regency Lanes offers 50 percent off with your student ID discount and pizza at Me-N-Ed’s is 15 percent off.

Fast, quick and cheap! Del Taco is written all over these words, and the best part is on a low budget we can scramble through our couches and cars to get enough money for lunch. Plus, Del Taco on California Avenue gives a student discount, which makes cheap even cheaper.

Eva Flores, who is a sophomore, said, “I wish I would have known that there discounts offered outside of campus too. I am going to definitely use them more often.”

There are many discounts offered to students from any university that many people do not have knowledge of. Apple has discounts for education software and Mac computers year-round for students. Most airlines have student rates offered as well as discounted hotel rates for students pursuing their education.

Tuition and books seem to be a killer for students paying for their education out of their own pocket. Chegg is a site online where the purpose is to rent books and return them when not of use anymore. They are rented out for the number of days the book holder keeps them, and are significantly cheaper than purchasing books from the bookstore.



Jaime Cancio/The Runner
The Zombie Walk benefited The Alpha Canine Society and OKRA Orphan Kitten Rescue & Adoption.

‘Undead’ rise for charity

[ZOMBIES, from Page 1]

back their cravings for human flesh and managed to give us their thoughts on the charity walk.

Drew Hallum, a CSUB student, said “I love zombies! Also Jennifer is a great friend.”

Kathleen Ojala, who is majoring in biology at CSUB said “Graaaaaains” because she said she was a vegetarian zombie.

The Carhop zombie Keiti Carlsen, whose major is undecided at

Bakersfield College, and the roller skating Waitress, who also attends BC and is majoring in forensic anthropology, were two of the zombies who were helping Sorkin take in the donations and greeting all the other undead as they showed up for the walk.

The walk in all was 30 minutes long and the number of participants is unknown but the group was quite large and when crossing the cross walk the group had to take turns because of the amount of the crowd. Cars honked,

people starred in excitement and terror, some even got out of their cars to film on their cell phones the walking dead as they passed by parking lots and businesses.

Sorkin has stated that she would like to hold another zombie walk benefiting another charity sometime in December.

There is an official Zombie Walk website on Facebook should the interest arise.



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Rockstar Tour causes uproar at Rabobank Arena

By Neil Pedersen
Staff Writer

The skirts were short, the pants were tight, the shirts were black, and the tattoos and facial piercings were in full effect Tuesday, Sept. 21, at the Rockstar Uproar Tour at the Rabobank Arena.

With Disturbed and Avenged Sevenfold headlining the show, it was almost guaranteed to be a success. In fact, Avenged Sevenfold may have shown up top act, Disturbed.

According to the audience, Avenged Sevenfold was the best act of the night. Other crowd favorites included the Pennsylvania band Halestorm.

The event was divided into two distinct sections. The first was an outdoor area set up in the rear parking lot with a stage and the usual vendors one can find at a show.

The outdoor stage featured lesser-known bands than those receiving top-billing, starting before the main event and was free to the public. The audience attending the outdoor portion was, on average, noticeably younger than those inside. This led to some interesting moments during performances, as the bands made no attempt to filter their act for an all-ages audience.

Inside the Rabobank Arena, there were even more vendors hawking band merchandise, food, alcohol and clothing. The arena features stadium-style seating, and everyone who purchased a ticket was assigned a seat. These seat assignments were largely ignored, as most of the crowd opted to stand in the open area directly in front of the stage.

As can be expected with larger, more well-known bands, the show inside was



Mark Nessia/The Runner

Bryan Crouch of Hail the Villain performs on Jagermeister Stage during the Rockstar Uproar Festival on Sept. 21 at the Rabobank Arena.

much more professional, extravagant and entertaining, although the up-close-and-personal aspect of the outside stage was lost.

Unsurprisingly, many of the acts, especially the bigger names, either declined to be interviewed, or never returned calls and e-mails.

Fortunately, several of the opening bands agreed to be interviewed: Australian band Airbourne, Hail the Villain (from Canada) and Minneapolis-based New Medicine.

New Medicine is sort of an alternative-punk-hard rock band. The members of New Medicine are in their early 20s, and are the youngest members on the Uproar Tour.

