



SINCE 1975

THE RUNNER



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY BAKERSFIELD

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"Installing the solar panels is the equivalent of removing 5,900 cars from the road."

-Ashok Bhatt



photos courtesy of Celia Kelly/The Runner and chevronenergy.com respectively.

Shots of the solar panels at Cal State Northridge and Fresno State.

CSUB is going green

By Celia Kelly
Staff Writer

"California is going green and we are doing it first and we are doing it fast," said Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. On October 21, 2008 he announced a partnership between state of California Department of General Services, the CSU system and solar provider Sun Edison, to provide solar energy to 15 cal state campuses.

The project will provide 30 percent of CSUB's energy

by installing solar panels atop canopies covering parking spaces on campus. The project has a tentative start date of the summer of 2009. "It will most probably be located in parking lot E and will have somewhere between five hundred and six hundred spaces," said Ashok Bhatt, CSUB project manager.

Parking lot E is the newest parking addition to the campus located south of Science III and the student health center. He also added the space number depends on the design of the project. In

regards to the time frame Bhatt said, "As of right now I don't exactly know. I'm hoping once the installation begins it will be somewhere between 60 to 90 days." If everything goes according to plan, by the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year the project should be finished.

Sounds expensive? Well, it is. It will cost roughly \$9.5 million dollars to fund the installation and operation at CSUB. Good news is CSUB students are not footing the bill. Sun Edison will fund, build, operate and maintain the project for the first 20

years. As a part of the agreement, all the schools involved will be able to purchase the solar energy at a discounted cost.

The solar panels are projected to generate 12.2 million kilowatt hours of clean renewable energy during the first year of use, which is the equivalent of five percent of the CSU system's yearly energy. In addition to saving money for the school, the project will be saving the environment as well. "Installing the solar panels is the equivalent of removing

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Oldest Basque boarding house is in Bakersfield

By Korisha Hamblet
Staff Writer

Bakersfield holds a monumental hotel in its own backyard. The Noreiga Hotel is the oldest Basque boarding house in the world. Jeronima Echeverria said that it was "The only authentic Basque boarding house standing."

Cal State Bakersfield held a three-day Basque Conference the new Science III building. This is an annual seminar that is held to keep people aware of the Basque culture. There was a list of speakers starting from October 22 through the final speaker at the Noriega Hotel in Bakersfield on October 24.

The seminar was held thanks to Steven Gamboa, assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. The program did have funding from CSUB's ASI.

Basque is between Spain and France on the boarder. Their people, although the region they occupy is in both countries, spoke a language different from both. Their individual accents are determined upon whether they lived in the Spanish or the French region.

The final speaker, Echeverria, originated from Fresno, but her family was born in Basque. Her speech was on the boarding houses for their people. Ironically, the oldest standing Basque boarding house is here in Bakersfield, located at 525 Sumner St. The little hotel, bar and dinner is call the Noreiga Hotel, and it, according to Echeverria, was the, "Oldest in Western United states or actually in the world. This place has been here for 115 years."

A boarding house, for many ethnicities, are places that

people can find home away from home, especially small minority groups traveling from long distances. Echeverria said, "boarding houses offered Basquians a familiar place to stay, and things to see, like: dance, handball and a place to find someone who understands you."

She told tales of people that traveled to the U.S. with little food, no family or friends and very little money, and just because their language is so distinct another Basque could pick them out immediately from any crowd. Once they made contact with another Basque, they would offer assistance or show them a way to a boarding house. These boarding houses were used by people trying to keep their culture alive. Parents would bring second generation children to the boarding houses to learn their culture.

The conference brought so much more information to life about these people, for those able to attend who hadn't heard of Basque prior to this seminar had a new cultural awakening, and those who are Basque or knew the history of the people just simply felt at home to see so many come out.

Echeverria says that she chose to go last and to deliver her speech on boarding houses simply so she could get people to experience a real Basque boarding house, and to see what she already knew, that it was beautiful.

Gamboa, the person responsible for the event, said if he could say anything to sum up this event it would be that "This has been a tremendous honor to host this conference, especially since Basque and Bakersfield are so wonderfully tied."



courtesy of blogs.csun.edu

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A new trend in automotive theft

By Oscar Lozoya
Staff Writer

Every day, thousands of students leave their cars unattended in campus parking lots hoping that when they return, their possessions are inside the car just as they left them. What many students do not realize is that they should not only be worried about what's inside their car, but what's underneath their car. Catalytic converter theft is a new trend in automotive larceny that has hit several students at CSUB.

Phillip Jornales is a senior at Cal State Bakersfield who has become a victim of this new epidemic of automotive theft. "I came outside and noticed some gaskets and bolts on the ground ... when I turned on my car it was real-

ly loud and really disturbing, I wasn't happy about the whole experience."

Jornales' converter was taken from his Nissan Pickup truck overnight while inside his apartment parking lot on October 14. After realizing his converter had been stolen, Jornales had a friend take him around town to find a replacement.

In California, it's illegal to drive without a catalytic converter. After finding a place that had the correct part, he then had to call a tow truck to deliver his automobile to the shop. The task was not only expensive, costing him over \$300, but also time consuming.

"I was supposed to study for a test that same day but instead had to look around

[Cont. on Page 5]

Prop 8 opposition wants their voice heard in Kern County

By Phillip Barnett
Editor in Chief

On California's ballot stands a proposition that has the most conservative and liberal of citizens of the state in heated debates about fundamental rights. Last Sunday, opponents of California's Proposition 8, a proposition hoping to amend California's constitution to eliminate the right for same sex couples to marry, met on the corner of 24th and Oak to protest the proposed bill.

"[Prop 8] is an important issue especially for gay and



Phillip Barnett/The Runner

Opponents of Prop 8 rallied on the corner of 24th and Oak.

lesbian citizens. I know that I was married back in June and it was a very special and emotional experience - and then to have people come along and say 'no, you can't have that, you're not worthy of that, you're not good enough for that,' it really

hurts," said Whitney Weddell, the chapter leader from Marriage for Equality USA.

If Proposition 8 passes, it will add a new constitutional amendment to the California Constitution that will say

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Phillip Barnett/Runner

Citizens speak out against Prop 8.

Prop 8 opposition

[Cont. from Page 1]

“only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California,” and it will be known in law as the California Marriage Protection Act, this according to the California Secretary of State’s proposed law text.

As of October 24th, Proposition 8 has been the most costly measure anywhere in the country with both sides of the proposition raising over \$60 million, with \$16 million coming over the last 16 days. Of the more than 471 contributors in Bakersfield from either side of the proposition, only 34 of those were opposing the ban on same-sex marriage.

“There is a lot of division in the state about this issue. A lot of folks would lead you to believe that Kern County is only conservative and it’s only people voting yes. We want to be out as often as we possibly can to make sure that people know that there are a lot of citizens here in Kern County voting no,” said Weddell about the political nature of Kern County.

