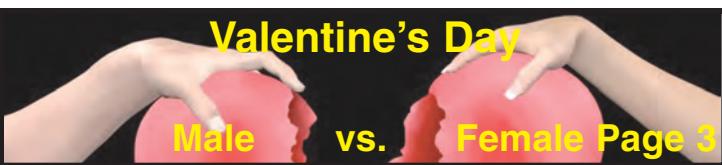




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The Fighter
Delivers a knockout punch. Page 6

The Runner

California State University, Bakersfield

Vol. 36, No. 13

www.csub.edu/runner

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Stephanie Mahinan/The Runner

GREAT EXPECTATIONS: CSUB softball looks to accomplish big things in 2011 season. Story on Page 10

Lisa Project immerses visitors in the world of abused children

By Eloy Vieyra
Staff Writer

There are 22,000 reports and 15,000 confirmed cases of child abuse in Kern County alone. That's nearly two children every hour. If these statistics surprise you, then listening to these children's stories will change your life.

The Lisa Project exhibit tells these stories.

Child abuse is a problem in every community. Most believe that this abuse only happens in poverty stricken areas, but that couldn't be further from the truth.

Kids everywhere are being abused in one form or another. The abuse doesn't necessarily come from physical harm, but also mental abuse. Some parents neglect their children or scold them to the point where children feel the need to always try and not make



Mark Nessia/The Runner

The Lisa Project is a multi-sensory exhibit that takes visitors into the world of an abused child.

their parent or parents mad, even though they have done nothing wrong.

These types of abuse can lead children to believe that when they have children, they too should treat their kids in this manner. Community awareness of this abuse is vital for abused children to have the opportunity to live a normal life.

The Lisa Project is sponsored by Aspiranet and collaborative partners in Kern County, including the Kern County Department of Human Services, Kern County Network for Children, First 5 of Kern and the Bakersfield Police Department.

The Lisa Project is located behind the Heart Hospital on 3001 Sillect Ave. off of Buck Owens Boulevard.

This exhibit is free and open to the public. The hours of operation are Thursday and Friday 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.,

Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Aspiranet believes that if others listen to these stories and recognize the problems in our communities, we can raise awareness and help put an end to child abuse everywhere.

The Lisa Project is a unique multi-sensory exhibit experience allowing the people to hear, see and experience the reality of the world of child abuse.

Upon entering the exhibit, the staff gives every visitor an iPod so that they can hear a narrator speak as they make their way through the exhibit. The first room is an introduction and explains what you are about to hear. When the voice on the iPod stops, there is a chime that tells you to enter the next room. Each room has a timed story about an abused child.

[See PROJECT, Page 4]

Homecoming to take on Black-and-White theme

By Baleria Aguirre
Staff Writer

CSUB homecoming, for those of you who didn't know, is just around the corner. It will be Saturday, Feb. 19, at the Marriot on 801 Truxtun Ave. from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

But what exactly is the CSUB homecoming? Homecoming is a formal-attire school dance where you can have a great time with your date or friends and dance to the music of DJ Mike. There will be appetizers, casino games and the crowning of homecoming king and queen.

The queen nominees are Alyssa Wiley, Brizette Cruz, Linda Lara, Megan Wade and Vanessa Rojas. King nominees are Ben Russell,

Tyree Boyd-Pates and Vanni Banducci.

This year's theme is Black and White Hollywood Soiree. Black and white attire is optional but not required.

The dance is absolutely free for all CSUB students with a CSUB ID and allows each to take one guest. Tickets for students are available at the ASI Office and are now being distributed; guest tickets are sold at the cashier for \$15 with cash or check.

Guests must be 18 years of age or older, be accompanied by a CSUB student and have a valid government

ID to enter the dance. No entrance after midnight will be permitted. Also, no outside food or beverages allowed.

Attendees will not be allowed to exit and re-enter the venue.

Andrea Gonzalez, a junior, said she recommends everyone to go because she had a great time with her friends and will be attending this year as well. Claudio Felix, a business major, said he would attend this year's homecoming, since he couldn't go last year. He also mentioned he is looking forward to it because he heard from his friends that they had a great time.

So if you have nothing else to do, plan to attend the CSUB homecoming dance with colleagues.

If you have any questions, you can call the ASI for more information at 654-2418.

people to view comments about a school and see what really goes on behind the scenes that no brochure or college recruit can compare to.

Everybody knows that there are certain things wrong with every campus. We constantly hear stories about how bad the food on campus is or maybe a professor is fed up with the way the department chair runs the program. This site allows those voices to be heard.

Now there is a new way to rate a college.

Students across America have looked at rate-my-professor websites that give an insight on professors. Now there is a site that rates entire colleges.

"After reading some of the posts online, I found it funny how the stories were all different. It reminded me of when you buy an app on your phone and the first thing you do is read the reviews before you buy it," said Marc Johns, a CSUB senior.

The stories have a wide

[See WEBSITE, Page 4]

CSUB celebrates Black History Month

By
Zachary Gonzalez
Staff Writer

February marks Black History Month – a national recognition of black history in the United States. On campus, scheduled events will be held to honor, celebrate, and enlighten students about the African-American journey.

Events kicked off Feb. 1 in the Multi-Purpose Room with an evening of cultural readings and poetry by African dance artist Ayo Sharpe-Mouzon.

The events to follow will include a tribute performance of influential African-American women, a button sale of historical black figures and a Black Male Forum.

According to sociology professor Rhonda Dugan, Black History Month at CSUB means looking at the lives of African-Americans and finding something to learn or take from their experiences.