They feel that this fact “reflects on their set,” as they are touring, and keeping up with more experienced, and established bands.

An interesting fact about bassist Brady is that he travels twice a year to Ghana to work for and support the charity Joy 2 The World, which solicits and distributes microloans for women in Ghana.

Brady said that the organization’s efforts are “small, but impactful,” and added that, were he not in a touring rock band, he would most likely be doing some kind of charity work full-time. New Medicine’s performance was high energy, and definitely punk rock influenced, with

anthemic choruses that the crowd quickly picked up and sang along to.

With their long hair, foreign accents, and promoting themselves as “whiskey-fueled rock and roll,” Airbourne was the closest thing to what most people would imagine a rock band to be.

In response to asking what the best thing about touring was, Joel responded with “free drinks and loose women.”

When asked what they be doing with their lives were they not in a band, Joel said he would most likely be “robbing banks,” although Ryan stated quite seriously that music was his main

interest in life, and were he not in a band, he would probably still be involved with touring acts, probably as a guitar tech.

Airbourne’s act was a loud, energetic, and enthusiastically received performance.

Bryan, the lead singer of Hail The Villain, was quintessential Canadian and, despite his appearance, seemed nothing like what one would assume a singer for a hard rock/metal band would be. He was very soft-spoken, and intelligent, a bit of a “geek,” and viewed his band’s music as more than just music, but an “entire experience”.

As such, he spoke at length about the comic book, ani-

mated movie, and online, interactive murder mystery website that they simultaneously released with their latest album.

Hail The Villain music was the “hardest” of the three bands. Very fast, and loud, with mostly indecipherable lyrics sang by Bryan who, in complete opposition to his off-stage persona, was absolutely wild on-stage. High-stepping, waving his arms about, jumping up and down, and gesturing to the crowd with a maniacal, evil grin that reminded one of Jack Nicholson in “The Shining.”

iPad provides good source of portable entertainment

By Danny Ruiz
Staff Writer

The iPad is Apple’s entry into the tablet market. It functions basically like a bigger version of the iPod Touch.

The iPad includes an iPod app which looks almost identical to the desktop version of iTunes. This gives the feel of accessing your music from a desktop device in a hand held device. I like the way the iPod’s music is set up however, so having it set up like a desktop on a portable device seems a little awkward, but after enough use it probably becomes more user friendly.

Another useful app is the iBooks,

which is awesome! With this app you can download digital versions of books to your iPad. When you touch the icon of the book you would like to read, it opens up like a real book. It also simulates turning a book page when you run your finger across the screen. There are adjustments to the book as well, by letting you change the font size and the brightness can be darkened or lightened according to the area you are reading in. A similar free app is “Comic Book Lover,” which reads CBR files, which consist of scanned images from comic books. I love this one for keeping up with my “The Walking Dead,” “Buffy,” and so on.

The YouTube app is capable of playing streaming videos in 720p formats without any trouble. It also allows users to keep track of their uploaded videos, favorites and top-rated videos.

To browse the Internet, the iPad uses Apple’s browser Safari. It is similar to the version of Safari on the iPod Touch. It includes a touch-screen keyboard with keys evenly spaced so it mimics an actual keyboard. This makes it easy to type on and simulates the feeling of a physical keyboard, so there are fewer errors and more accurate typing. A user can easily zoom in and out in Safari by using two fingers and spreading them outward to zoom out

and inward to zoom in.

There are tons of other apps available for download for the iPad as well. Some of them free and some that are available for a fee. Apps for the iPod Touch and iPhone can also be used on the iPad though they will look a bit different. Many of the apps available for iPod and iPhone have created newer iPad compatible versions, and other apps will surely follow soon.

There are a few different versions of the iPad. It is available with 16GB, 32GB, or 64GB of fixed storage. There is also a version with only Wi-Fi Internet capability or another version with Wi-Fi as well as 3G Internet. The battery can sup-

port 10 to 11 hours of continuous use.