In Kern County, the contributions for the opposition of the ban on gay marriage has been vastly outnumbered. As of October 24th, supporters of Proposition 8 have contributed over \$300,000 compared to just \$13,000 raised by those opposed to the ban.

Supporters of Prop 8 have argued that, unless this proposition is passed, gay marriage will be taught in schools, and campaign managers for the proposition have banked on San Francisco first grade class that went on an excursion to see their lesbian teacher get married.

“Superintendent Jack O’Connell, who is the state instructor of the school districts, actually came out in support of Proposition 8,” said Juan Cerda, a budget analyst and a CSUB alum. “[Gay marriage] will not be taught in schools, school districts have the discretion to teach whatever

they want to teach in school. There is nothing in the law in this proposition or anything that will have marriage taught in schools, that also includes religion as well.”

Also, those opposed to Prop 8 point out that there is nothing mentioned about schools or the school’s curriculum in the language of the proposition and that the trip by the first grade class was arranged by the student’s parents, not by their teacher.

The reason Prop 8 has become such a heated topic is because it has become an issue on civil rights. In March of 2000, California’s voters voted to pass Prop 22, a measure that only recognized marriages between a man and a woman eliminating the rights that were once guaranteed by the Supreme Court of California in Perez v. Sharp. In May of this year, Prop 22 was overturned by the California Supreme Court and was upheld by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

“This is an issue of civil rights. It’s important for California to be a state that doesn’t discriminate against anybody for any reason,” said Weddell who was a part of the first lesbian couple who received a marriage license in Kern County. “[The Supreme Court] stated that back in 1948 when they were talking about interracial couples and they reiterated it just in May when they said gay and lesbian couples are entitled to that same right - the fundamental right to marry who you love.”

Both Weddell and Cerda want people to get informed and go out and vote. “I think people need to go and vote in the booths and not to use violence,” said Cerda. “Lately there has been a lot of violence. We’ve had eggs thrown at us at these rallies and we’ve been called derogatory names and there’s no need for it. We need to make sure that this issue is decided in the voting booths and not with violence.”

Students must exercise constitutional rights

By Ellen Piris
News Editor
Editorial

November 4th most citizens over the age of 18 have the Constitutional right to participate in a historic election. For many students this may be the first, and most important, presidential election they ever participate in.

In California there are also two Propositions on the ballot that are attempting to take away rights of citizens. These issues are also important for students, and all people, to consider. “It is important to vote so our voice is heard,” said Robert Tinchier, ASi director of Natural Science and Mathematics.

It is well known that many people in this country were not always considered equal in terms of voting rights. In fact, originally the only citizens allowed to have their voices heard were white male property owners. African Americans received some voting rights

after the Civil War in 1860 with the 15th Amendment, but it was not until the 1960s that all restrictions were lifted. In 1869 Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton founded the National Women’s Suffrage Association. These women and their organization were arrested, went on hunger strikes and otherwise endangered their lives so all women would be allowed the right to voice their political opinions. In 1971 the 26th Amendment was ratified and lowered the voting age from 21 to 18 during the Vietnam War when many 18 year-old men were being drafted while not old enough to vote.

Stephen Muchinyi, ASi vice president of legislative affairs, commented on the long history of struggle for suffrage. “We don’t want their efforts to be in vain,” he said.

Propositions 4 and 8 seek to take rights away that citizens have already fought for and earned. Proposition

4 is attempting to take away women’s rights to privacy and control over decisions concerning their own bodies and Proposition 8 will take away citizens’ rights to equality under the law. If the government is permitted to take away the rights of one group of citizens, then who will stop them from taking away rights of all citizens?

In 2004 only 42 percent of citizens between 18 and 24 voted, according to the Census Bureau. More than half of this age group did not take advantage of the Constitutional right to express their political opinions, which so many people struggled to earn.

The long campaign of two controversial candidates, Barack Obama and John McCain will finally come to an end next week. The decision voters make on November 4th will be an important one that will affect the entire world for many years to come. Vote wisely.

CSUN grad student arrested in Iran

By Michelle Ramos
Staff writer

Esha Momeni, a California State University, Northridge graduate student, was arrested in Terhan by Iranian police. They arrested her for a minor traffic violation and she has been in custody since October 15 for unlawfully passing another vehicle while driving. But why then has the CSU Northridge grad student been put into an Iranian prison notorious for political prisoners?

“They went to her home and confiscated all her things,” said Melissa Wall, Esha Momeni’s thesis advisor, and journalist professor at California State University Northridge. “She was conducting video interviews of women involved in the Women’s movement in Iran,” said Wall. Taken was material related to her research on the Iranian Women’s movement “One million signatures” campaign.

“Momeni, who is a member of the California branch of Change for Equality, an Iranian women’s rights group, was taken to Evin prison, the Tehran facility known for holding political prisoners,” Amnesty International said.

“There is a campaign here in Los Angeles to free her. There is no word about what is happening to her or the conditions she is being held in,” said Wall. “She was very determined to work in this area after her-

self being a victim of domestic violence.”

In Washington, the State Department said it was aware of reports of Momeni’s arrest and was seeking more information.

According to the Associated Press, “Amnesty said dozens of other activists and supporters have been arrested in Iran in connection with their activities with the Change for Equality campaign, launched by Iranian women activists in September 2006.”

The campaign is seeking to collect a million signatures in support of changing laws that deny women in Iran equal rights in matters such as divorce and court testimonies.

Momeni’s arrest comes about a year after several Iranian-Americans accused of stirring up a revolution were released from Evin prison after spending months in detention. All four denied the accusations, according to the Associated Press.

CSUN University News said, “Official permission to hold public meetings has frequently been denied, and Campaign activists usually hold their workshops in the homes of sympathizers, some of whom have then received threatening phone calls apparently from security officials or been summoned by them for interrogation. At least one such workshop was forcibly broken up by police, who arrested those present, beating some. Two women,

Ronak Safarzadeh and Hana Abdi, remain detained in the city of Sanandaj, Kordestan province, while a third woman, Zeynab Beyezidi is imprisoned in Mahabad in connection with their activities on behalf of the Campaign for Equality.”

“We stand with all those in Iran who are working for universal human rights and justice in their countries,” deputy spokesman for the State Department, Robert Wood told reporters Wednesday.

This is not the only arrest of an American student. In June of this year Kamiar Alaei and his brother, Arash, internationally known AIDs physicians, were arrested by Iranian authorities. They are apparently being accused of plotting to topple the Iranian government.

Kamiar is enrolled in State University New York at Albany’s doctorate of public health program and had been expected back on campus for the fall semester.

“Dr. Kamiar Alaei should be in Albany right now, continuing his second year of doctoral studies at SUNY Albany School of Public Health,” says an announcement.