"It's about making aware of the successes and struggles of blacks," said Dugan. "Making the campus aware



Mark Nessia/The Runner
John Mouzon performs in the Multi-Purpose Room Feb. 1 during the Black History Month Kickoff.

of that is an important learning experience."

Dugan, who is open to discussing her life as a black woman, believes her status as a college professor is something students can take example from. Dugan earned her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois and is one of few black faculty members at CSUB.

"I try to be an example, or at the very least

[See BH, Page 4]



Water Polo season preview. Page 9

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Seven-day weather forecast
According to weather.com

Wednesday
Hi: 64
Lo: 38
Precip. 0%

Thursday
Hi: 66
Lo: 41
Precip. 0%

Friday
Hi: 70
Lo: 40
Precip. 0%

Saturday
Hi: 70
Lo: 41
Precip. 0%

Sunday
Hi: 66
Lo: 41
Precip. 10%

Monday
Hi: 66
Lo: 44
Precip. 10%

Tuesday
Hi: 63
Lo: 44
Precip. 10%

RUNNER ON THE STREET

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

This week, The Runner asked, "What did you think of Super Bowl XLV?"



Austin Boyer
Freshman,
Mathematics

"It was a good game, I guess."



Heather Walker
Junior,
Studio Art /
History

"The halftime show sucked; the game was decent in the second half."



Bryan Bonilla
Senior,
Psychology

"It sucked, the commercials sucked, the Black Eyed Peas were horrible."



Mari Gonzalez
Sophomore,
Psychology

"I actually didn't watch it."

THE RUNNER

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Apathy will be the destruction of our culture

By Sara Gunn
Staff Writer

Last week I attended the discussion in the dorms regarding Don't Ask, Don't Tell, and this got me thinking about civil rights.

It seems to me a lot of people have a hard time talking about controversial issues. This is understandable why would we want to talk about something uncomfortable when we can just veg out on MTV or chatter about who won the Super Bowl? For the most part, people seem to want to avoid discussion of things that may make them think deep thoughts.

The point these (completely hypothetical) people are missing is that conflict is the catalyst of consciousness.

According to Philosophy major Uriah Burke, "Ultimately [our advancement] socially, intellectually, and individually is achieved through discourse."

If we're not sharing ideas with each other, we're not advancing as a culture.

Furthermore, when we're sharing ideas with each other, it's okay to disagree, as resistances from others are what create the friction to advance our thinking. Good ideas will be agreed upon, whereas bad ideas will reveal their flaws as they are discussed.

"Discourse helps establish what is correct and eliminate what is incorrect," Burke said.

My whole point in this little rant about discourse, other than wanting to encourage students to debate with one another, is to point out that only six people, including myself, were present at the DADT discussion. That's depressing as hell, and not just because very few people cared to show up.

Prior to the discussion, dozens had commented on the boards posted by Joey Williams, community assistant

for social justice in the Housing Department. Everyone seemed to have plenty to say on the convenient boards but no one seemed to want to go out of their way to experience any kind of structured discussion where words and ideas could be freely heard.

To take this a step further, these (again, completely hypothetical) people, when they do discuss ideas of this nature, often tend to over generalize groups or minorities. In other words, they fall prey to stereotypes.

Earlier in the year, there was a discussion board regarding building a mosque at the 9/11 site and a student stated that she felt this was disrespectful of the victims of the terrorist attack.

"The student assumed that all Muslims were terrorists, and I believe that kind of ideology can be dangerous. We cannot judge all Muslims as terrorists ... [this] would be like judging Christianity by the Ku Klux Klan," said Williams.

It's important not to allow the actions of a few extremists to influence your perspective of an entire group.

Not only do some fall victim to the false veil of stereotypes, they can also too quickly dismiss controversial issues.

"I've noticed that some people tire of LGBTQ issues rather quickly," said John Davies, English grad student and president of GLSSN. "In my graduate classes, I bring a gay perspective to the discussions when it seems to be applicable and I once overheard a fellow student saying, 'Oh, Johnny just thinks everything's gay.'"

It's reassuring to know I'm not the only one who's experienced this.

Guys, I know it's hard. Sometimes I don't want to talk about it either. But even when it's difficult, no, especially

when we're wondering if he could succeed after all. He made a strong statement on health care and made it clear to stick with the big bill and pass it. On Jan. 25, President Barack Obama devoted the majority of the first State of the Union address to the economy, putting people back to work and bringing down the deficit. He also called on Republicans to work with him in addressing the nation's problems with opposing views in politics to create equality. He will not accept second place for the United States of America because we as a nation have to lead and set an example for the whole world.

Obama stated most importantly that he has a "vision for an America where we innovate, we out educate, we out build the rest of the world; where we take responsibility for our deficits; where we reform our government to meet the demands of the new age."

It was a good speech because Obama begins to verbally dig Democrats out of the hole that was dug for them by the voters in Massachusetts. The most striking thing in politics is that Democrats had lost the war on the two biggest issues: the stimulus bill and the health care bill. Obama did a nice job in calming Democrats down since they were wondering if he could succeed after all. He made a strong statement on health care and made it clear to stick with the big bill and pass it.

Finally there will be a more public debate about the Republican's votes with the power they claim and the decision will not be up to the congress in regards to policies. Right now the likeability quotient for the President is higher than the support for his policies.

This address affects students personally as well. Evelyn Garcia, a political science major, said, "This speech was very good—it caught my attention in various areas especially the parts where humor was brought

with each other about the things that matter is the day we will stagnate and begin to decay.

in to lighten up the atmosphere."