As cool as the iPad is I still think an iPod touch is more practical. It’s pocket size which is a bonus, and since I love the iBooks and Comic Book Lover apps, I like having something to read always in my pocket. Though both look better on the larger screen, a smaller screen is acceptable since it’s more convenient. However if the opportunity came along I would definitely get me an iPad!

The iPad can’t currently fully replace a laptop, however it does come pretty close. It may have the potential to eventually be equivalent to a laptop in future versions however.

WHAT’S HAPPENING THIS WEEK?

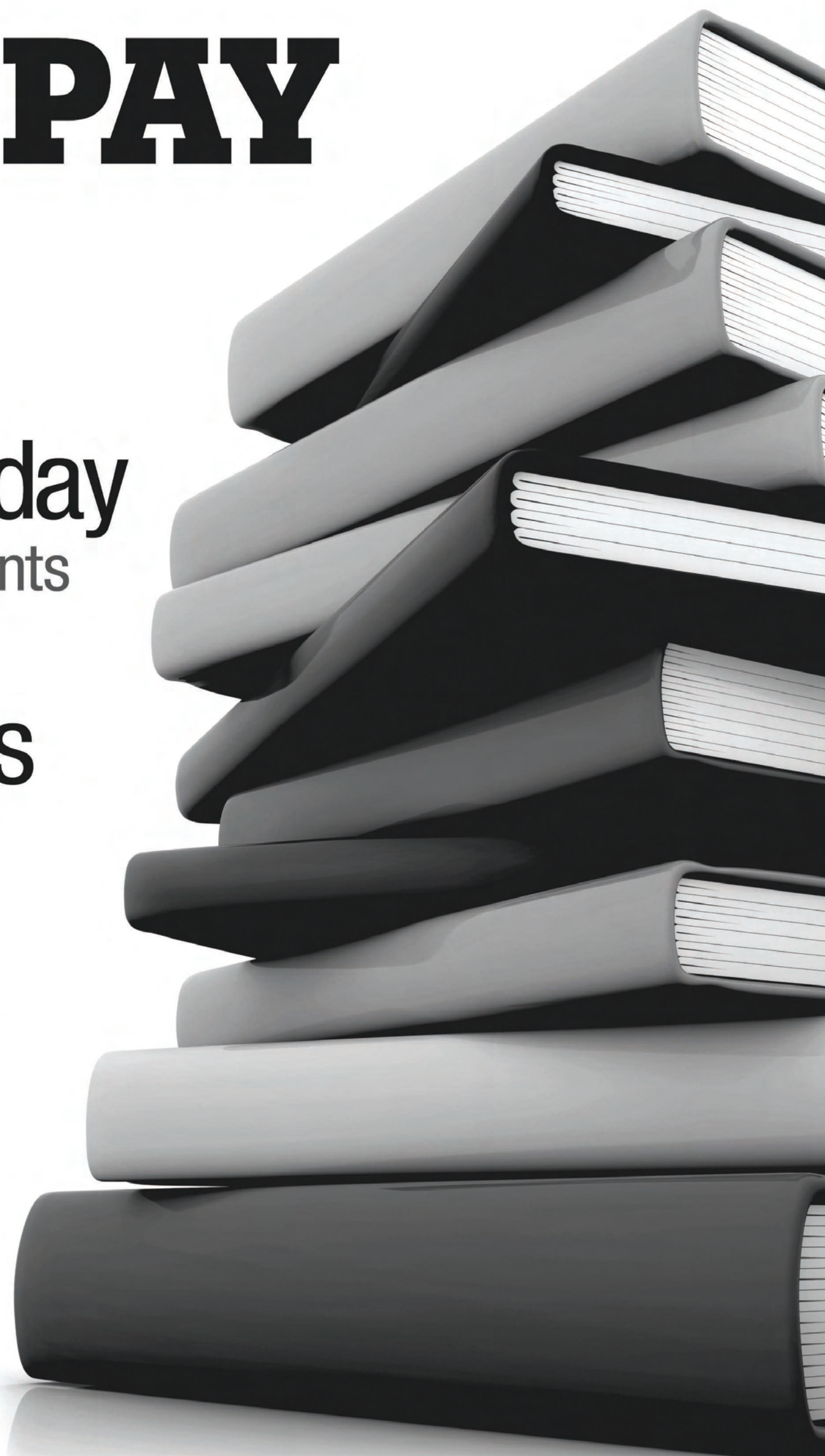
Wednesday Sep 29	Thursday Sep. 30	Friday Oct. 1	Saturday Oct 2	Sunday Oct. 3	Monday Oct 4	Tuesday Oct 5
Fall Blood Drive 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Student Union	Students with Abilities Society Kick-off event 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm SCI 3- 108	Carbon Capture and Sequestration Workshop 7:30 am - 4:30 pm CSUB Student Union, Multipurpose Room	GWAR Exam 7:30 am - 11:00 pm BDC 153, 154, 155, 156, 165, WSL Main, 14, 16 FACT Barbecue 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm CSUB FACT	Phi Sigma Sigma Meetings 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm DDH 102G	Ultimate Money Skills College Presentation 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Student Union	Whooping Cough Vaccines 8:30 am - 4:30 pm CSUB Student Health Center, Conference Room
Internship & Part Time Job Fair 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Runner Cafe Quad	Valley Baptist Event Foster Care & Community Involvement 6:00PM - ? 4800 Fruitvale Ave	Hispanic American and Spanish Lit and Cultural Symposium 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm Sci III Rooms 101-102	Hispanic American and Spanish lit. and Cultural Symposium 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm Sci III Rooms 101-102	CSUB Women's Soccer vs. Pepperdine 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm The Main Soccer Field	MultiPurpose Room Theta Sigma Chi Meetings 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm DDH E101	Daryl Shawn live at Borders 7:00 PM 4980 Stockdale Highway, Bakersfield, CA 93309
Black Young Starz Meetings 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm DDH G107						