“Instead, he and his brother ... are being held without charge.”

Visit the following website for more information on how to petition the safe return of these students.

<http://www.amnesty.org/> or <http://for-eshablogspot.com/>

RUNNER ON THE STREET

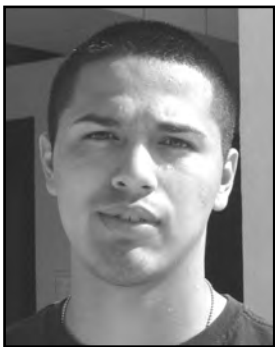
By Nicole Schorr, Staff Writer

This Week, The Runner asked, “What Are You Going To be For Halloween?”



Danvir Grewall,
Senior,
Theatre & Business

“I’m going to be
Pablo Picasso.”



Eddie Vargas,
Sophomore,
Business

“Not sure yet,
either Darth Vader
or Spartan.”



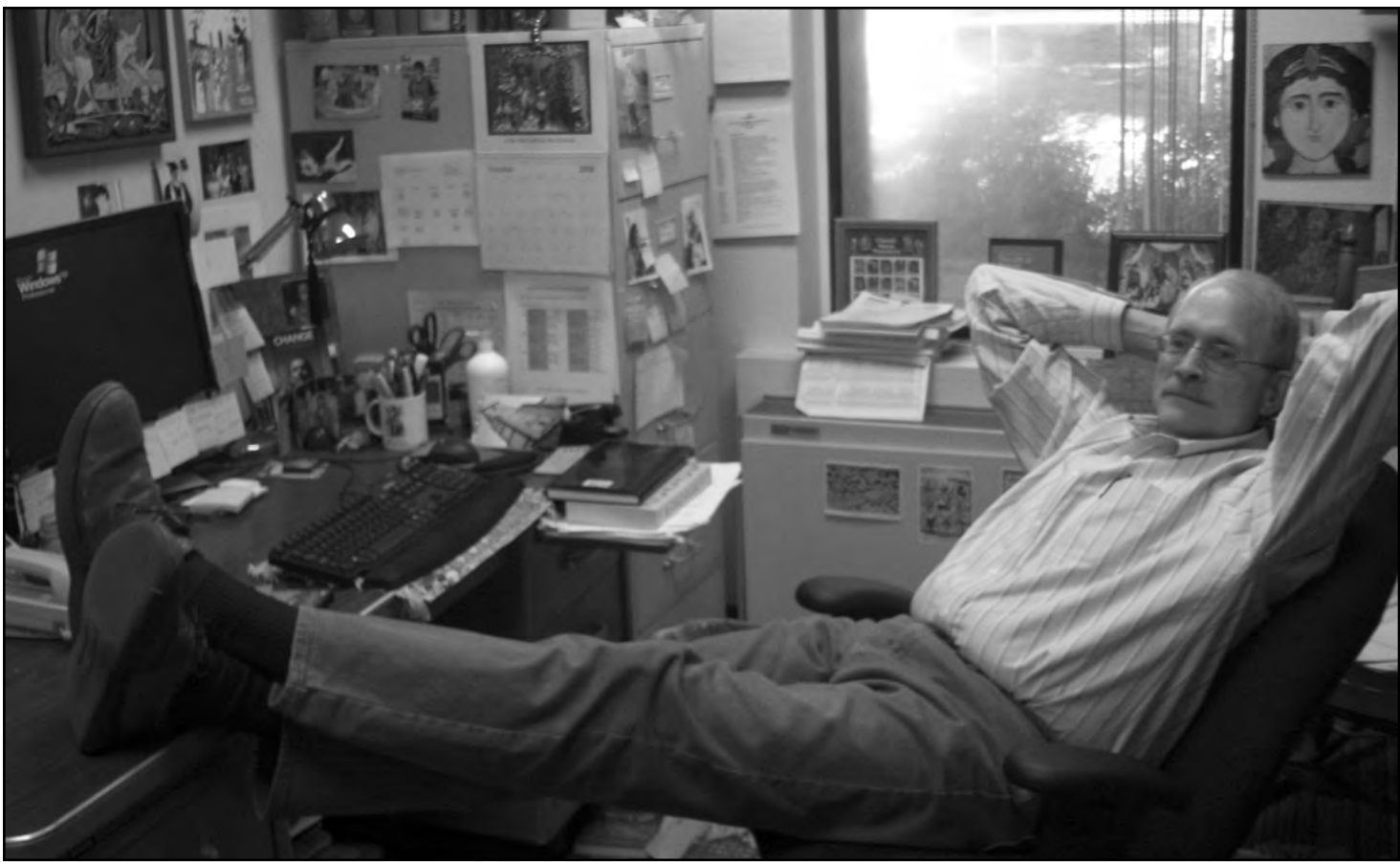
Maxwell Halland,
Senior, English

“A Penguin,
because I like
Penguins.”



Stephanie Lopez,
Junior, History

“Hannah
Montana.”



Emily Shapiro/The Runner

Religious and Philosophy professor Tim Vivian relaxing in his office.

Tim Vivian’s research receives faculty award

By Emily Shapiro
Features Editor

Professor Tim Vivian is a very eclectic man. His office is decorated with a variety of religious paintings. In one corner he has Muslim prayer beads draped over a book. On the wall he has a gigantic picture of Monty Python. A multicolored rug covers his floor. Vivian has been full-time with the Religious and Philosophy department for four years. Last year he won the faculty research award for Early Christian Monasticism, “It took place primarily in the third through seventh century. It is primarily a movement of people who thought that the Church was getting too rich and powerful. So they went into the desert in Egypt and Syria to be closer to God. They prayed and did good things,” said Vivian. He also recently published a book. His dedication to the department is unquestionable, but the funny thing is, he didn’t start out as a

Religious Studies professor. “My masters is in English. I wanted to teach English when I first came here in 1990, but that didn’t work out. So I eventually picked up courses in R.S. I became a full time lecturer and then went on tenure track,” said Vivian. Vivian’s focus is on Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In explaining the Religious studies program, according to a letter from the department chair Jacquelyn Kegley, “the focus is on the manifold ways that religion has shaped and continues to shape our world. The influence of religion can be seen in law and government, family and parenting practices, the arts and human creativity, economics and social structures. It pervades the way we think about life, death, morality, justice, truth and love. In the academic study of religion, we examine religion from outside the framework of any particular belief system.” As an RS teacher, Vivian occasionally runs into problems, “I am trying to expose

students to a wider understanding of religion, not just what they were raised with. There are problems, occasionally, from conservative Christians. On the whole I am very clear about telling the class we are studying religion, not trying to convert,” said Vivian. According to Vivian, the students who are really upset just don’t say anything. Vivian described his influences as “a confluence of events. Reading early Christian monasticism at Yale University and reading Thomas Merton, a Catholic monk writer, got me really interested in exploring Christian events,” said Vivian. As a researcher and writer, Vivian cannot decide which he enjoys more. According to Vivian, researching and writing are hard to separate, “I really enjoy translating and am really interested in language and literature. I found out early that I had a gift for it. I am a scholar, I write for a more general audience and for anybody who is interested,” said Vivian.