Obama's advice to Republicans, and also to Democrats, was interesting. He basically said to Republicans that if they think leadership requires a 60-vote majority, forget it because they are wrong. He also told Democrats very pointedly that they have to stiffen their political skins and not to run for the hills and hide. It was a very remarkable message from the president to his own party. He was able to take a big step back and to weave together the very complicated strings of his presidency around the economy for the American people to identify with it because there has been minimal change, Obama recognizes that message clearly, making jobs his number one focus this year.

The only error that he admitted was taking his share of blame for not explaining the health care bill to the American people. The issue was partially done because this fight is still going on as he encourages Democrats to keep up the bill when the majority of them want to run away from it. That was a problem that waved down the speech for a period of time. The health care bill is not dead despite the mass distrust among the house democrats and senate democrats.

Not everyone was satisfied with this speech. Roberto Gutierrez a junior and business major said, "I decided to not watch the state of the union address because it is all hopes and dreams that never take place just like the DREAM Act and Immigration Bill; at the end everything fails."

The issues in this speech are a heavy lift so what needs to take place is a little cooling off period to let the dust settle to get back on track. If we follow this plan into the months that lay ahead of us, the outcome will set a better future for our economy overall.

It is the day that our minds will die.

Mubarak chaos and the Egyptian roshambo

By Emmanuel Price
Staff Writer

Egypt looks a lot like a child's playground with rocks being thrown. It is as though the kids had enough of the bully and "cliqued up," for this bully is really scary. The bully is 82-year-old Hosni Mubarak and the victims, the Egyptian people, are resisting his regime.

Since Jan. 25 ("The Day of Wrath") more than 300 deaths and numerous injuries have occurred. In 1981, Mubarak became president after former president Anwar El Sadat was assassinated. Mubarak has been president for 30 years and is telling the world that he will leave office in September. Mubarak does not want to

leave before the next election, as he claims his departure would cause more chaos.

The high level of corruption, inflation, unemployment, police brutality, etc., was enough to boil the blood of the citizens. A businessman was killed because he had evidence of police corruption. The young man, 28 years old, was removed from an Internet café and murdered.

Egypt's economy is losing around \$310 million every day, and about one million tourists left Egypt since the protest.

Business administration major Patrick Fields believes what is occurring in Egypt is sad, and is not sure what is going on besides chaos.

Honestly, who does know

what is going on? For example: government supporters attacked CNN reporter Anderson Cooper. Cooper's cameraman was punched, and the female along his side almost got her clothing ripped off. When Anderson Cooper gets attacked and stops reporting, things are intense.

An L.A. Times reporter wrote about the men with bandaged eyes sitting eating cheese sandwiches in a street of rubble and torched cars when the protest calmed. A moment of peace is quickly replaced with more rocks and firebombs.

Pro-government supporters in civilian clothing are amongst the protesters and in attack mode, so people in the crowds have to deal with sympathizers.

A society that views women as second-class citizens -

where women and men do not often link together in public, now sees them protesting side-by-side. The United States should not play the role of "mommy" in this situation, we have enough of our own problems to deal with. Egypt signed a treaty with the Jewish state, Americans should just watch the "docudrama."

The Muslim Brotherhood (a large Islamic political group) is talking with the vice president, but many have mixed feelings about the group. It is believed that some of the members are anti-Semitic, anti-women's rights, or just simply anti-western world.

President Barack Obama

stated that there needs to be a transition process that leads to free and fair elections and also that attacks on peaceful protesters, reporters, etc. need to cease. I agree with this statement, but it's scary business if one looks in too deep. The Egyptian government has been pulling the strings for so long that they now have major reinforcements. As we view the television screen, let us remember what we cannot see. Factor in some of the variables, and it gets scary; this may lead to unexpected troubles.

If Mubarak steps down, as he claims, the power will still be in his hands. America's suggestions are not welcomed, thus this may be a catalyst for another war.

The love you take

By Manny Beltran
Sports Editor

Happy birthday to people with vaginas!

At least that's what it seems like when Feb. 14 rolls around. Now don't get me wrong, I know it's not all vaginas' birthday, but for many of the people that have one, a real one, this day seems to be day when many of them say, "Gimme gimme gimme."

It's the equivalent of a child's birthday. On that special day a kid gets excited about what kind of present they're getting and the "gimme gimme gimmes" come out. Now what were to happen if a kid doesn't get presents? Frowning, tears, maybe even a tantrum and the "you don't love me" speech sound familiar?

It seems like nowadays women expect something for Valentine's Day. They sit back and wait to see what their partner was able to come up with that would show how much they care. And as the guy fumbles about trying to do something nice, which most times end up as an epic fail, the arms cross, the lips and eyes tighten, the eyebrow raises, and the anger or disappointment about the one day in which all he has to do is show her he cares ends with a bigger explosion than the Hindenburg.

I understand that men have a tendency to not show their significant others how much they mean to them, and since a sports-style slap on the butt and "good job" is far from what women want, there's a problem.

By now if you have a vagina you're probably offended, but I'm far from a chauvinistic pig. I just want to bring up some points and maybe give those people with vaginas a different perspective. Now I know Wikipedia is not a reliable source and that was evident when I read the first sentence. "Saint Valentine's Day, commonly shortened to Valentine's Day, is an annual commemoration held on February 14 celebrating love and affection between intimate companions." How unreliable is that! Between intimate companions.