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Sisters first, teammates second

By Meagan Cook
Staff Writer

“Bump, set and hit.” Bump, set and hit.”

These are just some of the basic skills and sounds of being on a volleyball team. They are also the actions that sisters Allison and Emily Cote do on a regular basis as teammates on the CSUB volleyball team.

It's not always a common thing to hear about two siblings on the same sports team in college; however Allison and Emily are making their way together as teammates for the first time.

The Cote sisters were born and raised in Bakersfield and have been playing volleyball since they were young.

Allison is a criminal justice major and started playing volleyball in fourth grade and hasn't stopped yet.

Emily followed in her sister's footsteps and started playing club when she was 11 years old and is now a kinesiology major.

Allison, who is a senior this year, is also the oldest and plays back row and got her start as a walk-on player her junior year. Allison went to Cal Poly her first two years of college but did not play volleyball until she walked on at CSUB two years ago.

“I played a couple sports



Mark Nessia/The Runner

SISTER ACT: Younger sister Emily Cote looks to step out of older sister Allison's shadow. The two are playing on the same team for the first time in their volleyball careers.

throughout junior high, but once volleyball got to a more competitive level I chose to stick with it, I just like volleyball the best,” said Allison.

Emily, who is a freshman this year, always wanted to play at the college level and also got her start as a walk-

on this year with her position as setter.

“I grew up watching Allison play and it just became my main sport,” said Emily.

Even though both played volleyball growing up, this is the Cotes' first time ever playing on the same team together. In high school,

Allison was a senior when Emily was in eighth grade so they never got to experience playing together on the same team.

With two sisters playing the same sport there has to be competition and sibling rivalry right?

Wrong. They each play

totally different positions and have different jobs on the court. “People always ask me are you better then your sister? But we have different positions so it never gets competitive between us,” said Emily.

Allison and Emily also shared their parents love to

come and watch them play together on the same team.

This is also head coach John Price's first time coaching siblings on the same team in his career and he expressed that they couldn't be more different.

“They have drastically different personalities. Emily has a lot of fight to her and so does Allison, but it's different,” said Price.

As sisters and teammates Allison and Emily don't only look out and encourage each other, they also are huge supporters to other teammates as well.

“They are both good teammates not just to each other but to the other teammates as well, which is very important to me,” said Price.

Allison and Emily will always be sisters first and continue to encourage each other as long as they can as teammates.