The idea that the United States was founded as a “Christian” nation is one that Vivian totally disagrees with. “The idea that the U.S. was founded as a Christian nation is a total fabrication. The founding fathers wanted people to be free,” said Vivian. When Vivian is not teaching classes, researching or writing he enjoys gardening, watching his teenage son play sports and reading fiction. “I am always reading fiction,” said Vivian. Vivian has a few bits of advice for prospective CSUB students, “Take it seriously. Be open to new ideas and learning. Enjoy being challenged,” said Vivian. Vivian has a BA in English from University of California, Santa Barbara, an MA in American Literature from California State Polytechnic University, and a Ph.D in New Testament and Patristics (Interdisciplinary Ph.D.: Classics, History, and Religious Studies), from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Spotlight on the NORML Club

By Danica Asbridge
Staff Writer

One of the most controversial topics in today’s society is marijuana and marijuana laws. NORML is a club on campus that deals with this very important subject. NORML stands for the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. This is an organization that has branches all over the country including the Bakersfield branch and one at CSUB. The CSUB branch has been inactive for a while, but has a very enthusiastic president who is in the process of looking for members. Jess Smith, 21, took over the club as president last Spring. “I’m really excited about the club and I hope to get a lot of things going soon,” said Smith. NORML has several goals that its members hope to achieve. According to its official website, www.norml.org, “NORML’s mission is to move public opinion sufficiently to achieve the repeal of marijuana prohibition so that the responsible use of cannabis by adults is no longer subject to penalty.” Smith believes that there are many reasons why laws that restrict marijuana usage should be reformed. “I believe that it should be legal for everybody ... it’s safe compared to other medications, it’s not physically addictive and it can be used for many other things,” she said. Having a chapter at CSUB gives interested students an opportunity to get together with others who want to learn and help bring change. Also, anyone who does not know anything about marijuana laws can join just to become informed. Smith also hopes an indi-

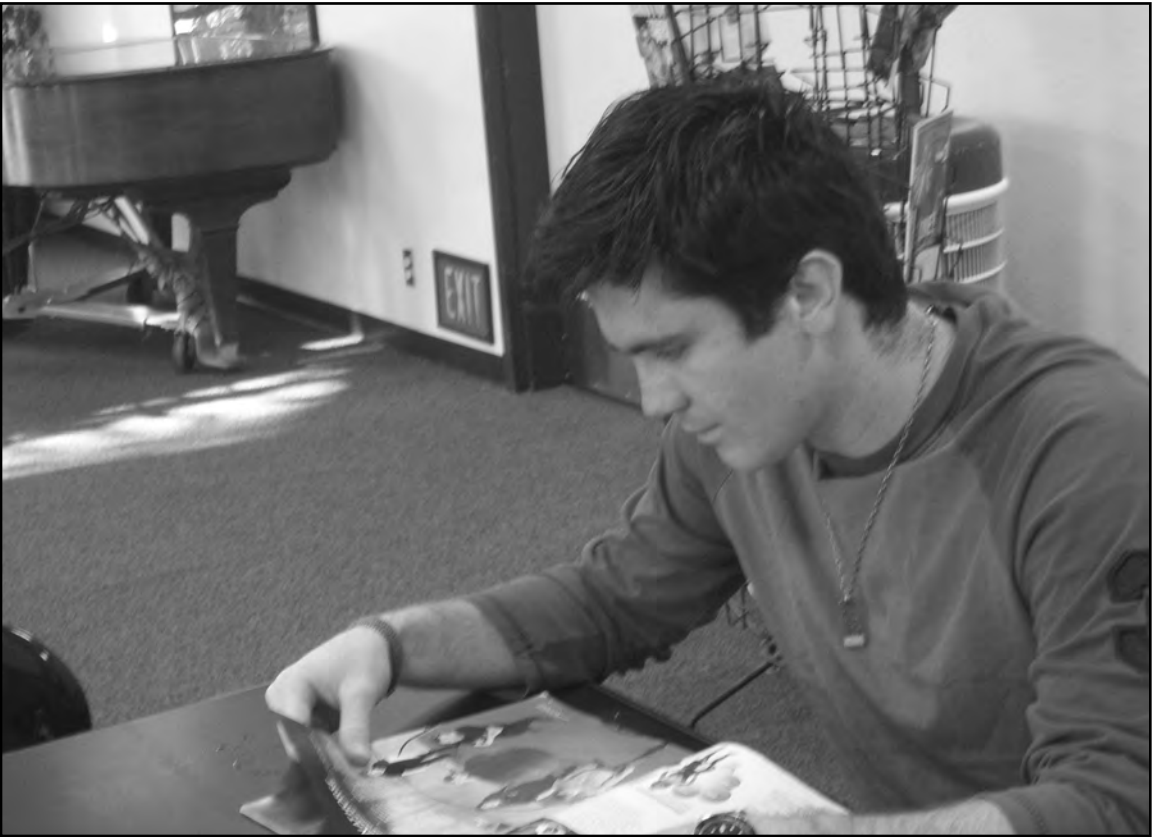
rect outcome will be breaking stereotypes. “A lot of people have preconceptions about people that use marijuana and they have prejudice against people who are in the club. And they all have bad attitudes about it; I hope that can change,” she said. NORML is more than a place for conversation and debate. It’s still a club at CSUB and Smith hopes to have many fun events and community service activities. “I want to start up a movie night where we show fun and interesting films ... I also hope to be more involved with Bakersfield NORML, which has many events,” she said. Also on her list of plans is for the club to participate in the Global Marijuana March, which is in May, and to send NORML to “Peace Corner,” the corner of California and Stockdale, every Friday night. “Peace corner has people from the community debating different issues, and I would really like to join them,” said Smith. Once the club is up and running, which should be in the next couple weeks, members can look forward to many benefits of belonging to the club. NORML offers a place for social interaction where people can talk and debate. It also gets students involved in politics and provides a place for learning. Anyone who is interested in joining the NORML club has an opportunity starting immediately. Jess Smith is looking for members and people wanting to be officers. She can be contacted through the clubs website, which is their Myspace page, www.myspace.com/normlatcsub.