If that's the case, where are my flowers? Where is my candy? Where are you taking me to dinner? I think we just hit the double-standard here. If you're ready to tell me,

Are you a club or organization on campus interested in placing an ad in the Runner?

Contact the Runner at runner@csub.edu. Ads for student clubs and organizations are free.

Hurry and submit an ad today! Space is limited and going fast!

Only the lonely

By Anne Stephens
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is supposed to be a day of romance and love, but is it?

The truth is many girls find themselves dreading this "Hallmark holiday" for a variety of reasons. Whether it's having to compare boyfriends to each other, or coming to the realization that being single is not always easy, Valentine's Day can be dreadful for some girls.

For single girls, it seems like Valentine's Day emphasizes the idea of being alone and not having a companion. This is because single girls are constantly being asked questions like, "What are

you doing for Valentine's Day?" or "Who are you going to spend Valentine's Day with?" This can make a girl feel down when she realizes she doesn't have plans with anyone.

It seems as if although Valentine's Day is intended for couples; it puts single girls on blast for not having someone. It starts to feel more like a "Singles Awareness Day" instead of a day filled with romance.

Michelle Craig, a senior nursing major, is single and was able to explain her thoughts on Valentine's Day.

"Basically you get to be reminded of how you don't have a significant other and then you get to see all your friends talking and bragging to others saying how perfect their little relationships are. I just feel like its one of those days where it can just be a cruddy holiday," she said.

Craig also went on to describe some other Valentine's Day issues.

"It's supposed to be the one day that your supposed to feel like your being cared about, and I think guys should treat you like that every day if they're going to be in a relationship with you," she said. "Why is it that it has to be only this one day where a guy is suppose to show how much he cares?"

Personally, just because someone is single doesn't mean they should get down on themselves. They shouldn't allow a "Hallmark holiday" to bring their spirits down just because they don't have their ideal person to spend it with. Valentine's Day should be a day to express your love or gratitude toward anyone you want, whether it's a friend, family member or a boyfriend. The truth is everyone will always have to deal with loneliness whether we like it or not, and sometimes it happens to fall on a holiday.

The Green Gazer Holiday Special by Victor Maldonado

Love and bongwater



What's on your mind this Valentine's Day?

old folks' home and spread the love you have with each other to elderly by making Valentine's Day cards, like in elementary school.

As the Beatles once said, "And in the end the love you take is equal to the love you make."

So make a lot of love that day!

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California State University
Bakersfield
School of Business and Public Administration

Lisa Project brings forth sights, smells and sounds of child abuse

[PROJECT, from Page 1]

Along with the story, visitors enter every room and see an exact replica of the rooms of the child sharing their story. The rooms are designed to give visitors the feel of standing in the same house and being able to imagine what it would feel like sharing a home with an abuser.



Mark Nessia/The Runner

Kenny's story takes visitors to the bathtub where he was abused by his mother.

The exhibit has PG-13 rating due to the graphic details from every story told. The Lisa Project provides professional staff ready to help those who need assistance in coping with past or present experiences.

Ramon Esporanza, a visitor to the exhibit, said: "I brought my family here to today so they can witness the child abuse problem that plagues our communities. My children are old enough to learn about this problem and I want them to see how they can recognize and possibly help others in the future. I'm glad that the Lisa Project was created. I think everyone should go and walk through to fully understand what some kids go through on a daily basis."

The Lisa Project is run by a number of volunteers and organizations that help families in our community.

One of the staff members at the exhibit is Felisha Livesay. She is currently a CSUB graduate student in the MSW program. She is an employee and intern for Aspiranet, a nonprofit community-based organization sponsoring The Lisa Project.

When asked about her commitment to the exhibit Felisha said, "It is very close to my heart. I'm a foster parent of an abused boy. I want to be able to raise awareness to our



Mark Nessia/The Runner

Trash and graffiti plague the room depicting Evan's home. Evan's mom was never there and he was forced to sleep on the floor because there was nowhere else to sleep.

community." The exhibit's effectiveness determines how people see the problems abused children encounter. The purpose of The Lisa Project is to encourage people to take action and help those in need.

"It is important to be the voice for children. We must encourage people to be the voice

and help stop the abuse," said Livesay.

The Lisa Project and its supporters ask everyone to come out, experience these stories of child abuse and help spread awareness to others in the community so that together we can put an end to this problem that affects everyone.

Campus recognizes black heritage and history

[BH, from Page 1]

shed light on my experiences," said Dugan. "It comes with the territory [of being an African-American professor] and I understand that."

Student Ambassador of Student Outreach Tyree Boyd-Pates said Black History Month is especially important to recognize influential African-American personal figures, like Dugan, on a local and national level.

"Barack Obama, in recent years, probably deserves the most recognition for his upward advancement as president of the United States of America – the first man of color to ever do so," he said. "Within CSUB,

President Horace Mitchell [who is African-American] should be recognized for his scholarly accomplishments and his unyielding commitment to the community."

Boyd-Pates will participate in an event called CSU's Super Sunday, which will be an African-American outreach event held at major community churches throughout February.

"The event will be an initiative to connect with and inform African-American students and their families about what it takes to get into university," he said.

Dugan will be participating in a discussion at The Bakersfield Museum of Art called "Way Black When."

The event will be held on Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. Topics discussed will be black entertainment, culture, sports and politics in the later part of the 1900s.

Dugan urges students of all ethnic backgrounds to attend the activities held throughout the month. She believes one of the main reasons of recognizing the history and culture of African-Americans is to enlighten students and build unity throughout all races.

"All students need to attend these events," she said. "It's diverse. Without opportunities like the ones provided this month, we will not learn about other racial groups.