“Whenever I am down, Emily always helps me and picks up my energy level, because we are closer with each other then with any of the other teammates,” said Allison.

Emily plans on playing more volleyball at CSUB in the years to come. Even though this will be Allison's last year, although she does plan on coming back next year to help out with the team.

Male Athlete of the Week



CSUB sophomore midfielder Jesus Sanchez scored the game-tying goal in regulation to send the game against Mount St. Mary's into extra time. Then Sanchez scored again a little over six minutes into extra time to win the game 3-2.

Photo courtesy of Sports Information

Female Athlete of the Week



Senior Arianna Celis posted a personal record time of 17:44.40 in the 5k course against Fresno

St. Celis shaved 12 seconds off of last week's time in the same course. Celis came in first place for the second consecutive week.

Photo courtesy of Sports Information

Struggles continue for women's volleyball as Saint Mary's beats them in straight sets



Chris Davis/The Runner

The CSUB women's volleyball has battled injuries as well as top-25 talent this season.

By Chris Davis
Staff Writer

Too many errors, no matter what you do, usually lead to bad results.

The CSUB volleyball team has been committing too many of them all season and last Friday against the No. 28 Gaels of Saint Mary's College was no different, as the Gaels defeated CSUB 25-20, 25-9, 25-20.

Too many overpasses, attacks directly into double team blocks and just plain hitting the ball wide doomed the Roadrunners (0-17) to their eleventh consecutive 3-0 defeat. Then again, with half of the team new to the Central Valley, including six freshmen, these kinds of results are somewhat expected.

What also doesn't exactly help is the fact that one of the 'Runners' biggest weapons, sophomore Lauren Holderman, went down with a separated shoulder against Butler in the Wildcat Classic earlier this month.

“We really miss her passing skills and defensive wise,” sophomore Tika Smith said when asked how the loss of Holderman is effecting the team.

Despite the team losing 17 straight matches head coach John Price is still positive.

“That is a great top-25 team right there.” Price said “We are making progress; the schedule has been tough.”

The team is making progress even if it does not show up in the results. “Twelve of our first 17 we played were against Top-25 teams, conference champions, or teams that won over 20 games last year” Price said.

The progress will hopefully be seen in the second half of the season which will not feature any teams in the NCAA Division I

Top-25.

Statistically, the 'Runners were not as bad as one might expect in a sweep. They hit on 41 percent for sideouts in the match, including closing the match with a third-set sideout percentage of .500.

Junior Lindy DeGeare led the 'Runner offense with seven kills and seven digs.

Fellow juniors Alysia Baker and Danielle Gong both chipped in four kills apiece.

Gong also had 20 assists in the match, leading all players. Megan York, from St. Mary's, led all players with 10 kills.

After a comeback attempt in the first set, the 'Runners couldn't hold off the big hits from the Gaels and lost 25-20. Leading the comeback late in the first set was freshman Haleigh Haratyk, who ranks nationally No. 83 in aces per set with .4, added a match-high two aces during a 6-0 run for the 'Runners to cut the Gael lead down to 5 (23-18). St. Mary's countered the run with a quick ace and kill to close the set out.

The second set, it was all St. Mary's as the Gaels (8-5) went on a 16-3 run in the middle of the set to ice the set away by the score of 25-9. When the Gaels lead after two sets, they are 6-0 this season. That record would grow to 7-0 and give them their fourth sweep of the year.

CSUB would fall behind 3-1 and later 6-2 only to come back and tie the set up at seven. The Gaels and 'Runners would trade points to nine all. At that point St. Mary's went on a 9-4 run to give them a 18-13 lead. It wasn't until the 'Runners stopped the run at the 18-13 mark and then go on a 5-3 run did it look like they might be able to win a set, but the Gaels put that to a quick end after closing out the match with a 4-2 run.

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For more information regarding this event please visit our website at www.csub.edu/ethics. Light snacks will be served at each presentation. Stop by one of our informational tables from 11 AM–12 PM, October 11-14, located at the Student Union Patio, outside DDH, Dining Commons, and BDC Quad Area.