Around the World with Leandro

By Emily Shapiro
Features Editor

Last week Kengo Tanaka shared a bit of his country with us. This week we travel east from Japan to the continent of South America. Leandro “Leo” Simões is from Piracicaba, Brazil. Piracicaba is in the state of Sao Paulo. Simões speaks three languages, Spanish, Portuguese and English. He is studying Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. Simões came to California State University, Bakersfield in a very roundabout way, “I wanted to get my degree in a different country other than Brazil. My first option was to learn English at the Intensive English Language Center. Then I decided to transfer, and to take classes for my major,” said Simões. One thing that Simões rates as an attribute to CSUB is the teaching levels, “CSUB is more challenging for me as far as the subjects. The classes here are harder, and here I have more freedom to express myself. However, in structure, I prefer my university in Brazil. It is a private university and is more

technological,” said Simões. According to Simões the one thing that surprised him about CSUB is the finances, “CSUB is expensive for a state university,” said Simões. Like Tanaka and Madsen, Simões finds the life and culture of America very different, but also the same from their respective countries, “Both America and Brazil are western countries and Christian countries. Our two countries are considered more liberal,” said Simões. The differences between the two countries are numerous, “I think the people in Brazil in general are different. There are two kinds of people. The demographics are different. Brazilians are warmer and care more for people. In Brazil it is people first, then tasks. It is a slow



Emily Shapiro/Features Editor

Leandro “Leo” Simões studying in the Student Union.

paced life,” said Simões. According to Simões, Brazilians enjoy the moments, not by earning money, but by having fun, “In the United States it is the opposite,” said Simoes. As an outsider looking in, Simões

sees a few improvements for his adopted school, “Structure wise, I think all classrooms and the classes should have the same environment. For example, some classrooms have chairs that are all colorful and very ugly, while other classes have

Besides attending classes and making the most of his stay, Simões is looking forward to “enjoying every single moment and not regretting anything. I want to enjoy my stay,” said Simões.

Hillary's top 10 scariest movies

1. Halloween (1979)

“Halloween” (1978) takes place on Halloween night in the small town of Haddonfield, Illinois. Michael Myers is a six-year-old boy who stabs his older sister to death and is found by his parents holding his weapon - a bloody kitchen knife. Michael is sent and locked away in an isolated mental institution under the watch of Dr. Sam Loomis. Escaping the institution 15 years later, Michael heads back to Haddonfield on October 30th to kill again. This time he stalks his younger sister, Laurie Stode, played by a young Jamie Lee Curtis. Dr. Loomis and the town’s sheriff hunt the evil Michael down to stop him from taking any more lives. This movie is a cult classic and the creepy music will keep you spooked, while anticipating what will happen next.

9. Sleepy Hollow (1999)

“Sleep Hollow” (1999) is based on the story of “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.” The movie dates back to the late 1700s and captures its audience with extraordinary costumes and special effects. Johnny Depp plays leading man, Ichabod Crane, a constable from New York who is sent to the town of Sleepy Hollow to investigate and solve unsolved murders - the victim’s bodies were all decapitated. This news has stirred the villagers of Sleepy Hollow to believe that a ghost of a headless horseman is lurking in the woods. Crane does not believe in the ghost and continues to investigate these crimes logically, until he finally sees the headless horseman.

10. HIDE AND SEEK (2005)

“Hide and Seek” (2005) is not a typical scary movie, but rather leaves its audience suspicious and guessing until the very end. The movie stars Dakota Fanning who plays a young girl named Emily Callaway who enjoys playing a game of hide and seek with her imaginary friend, Charlie. This game ends up not being as innocent as the childhood game that everyone remembers. Mysterious and dangerous events occur in their house, while Emily becomes possessed and acquires bad habits. Nobody knows who Charlie is. Emily’s father, David Callaway, played by Robert De Niro, wonders how his daughter can be possessed by an imaginary friend, which leads him to question if Charlie is actually a human being. One disturbing scene is when Emily blames her violent actions, such as writing mean messages on the bathroom walls with a dead animal’s blood, on her friend Charlie.

By Hillary Haenes, Staff Writer

2. Scream (1996)

“Scream” (1996) is set in a quaint California town that was disturbed by a horrific tragedy. Two years ago, Sydney Prescott’s mother was raped and murdered and now two of her high school classmates are found murdered. Sydney thinks the two killings are related to her mother’s murder and soon discovers that she is the killer’s next target. Sydney’s boyfriend, Billy is thought to be the killer, but is later found innocent. Sydney is determined to find out who has killed her mother and those close to her. This movie was popularized by the killer’s ghost face costume that many teenage boys have since worn as a costume for Halloween. You’ll find this movie starring famous actors like Drew Barrymore, Courtney Cox and Matthew Lillard.

4. Saw (2004)

“Saw” (2004) is a twisted plot with multiple victims who are coerced to take their own lives. The Jigsaw Killer never actually kills, but plays a game with his victims so that they either take their own lives or kill others to save themselves. There are pieces to solving each puzzle and horrid obstacles the victims must overcome to live. The most important and terrifying scene is in the beginning of the movie. There are two people in a dark bathroom who are chained by their ankles to pipes. One is instructed to kill the other or his family will die. The only way to break free is to use a saw to cut their chains, which is impossible, so they are forced to saw off their foot. “Saw” is graphic and disturbing, but makes for an unusual plot.

6. The Strangers (2008)

“The Strangers” (2008) is supposedly based on a true story. Returning from a wedding reception, a couple is spending the night at a vacation cabin in a remote neighborhood and receives a knock on their door in the middle of the night. The night is spent hiding and running from three masked intruders. The couple, played by Scott Speedman and Liv Tyler, go to great strengths to stay alive and see daylight. Some movie reviews thought this movie lagged on too long, but it creates a nervousness that makes the audience want to finish the movie to find out the outcome. It is definitely scary, but not like your typical blood and gore horror flick where everyone dies.

5. The Texas Chainsaw Massacre (2003)

The newer version of “The Texas Chainsaw Massacre” (2003) is better than the original, which was cheesy. This newer movie is more realistic and has better acting such as actress, Jessica Biel.

The plot is about a group of young adults driving through an isolated town in Texas when they come across a girl hitchhiker. They decide to be helpful and give her a ride.

The girl ends up committing suicide in their van. The group is shaken up and chooses to contact the police to report the girl’s death.

They find a secluded house that is occupied by a crazy inbred family. The group is trapped and spends the rest of the movie running away from the chainsaw killer, Leatherface, to save their lives.

8. Prom Night (2008)

“Prom Night” (2008) is as eerie as its original version. Three years earlier, Donna Keppel came home and witnessed the death of her family.

The killer, Richard Fenton, was a teacher at Donna’s high school who became obsessed with her and killed her family to get closer to Donna.

It is the night of Donna’s senior prom and nobody knows Fenton escaped prison a few days before. Donna attends the dance with her boyfriend and friends.

Fenton has checked into the hotel where the prom is being held and is purposely staying a few rooms down from Donna.

The killer will go to extremes to finally be alone with Donna, no matter if that means taking more lives of those closest to her.