Likewise, African-American

students should attend events recognizing other cultures and racial groups. Having an understanding of all races is vital to a college campus."

Junior Whittany Bennett, who serves as a member of the Black Women on

Campus organization, plans on using the events to be held with CSUB as a way to connect to her community.

"I am excited to celebrate my culture and become more in tune with my heritage," she said.

For more information on

Black History Month events, there are posters at various locations on campus with a month-long calendar of events attached. You can also visit the Student Outreach Office, or visit the event's Facebook page.



Mark Nessia/The Runner

Ayo Sharpe-Mouzon, left, dances to the beat of John Mouzon's drum during the Black History Month Kickoff Feb. 1 in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Site allows critique of schools

[WEBSITE, from Page 1]

variety of topics. One story comes from a school on the east coast talking about how bad it has snowed and the roads are closed, but yet the classes did not get canceled. There are more stories that go in depth and stories about professors and students hanging out. Some stories are not only about the bad side of their campus, but there are few that just need an avenue to vent an opinion.

Faculty and staff are also able to speak their mind. Being anonymous gives people the opportunity to say whatever they want and

not get any backlash from anyone.

"I think it's a good way to let people expose things that happen on their campus. It's a form of media coverage for controversy on campus. I don't think I would ever post anything though. I would be too afraid of someone recognizing what I put on there," said a CSUB professor who wanted to remain anonymous.

There have been no comments made about CSUB yet. The site is not only useful for expressing an opinion, but also useful for influencing a positive change on campus.

CAREER CORNER

The Center for Community Engagement & Career Education



Welcome to the CSUB **Career Corner**, a monthly article to help you with all things related to career development! Students planning to graduate soon should be thinking about writing their resume now. A resume is commonly your first impression on an employer...make it stand out! Students need to carefully craft their resume to put their best foot forward. "Good enough" is not enough in the competitive job market. A professional resume is a key tool to marketing yourself and enticing employers to want to find out more about you through an interview. When you are invited to interview, will you be prepared to present yourself as effectively in person as you do on paper? Learn how to develop a competitive resume and how to ace an interview by attending the *Get a Job!* Workshop on February 16th.

Get a Job! Resume Writing & Interviewing Workshop

Date & Time: 2/16/11, 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Location: Community Engagement & Career Education Center

Experience Matters! Internship & Volunteering Workshop

Date & Time: 3/2/11, 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Location: Community Engagement & Career Education Center

COMING SPRING QUARTER 2011

CAREER DAY

Date & Time: 4/13/11, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Location: Runner Café Quad

CSUB's annual comprehensive Career Fair - don't miss this!!

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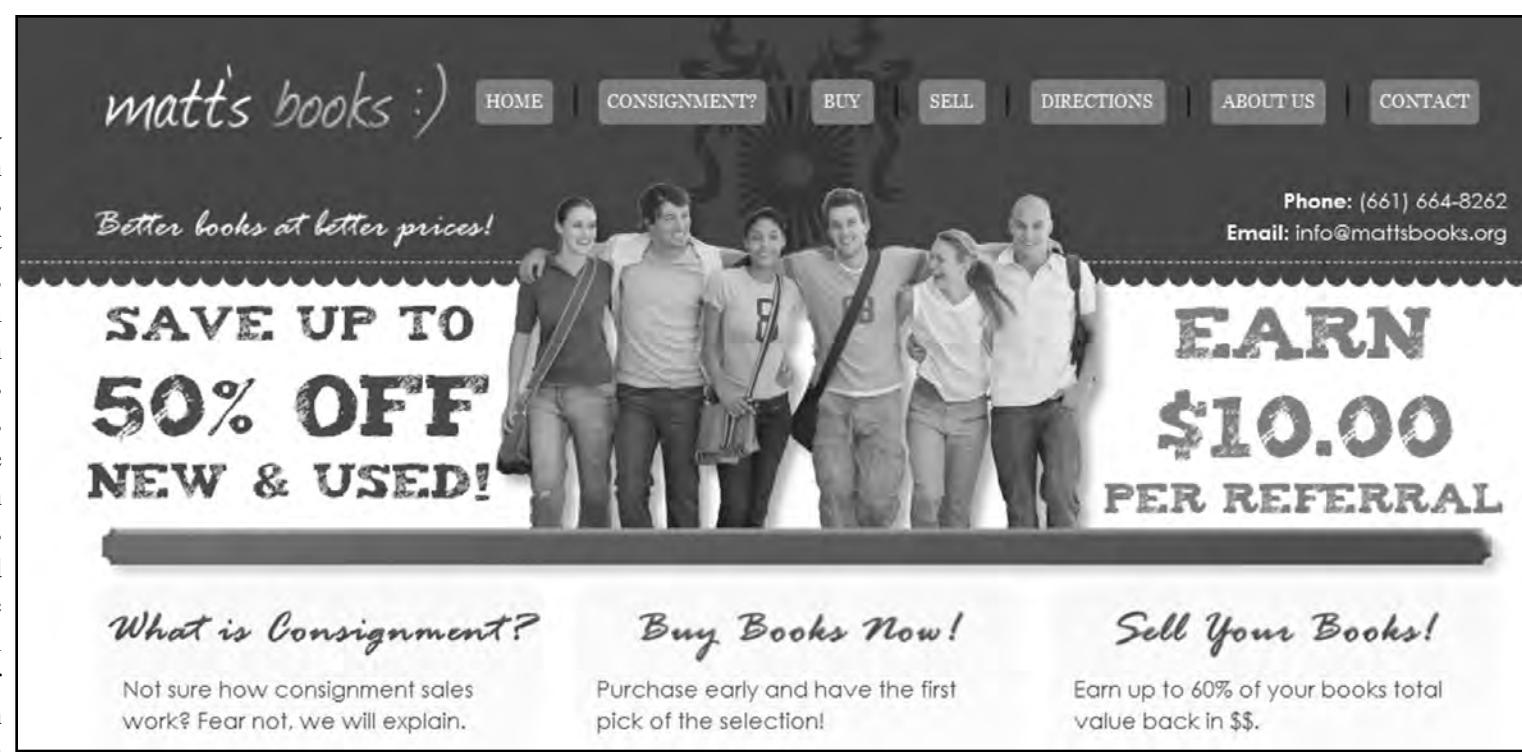
Matt's Books run by CSUB student Matthew Molina