Photo illustration by Juan Torres/Photo Editor

7. When a Stranger Calls (1979)

The original version of “When a Stranger Calls” (1979) is scarier than the newer version because the creepy actor’s famous line, “Have you checked the children?” has haunted many young female babysitters around the country, myself included. Once after watching the movie, my mom called the house where I was babysitting and recited the famous line, which is startling to teenage girls. The babysitter, Jill Johnson is watching a doctor’s two children who are upstairs in bed. Later on in the evening, Jill receives several phone calls from a man who breathes into the phone and repeatedly asks her if she has checked the children. Jill becomes scared and calls the police who trace the caller and discover the calls are being made from inside the house. The cops arrive and discover the children have been dead for several hours. They arrest the man upstairs who is covered in the children’s blood. Several years later, the man escapes a mental hospital and continues to search for Jill who now has a family and children of her own.

3. The Sixth Sense (1999)

“The Sixth Sense” (1999) is about a child psychologist, Malcom Crowe, who is unpleasantly visited by an ex-patient named Vincent who shoots Crowe then proceeds to kill himself. A few months after this encounter, Crowe, played by Bruce Willis, is hired to help a disturbed little boy named Cole who has some of the same problems Vincent had. Cole sees dead people that do not know they are dead. Crowe spends a lot of time with Cole, even though his wife does not think he should. At first, Crowe doubts what Cole sees, but soon comes to believe Cole does indeed see dead people. This movie is suspenseful and has an ending that will leave you speechless.



By Jena Lopez
Staff Writer

Let’s admit it, Bakersfield needs more fun.

Teenagers and young adults are always complaining that there’s nothing to do and most of the time, they’re right. Usually, if you want to have any fun, you have to go out of town or desperately find something to do, except around the time of Halloween.

There are so many things going on in the month of October, you find yourself overwhelmed by thinking that you have to do everything as soon as possible.

This year there are lists of events you can do, such as: The Chamber, Six Flags Magic Mountain or simply going to the Fox Theatre for a day filled with horror movies. These are just some of the events going on in

Bakersfield for people of any age.

Everyone likes to be scared once in a while, right?

October is the perfect month, with all the spooky decorations and costumes they have out, one would like to get involved right away. This year at Sam Lynn Ball Park, the 5th annual Chamber haunt is up and scarier than ever. If you’ve never been, then I highly recommend you go. Last year’s name was ‘The Chamber of Chills’ and now this year it is ‘The Chamber’, so don’t let it confuse you, it’s still the same amazing haunt. There are all sorts of scary and crazy people lurking around the corner, just waiting to jump out at you.

Before any of that happens, you get scared when you first walk up to buy your ticket.

“My haunted attraction starts before you ever go to my door,” expressed Dave Enloe, The Chamber’s proud owner. There are men with

heavy, artistic make-up, just waiting to receive your sense of fear.

The Chamber has been on the Travel Channel, so you know it’s a great haunt and it grabs the attention of many people around Bakersfield and around the state. Enloe takes pride into his work of art. His time is well spent on The Chamber and he is always thinking of new fresh ideas. This is what he lives for.

Tickets for The Chamber are only \$10 and are definitely worth it. It’s almost over so make sure you don’t miss out!

Visit chamberhaunt.com or myspace.com/chamberhaunt.

Of course everyone loves theme parks, and like every year, Six Flags Magic Mountain makes October “Spooktacular.” This event is sponsored by Snickers. During the month of October, you go to Six Flags Magic Mountain and ride the rides in the dark with creepy costumes every-

where. Many people seem to enjoy this event because you get two in one. You get the feeling of Halloween while enjoying a spooky theme park. There are street entertainers as well as live shows.

Tickets are on sale now but this seasonal event ends October 31st.

With many other activities going on, the most casual and least expensive would be at the Majestic Fox Theatre, Friday October 31st. All day long, The Fox Theatre will be playing a series of

movies.

At 8 a.m., “Monster House” will be playing for all the young ones. Then around 5 p.m., there will be a showing of “Cloverfield” and “Poltergeist.” These are more for the adult viewers, to really become scared.

At midnight, there will be a showing of “The Rocky Horror Picture Show,” though this event has been stated to be sold out. Both way, there are many showings going on and it will give you something to do.



Hopefully with all of these events posted, you’ll find yourself attending some of them. Have a safe and happy Halloween.



RACE MATTERS
A discussion of racial issues
and history in America

Thursday, Oct 30th
at 7:30p.m.
in the MPR

Free pizza, wings
and soda provided

Giving it up to save a life

By Najiyah Baith
Staff writer

The Houchin Blood drive was an awesome experience. Being a virgin to the blood giving process I knew I couldn't give a well-rounded informative article without giving blood.

To give blood, you must be 17 years or older, weigh at least 110 pounds and feel healthy with no cold or flu symptoms. If you're on medication, you still may be able to give blood by first consulting a nurse.

The entire process of giving blood takes 30 to 45 minutes. The process of giving blood starts with a screening, which involved giving some of your personal information and taking a 40 question survey. The survey involved answering questions like "have you been out of the US in the past 3 years?" and "When was the last time you ate?" etc. Second, someone takes you to this small room on one of the buses to verify your survey and check your blood, by pricking your finger. If the nurses find that you are OK to give blood then you are immediately escorted to one of the beds. You roll up your sleeve, feel only a brief pinch, relax and wait 7-10 minutes. During the wait while giving blood, it was terrifying, at first. Some people worry about it being safe but



Najiyah donating blood for the first time.

Joesh White/The Runner

thanks to Lori Lopez and Erika Rios (nurses for Houchin Blood Bank) I was informed that, "the U.S. Surgeon General and all medical authorities agree that it is not possible to catch any disease by giving blood. All materials and equipment are sterile and used only once," which calmed that fear immediately. It was a great environment. Lopez and Rios cheered me, and one of the other staff members at CSUB, on like it was a "pep

rally." They let me know how beneficial it is to give blood and how many lives have been saved from donors like myself. If you are like myself and are terrified of needles, I can confirm that as long as you know the end result is saving lives and the safe practices that come along with the process than it does take away the fear and discomfort of the blood giving experience. When I was done giving blood I was escorted back to the registra-

tion room, where I was given juice, cheese, crackers, a CSUB game day t-shirt, a gift card to California Pizza Kitchen for a free appetizer, a gift card for a free pizza at Rusty's and a hot dog with chips and a drink. The freebies were great incentives, but the best incentive was that, I walked away that day knowing that I just saved someone's life. There's no greater gift than that.

After giving blood, I wanted to

know more about donating blood and the facts of it. I remembered that while giving blood, Lopez told me about the Houchin Blood Bank website (www.hcbb.com). When I went on the site I found out that, "Even though 60 percent of the population is eligible to donate blood, less than 3 percent currently donate each year. Every day there is a crisis in someone's life, and because blood does not have an indefinite shelf life, supplies must be replenished regularly. This is why people need to donate every 56 days."