By Sierra Lightner
Staff Writer

Matthew Molina is a CSUB student who has run his own small business since he was a student at Garces High School, which he graduated from only a few years ago in 2006. He runs Matt's Books, a small business whose main focus is the buying and selling of high school textbooks out of his home between May 1 and Aug 28. On the website you have the option to sell or buy text books for Garces Memorial High School, Stockdale High School and Bakersfield Christian High School – or you can use the option "Other."

Using the "Other" option college students can still buy or sell their textbooks as a custom order but now it isn't the norm. Molina said, "College books are a little more complicated. They change quite often, not like a high school book which stays around for a few years. As the colleges like to stay up-to-date on the latest educational tools and technologies, they are constantly changing their text resources from quarter to quarter.

This means that we would lose money if we were to keep stock on a particular college book and then see that book go out of com-



Screen capture of mattsbooks.org's homepage.

mission." The constant changing of college textbooks makes it more difficult for a small seasonal business like Matt's Books to be able to profit with college textbooks.

Molina tries to buy and sell the books for as much as is reasonably possible. The final selling price of the book is split 60-40.

Molina explained, "Since Garces Memorial High School is our main focus here is the breakdown for that specific school. There are approximately 870 students that attend Garces. On a good year we touch about 45 percent of the entire school community with each parents spending approxi-

mately \$350 for their students. That is $(870 \times .45 = 390 \text{ students}) \times \$300 = \$117,000$ gross income.

"We have to pay back commissions to all the parents that sold their books through us, which receive 60 percent, leaving us 40 percent. 40 percent of \$117,000 is \$46,800 as my net profit for the season. Keep in mind that we always have at least two people working on 10 percent commission behind each book sale. That brings down our net total down by 10 percent. Some years we have touched more than 45 percent of the Garces community and some years less."

This is from only working a few

months out of the year and only from one of the high schools his business is focused on.

Matt's Books isn't Molina's only project he has been working on. The website "Mantera Media" that developed the online store MattsBooks.org is also owned by Molina. Owning an online company that focuses on developing websites helped get the Matt's Books website up a lot "I work in tandem with a lot of designers and developers which also made it easy for me to get a head start on a professional Web presence."

When asked if he had any other projects he was working on right now along with Matt's Books and

Mantera Media, he gave a long list. "I currently am working on four other online projects. An online franchise floral company which I recently partnered up with to take their company online, a sports apparel company with the concept of motivational empowerment. We are currently working on an image revamp for www.surfersbakersfield.com and www.surfersbakersfield-mag.com, which I own. A few partners and I are planning to launch BLOB this coming march with you can view online at www.businessleadersof-bakersfield.com. This isn't to mention the projects that come strictly to Mantera Media which is my core company."

He also wants to expand Matt's Books in the future since it is a business and every business wants to expand and grow, "As any company our users and community heavily reflect the company on what they want and would like to see in the future, we are always asking for feedback to help make the business better."

Molina is a very driven and busy young man. Most students complaining about not having enough time to do homework should try switching places with Molina for a day to see exactly how much free time they actually have.

Kaibigan holds raffle and cupcake sale

By Sierra Lightner
Staff Writer

From Feb. 7 until Feb. 11, the Kaibigan organization is having a fundraiser in Dorothy Donahoe Hall from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Kaibigan is the Filipino-American student organization that helps to spread their culture throughout the school. The word "Kaibigan" means "Friend" when translated into English.

According to Steven Sampaga, a club member, and Michelle Jose the head of fundraising (both nursing Majors here at CSUB), the fundraiser is to help fund their club and help pay for scholarships for members and to help pay member fees for any events that they do. The organization has about forty to fifty members in it.

Kaibigan does other things, too. According to Juan Rivera Kaibigan, "Lately we've done the Friendship Games, a series of events where different games are done to foster friendship

throughout the different Kaibigan groups in California."

This fundraiser is to help pay for events held in the spring, one event in the Spring quarter is Sports Fest. Most of the yearly events are held in the Spring.



Adriana Vega/ The Runner
Kaibigan is holding a cupcake and raffle ticket sale inside the DDH.

The booth is decorated with a big Kaibigan Banner and the ticket box is decorated with lots of red and hearts. They are having a raffle and selling cupcakes. The cupcakes are being sold for \$1 and the raffle tickets are being sold individually for \$1 and three tickets for \$2. The first place prize of the raffle is a \$25 gift card for Applebees and two free tickets to Regal Cinemas sold so far.

rather slowly because they had just started up. A while later in the middle of the afternoon after being operational for about three and a half hours Juan Rivera, history major and Kaibigan's secretary said, "People love the cupcakes. Most of the time people are buying the cupcakes but people are buying the raffle tickets too." At least 25 tickets have been sold so far.