I also found out that, by my donation of blood, I helped children and adults alike and possibly saved a lives of as many as 2-3 people with diseases like leukemia, cancer, anemia, severe burns, hemophilia and those undergoing surgery for illness or injury. Every 3 seconds someone needs a blood transfusion. Life can change in an instant. You or someone you know and love may one day need blood or blood products. The reality is that one day you could save your own life!

If you are looking to save a life by donating blood Houchin Blood Bank is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. or you can contact Houchin Blood Bank at (661) 323-4222

Expensive car part stolen from student's auto

[Cont. from Page 1]

town for a new converter," Jorales said.

Jorales got out cheaper than others who have gone through this same experience. A consumer can easily pay up to \$1,500 for parts and labor when replacing a stolen catalytic converter. All a thief needs is something as simple as a socket wrench and a little time. Within minutes, or even seconds, a bandit can take a catalytic converter faster than it takes someone to run outside to try and stop the thief.

Jorales has not been the only CSUB Roadrunner affected by this epidemic. According to the CSUB campus police, there was a Toyota Pickup vandalized on lot D about a month ago. The truck belonged to a staff member on campus. After the incident, campus law enforcement sent an information bulletin about Toyota trucks and how easily the catalytic converters can be stolen.

A catalytic converter helps to remove pollutants from motor vehicle exhaust.

An employee at a major automotive company who declined to be identified said, "They are looking for these catalyst converters because they are an easy target especial-



Philip Jorales disappointed to find out his catalytic converter was stolen

Oscar Lozoya/The Runner

ly with trucks and SUVs, with lower cars, they really can't do much without a jack. There are metals in the converters like platinum, copper and brass that can be melted and sold for cash."

The reward can be greater, less messy and less risky than breaking a window to steal a car stereo or take an item left inside an automobile such as a cell phone or iPod. Thieves can easily get \$20- \$200 for a converter when sold to a scrap metal dealers. According to purchasing.com, the price for

an ounce of platinum can hit as high as \$1,750. For a thief, a campus parking lot can be looked at as a smorgasbord.

The employee that wished to keep his identity hidden said he gets at least one customer a week asking about catalytic converter replacement due to theft.

"And I work at a slow store," he continued.

Similar stories arose after calling muffler repair shops around town.

Francisco Mendoza, a worker at El Gato Muffler Shop located on Union Avenue,

says, "We get at least three to four people a week that need a catalytic converter replacement due to theft. We usually weld the bolts on the new converter to try and prevent it from happening again."

Even after welding the bolts, converter theft is still possible but does take a thief more time to extract the part. Mechanics also suggest shearing the bolt heads off all together or adjusting your car alarm's sensitivity.

There are aftermarket products that specifically protect your catalytic converter and exhaust system such as CatCuff. The product contains stainless steal cables that wrap around your system and could be purchased at select Meineke stores.

According to mechanics, one of the easiest ways to prevent theft can be to park your car in a well-lit area at night or, if possible, inside a garage.

Chief Claudia Neal of CSUB police says, "One of the best thing people can do is be alert, keep an eye out. If you see something suspicious don't be afraid to report it. It's better to report it and let us find out it's nothing than to let it go and it end up being something."

CSUB to install solar panels in a parking lot

[Cont. From page 1]

5,900 cars from the road. That's a lot of carbon dioxide. Also, it is comparable to planting 20,000 plus trees," added Bhatt.

This agreement may seem cutting edge however; it comes more than five years after CSU Northridge signed their independent agreement with the university's Physical Plant Management, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Southern California Gas Company and Shell Solar Industries. In February of 2003, CSUN set up what was one of the largest solar electric installations at a public university in California. It was called the Photovoltaic Project and cost \$1.8 million. They installed 3,024 Shell solar modules, which double as shading in the student parking. The solar power was projected to save \$50,000 annually in energy cost.

Fresno State also has solar panels atop 10 parking canopies and 700 spaces on their campus, which began in November 2007. Chevron partnered with Fresno State to pro-



Solar Panels at CSU Northridge proving shade and collecting solar power

Celia Kelly/The Runner

vide the structures. As a part of their project they added 150 new parking spaces, repaving, landscaping and security cameras. They also have a 125-space faculty lot that is accessed through a higher parking fee than

the rest of the campus. Fresno and Northridge's parking canopies differ in design, which is expected as technology changes and years pass. "A lot of the technical aspect is like Fresno's campus ... a very

clean design and installation, that is what we hope to have here," said Bhatt.

Even though the solar power project was just announced, President Horace Mitchell began the initiative a year ago. He signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, along with other presidents across the nation, to pursue climate neutrality at CSUB. This commits our campus to not only the solar power project but also energy efficient appliances, all new campus construction is built to green standards and adopts at least three waste reduction measures.

"This is an ongoing process as a part of the construction activity. This commitment happens on a regular basis as a part of the early signatory of the president's pledge. That was the first step to make sure we do our best to support the process of going green," said Bhatt

For any additional information or questions, please contact Ashok Bhatt at (661) 654-6253.

Tigers fall to Runners in four

By Lavinia Sfetcu
Staff Writer

"We had begun feeling tense in the beginning," Said CSUB Head Coach John

was unable to take away the Runners' lead.

"I think the difference was

The Icardo Center at Cal State Bakersfield was roaring with fans when the CSUB volleyball team came out on the court during the Wednesday night game against University of the Pacific. Just coming off a win against the Bucknell Bison, the fans had high hopes for their fellow Lady 'Runners.

The University of the Pacific rallied out a 25-13 win in the first set but CSUB responded with amazing final scores 25-22, 25-21, 25-18 in the last three sets.

The match included kills from senior outside hitter Sarah Norman, senior middle blocker R o s e m a r y Stribling and freshman outside hitter

Lindy Degeare. Defense was also played well by Mystie McNaughton who led the 'Runners with a total of 26 digs.

Former Bakersfield High School player, Mallori Gibson, pitched in 11 kills for University of the Pacific.

In the first set, the Runners trailed most of the time and didn't seem to be feeling comfortable on the court.