Capturing moments with the Judo Club

By Parker Camargo
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is right around the corner and if you need a nifty gift idea then the Judo club could be the solution.

From now until February 14 the Judo club is running an event called "Capture the Moment" outside of the DDH building. The event is a fundraiser for the club but also serves as a great way to get the ball rolling on Valentine's Day.

Fatima Ramirez, president of the Judo club, said, "We will be having a photo booth where people can buy a wallet photo starting at \$1.50 each. Each photo comes with a personalized card. This is a great event for Valentine's day that is not only for couples, but for people who are away from home and that want to send a photo to their friends or family at their home place. Our event is a fundraiser to help sponsor

more events for students and members who are in the club."

There were many members from the club out at the event on Monday.

Ramirez hopes not only to raise money for their club but also increase social

and other senseis of the Bakersfield Judo Club. It is a class in which a person can increase their self-esteem, reduce stress and just have fun! Students learn self-defense techniques that show them how to use their body in a way that doesn't hurt them," she said.

The class that is offered is a two-unit course (one unit per day) that can be taken on both Tuesday and Thursday. Students are encouraged to check out the class any time to get a feel for what the class teaches.

Do not forget to check out the "capture the moment" photo booth event dur-

ing the week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a great opportunity for a last-minute gift idea.

If you are interested in learning more about the club or possibly becoming a member yourself than feel free to drop by their meetings which are every Friday in the Yellow Room, located in the Student Union building.



Adriana Vega/ The Runner
The Judo Club is holding their photobooth fundraiser outside the DDH.

awareness of their club to students on campus. The club also is associated with the judo class that is offered for students to take and be a part of.

"Judo class is actually a self-defense class that is taught on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Antonino Wrestling Room. It is taught by Dr. Michael Flachmann

iPhone and Droid: Which is better?

By Jesus Cardenas
Staff Writer

Be prepared to see the match of the 21st Century even better than the recent Super Bowl between the Pittsburgh Steelers vs. Green Bay Packers. Let the showdown begin with the iPhone vs. Droid!

According to the website www.lifehacker.com, the iPhone wins in the category of ease of use, you can pick one up and quickly understand how to use it. On the iPhone's home screen there is multiple app icons so users are able to understand what is going on. As for the Droid it wins in the category of openness you can run any application you want, and you can customize your home

screen in whatever way you want.

Daisy Gonzalez, a CSUB junior said, "I have an iPhone. I really like it because it is very easy to use."

The website mentions if you are concerned with battery life the device that wins is the iPhone. When the iPhone was in development the battery life was Apple's main task. As for the Droid, it has a poor battery performance due to its heavy usage of apps running in the background and its multitasking support of running multiple apps at once.

If you have a friend that is mad because you have not texted back then blame the notification system. The website states that the Droid has a magnificent pull-



Mark Nessia/ The Runner
Motorola's Droid, left, and Apple's iPhone, are competing for the position of best all-around mobile device.

down window notification tray. As for the iPhone, you can only see one notification at a time before the next one disappears which stops you from viewing all your notifications at once.

Leslie Gomez, a jun-

ior, said, "I have a Droid and I like the green LED light that blinks when I receive a notification."

If you want to tether your phone and use its Internet to use it on your own personal laptop, well that is only

possible with the Droid. According to the website, if you get caught tethering with the iPhone to share its Internet connection as of now you get an extra charge of \$20 plus your current \$29.99 unlimited data plan. The Droid

can be transformed into a Wi-Fi hotspot and deliver wireless Internet to anyone around you without any charge from the carrier.

The website said that both devices have a draw in the category of apps. Both their app stores contain applications that are very popular. Each features at least one application that cannot be found on both devices, making the app store unique. The iPhone and the Droid also tied in their Web browsers both have a very fast connectivity to the interwebs.

Jazmin Quintana, a junior, said, "I have both the iPhone and the Droid but I tend to use the iPhone more because the games it has are funner."

The website mentions

one last issue would be the built-in turn-by-turn navigation system. This can only be found in the Droid it is offered for free by Google. There is a navigation system that can be installed on the iPhone but it costs a whopping \$29.99 and there are no free GPS apps available for the iPhone.

According to the website the winner of this gruesome violent match between the iPhone and the Droid cannot be determined. Both devices have the potential of being great phones for any consumer; the only way one would be the best is by sticking them together.

Both devices have the potential of being great phones for any consumer; the only way one would be the best is by sticking them together.

'The Fighter' an intense family struggle

By Christina Ramos
Staff Writer

"The Fighter," directed by David O. Russell, is a story between two brothers; one is an upcoming star boxer and the other a struggling drug addict.

This movie had exceptional acting from Christian Bale (The Dark Knight, 3:10 to Yuma) and Mark Wahlberg (Shooter, Four Brothers) who star as the two brothers Micky Ward and Dicky Ekland. When I heard they'd be starring together I knew that it would produce a movie worth watching.

The movie is based on a true story that took place in the gritty hard-luck town of Lowell, Massachusetts that really wasn't known for anything. That is until Dicky Ekland (Bale) won a boxing match that earned him the home title of "The Pride of Lowell" and gave the town recognition.

Dicky, a one-hit-wonder falls on hard times and struggles to balance coaching his younger brother Micky Ward (Wahlberg) and sustaining his crack addiction.