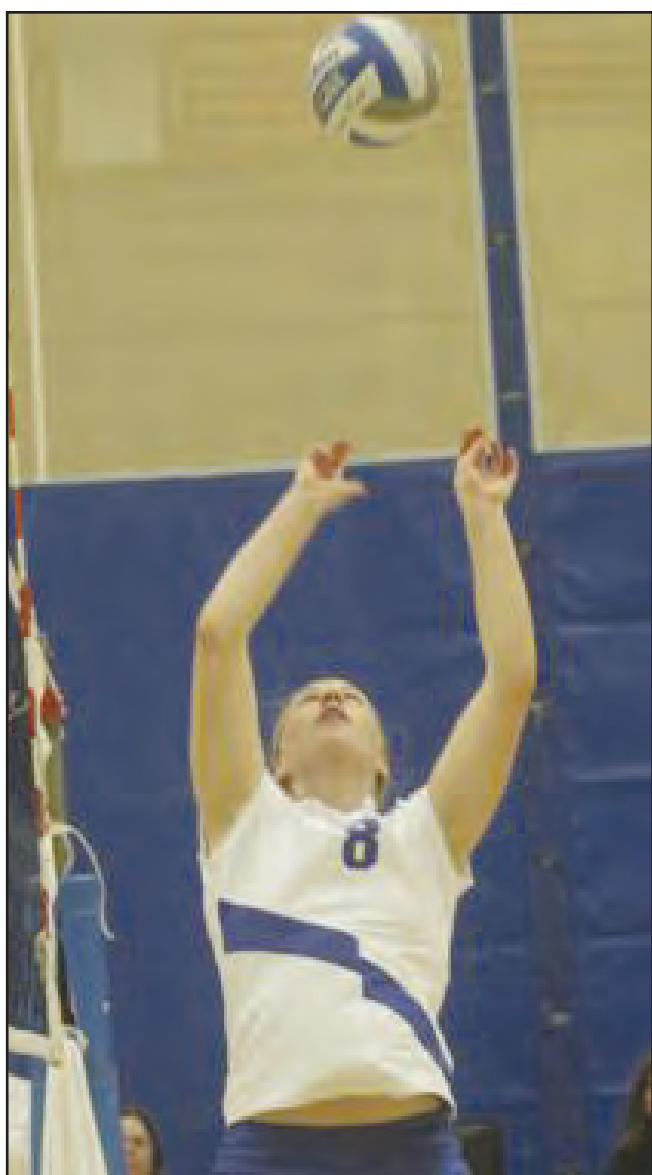


Photo courtesy of sports information
Barbie Thistle

Price. "I pulled out the starters. Not because I was mad at them, but because they needed time to relax."

Price's decision seemed to have worked for the Runners and allowed CSUB to develop a lead in the second set.

In the third set, the CSUB players were fired up and led the score board most of the set.

University of the Pacific

our serving," said Price on the CSUB main athletics page. "After that first set, we got better pace and better movement on our serves and I think that got them out of system a bit more. Then our defense improved and M y s t i e (Mcnaughton) ran down a lot of balls."

The Runners were able to keep their momentum and CSUB finally finished off the match in the fourth set leaving their record at 12-10 overall.

CSUB's next games will take place in Seattle at fellow N C A A

Division I independent Seattle University. They will also be playing the University of Portland Monday before returning home to take on the undefeated Fresno Pacific University Wednesday night in the Icardo Center.

For more information on your fellow Runner athletes, visit www.gorunners.com.

Tigers spoil senior day

By Bryson Paul
Staff Writer

There is nothing like losing your last home game when you're a senior player of a team. It can possibly be the last time you put on a uniform and play the sport you have dedicated your life to, you always want to end your career with a win. However, not every player is given a fairy tale ending, CSUB's women's soccer team hosted a "Senior Day" game Sunday against the University of Pacific Tigers, where they not only suffered a overtime defeat, but also cut their recently accomplished five game winning streak.

The Lady Runners confrontation with Pacific went down to the wire as the Runners' adversaries scored the final goal in a nail biting overtime finish of 2-1 Pacific. The Lady Runners fended the Tigers off with great defense and fancyfoot work the entire first half and kept the score 1-0 at the half. During the second half, the Tigers continuously applied fast and aggressive offense that breached the Runners' defense and a tying completion forcing an overtime dual with an ending 1-1 score of the second half. Tigers' Kaylee Ay Choy made the deciding goal for the Tigers in overtime as she skillfully outsmarted the Runners goal keeper, giving the Tigers a record of 9-7-1 and giving the Runners a record of 5-12-1.

Before the game, CSUB commended their senior play-



Photo courtesy of sports information
Seniors Jackie Torvestad, Michelle Martinez and Alexa Vickroy before Sunday's contest against Pacific.

ers Alex Vickory, Jackie Torvestad and Michelle Martinez. All three played as if it were their last, leaving their heart on the field with incredible defense and a tone setting offense by Martinez, who scored the first goal of the game. Other Runners accomplished a few highlight plays: freshman Kassi Massey fired a two shot team-high while goal keeper Marina Constantinou made a crucial save deflection in the late second half.

Commenting on the game, Head Coach Nicole Van Dyke notes that the game was competitive all the way to the end. "We played well, we started

out strong in the beginning, but in the second half we played their game, which is that long drive game and we let someone else decide the outcome of the game."

The Runners still have an opportunity to finish the season with a win this Friday. The next rumble with Seattle on Halloween marks the final paragraph of the Lady Runners 2008 season. Van Dyke says they are looking to end the season on a payback win, "We are looking to get a little bit of revenge from last time and finish out the season with a win." You can't win them all but there is always next time.

News

CSUB is awarded \$5.2 million in grants

By Perla Madrid
Staff Writer

California State University, Bakersfield has been awarded \$5.2 million in grants. The Office of Grants, Research and Sponsored Programs (GRASP), received notification of the grants recently last month.

\$4.9 million of the sum was awarded to CSUB's School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics from the United States Department of Education. The purpose of the grant is to improve transfer rates among students attending community colleges to California State Universities by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), resulting in increased enrollment.

According to GRASP's Bob Horton, the grant will also be used in an attempt to prioritize the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, which was passed by Congress to supply money to Hispanic Serving

Institutions (HSIs), like CSUB.

Cal State Bakersfield will collaborate with Bakersfield College, to insure Hispanic Student success in the areas of STEM, under the guidance of Dr. Julio Blanco, dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. The grant will be funded over the next two years.

The \$300,000 grant, from the Washington D.C based, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, was awarded to CSUB Biology professor, Brandon Pratt. Pratt, received the grant after writing a proposal to follow up on some base work. The grant, which is to be funded over the next three years, will support Pratt's ecological research efforts concerning post-fire vegetation recovery in southern California and South Africa.

Pratt says his research involves looking at how Southern California native vegetation responds to fire in an increased fire frequency. Since South Africa and

southern California have such similar climate regions, they find themselves in a similar situation of expected fires and droughts. Pratt will conduct parallel studies, in collaboration with South African scientists and says these areas of research are a major concern for those in conservation circles, "You hear a lot about ... losing endangered species, it's all true but what you don't hear is about regions with Mediterranean climates, like that of California ... these areas have incredible biodiversity, and are more threatened than rainforests," said Pratt.

According to Pratt these areas harbor a large percent of all known species on the planet, and he does not want to see these places degraded. The grant will moreover support the employments of a post-doctoral research scholar, a masters student, a student in South Africa, and no less than six undergraduate students, all of whom will assist Pratt in his research efforts.

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For more information, contact Victoria Champion at (661) 654-6618 or vcampion@csub.edu

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