In one particular scene Micky is waiting next to a limo with his corner coach, mom (Melissa Leo) and dad for Dicky to show up so that they can catch a flight for his big fight, but once again Dicky is late because he's at a crackhouse. Once Dicky sees his mother on the doorstep, he jumps out of a second story window into garbage and begs Micky not to tell their mom he's there (but she finds out anyway).

Micky's mother is blind to her son's problems with addiction and is all about keeping her family together and not allowing outside aide for her son. Micky feels like his mother is always giving credit to Dicky for his boxing talent, but all he wants from his mother is for her realize that the fights he fights are his and not his brothers.

I found it shocking because this supposedly "tight-knit" family could turn a blind eye to so many flaws they have. None of the characters bring up Dicky's addiction that is destroying Micky's boxing career. The family values these characters have are all screwed up.

There is this facade of functionality that is put up between the siblings, but after he's almost killed in the ring because of poor judgment on his mother and brothers part, Micky finds himself at a crossroads. He's left to decide what is best for his future in boxing; fortunately he has the support of his headstrong girlfriend Charlene (Amy Adams) corner coach, and dad to strive to be better.

In order to start winning matches Micky must choose his career over his family. The scene where Micky tells Dicky he promised everyone that he wouldn't train with him anymore was a turning point in the film. Dicky feels betrayed by his younger brother because Micky has chosen his career over his family. I felt bad for Micky because he truly loves his dysfunctional family and we can see that he is really torn between his decision.

Although this story had a promising ending I enjoyed the hard journey these characters had to tear their way through to get to that ending. The actors all played



"The Fighter" stars Christian Bale, left, and Mark Wahlberg, who portray brothers struggling with family, career and addiction.

their parts well as far as bringing their "A game" to the table, because they made me feel like they were all real people going through those hard times.

If you're going to make a movie based on a true story the actors have to make a moviegoer believe that that

a character they're watching could be someone living down the road from them.

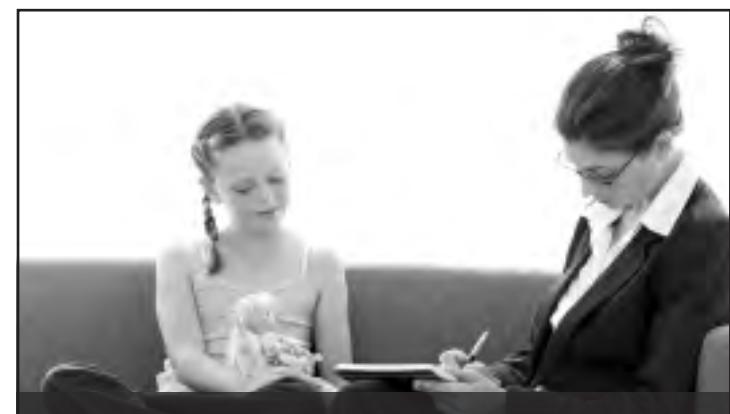
It's definitely up to their next to "Cinderella Man" and "Million Dollar Baby" as far as great boxing stories go. I recommend this movie as a must see; it's already gained recognition for Christina

Bale and Melissa Leo performances, won one of the best movies of the year award, and was called "the best sports movie of the decade" by Sports Illustrated.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

FEB 9. WED.	FEB 10. THURS.	FEB 11. FRI.	FEB 12. SAT.	FEB 13. SUN.	FEB 14. MON.	FEB 15. TUES.
"Flip the Switch" Solar Panel Event 10:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. Location: Parking Lot E	Kaibigan Valentine's Fundraiser Drawing 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Location: DDH	Faculty Recital 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Doré Theatre	Kern County Regional Science Bowl 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Location: DDH		Nu-Phi-Chi Sorority Chocolate-Covered Strawberries Food Sale 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Location: Outside DDH	English Department's "Endangered African Languages" 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Multi-Purpose Room
Kaibigan Valentine's Fundraiser Drawing 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Location: DDH	Judo Club "Capture the Moment" Valentine's Day Fundraiser 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Location: DDH East Side	Kaibigan Valentine's Fundraiser Drawing 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Location: DDH	Valentine's "Run for Your Heart" 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Location: Icardo Center		ASI Information Table "Sex Responsibility Week" 9:00 a.m. - 1 p.m. Location: DDH	
Judo Club "Capture the Moment" Valentine's Day Fundraiser 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Location: DDH East Side	Black Young Starz Candy/Flower Sale 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Location: DDH	Judo Club "Capture the Moment" Valentine's Day Fundraiser 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Location: DDH East Side	Black Young Starz Candy/Flower Sale 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Location: DDH		Judo Club Valentine's Day Fundraiser - "Capture the Moment" 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Location: DDH East Side	
					Kaibigan Valentine's Fundraiser Drawing 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Location: DDH	

Happy Sunday!



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Black History Month kicks off at CSUB



Right: Ms. Ayo Sharpe-Mouzon performs a dance while reading a poem during the Black History Month kick-off Feb. 1.
 Left: Alyssa Wiley Simone sings the Black National Anthem during the Black History Month kickoff.

Taylor Gombos/The Runner

The Lisa Project arrives in Kern County to educate the public about the horrors of child abuse



Taylor Gombos/The Runner
 An exhibit of Ashley is shown as part of the Lisa Project.



Taylor Gombos/The Runner
 A picture from the Lisa Project shows Kenny who was abused by his mother.

Do you have a photo or photos that you feel would be worthy of being published in The Runner? If you do, then send your name, first and last along with your contact information to runner@csub.edu

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Here's lookin' at us



Malia Pahoa going full force at water polo practice.

Brady Cabe/The Runner

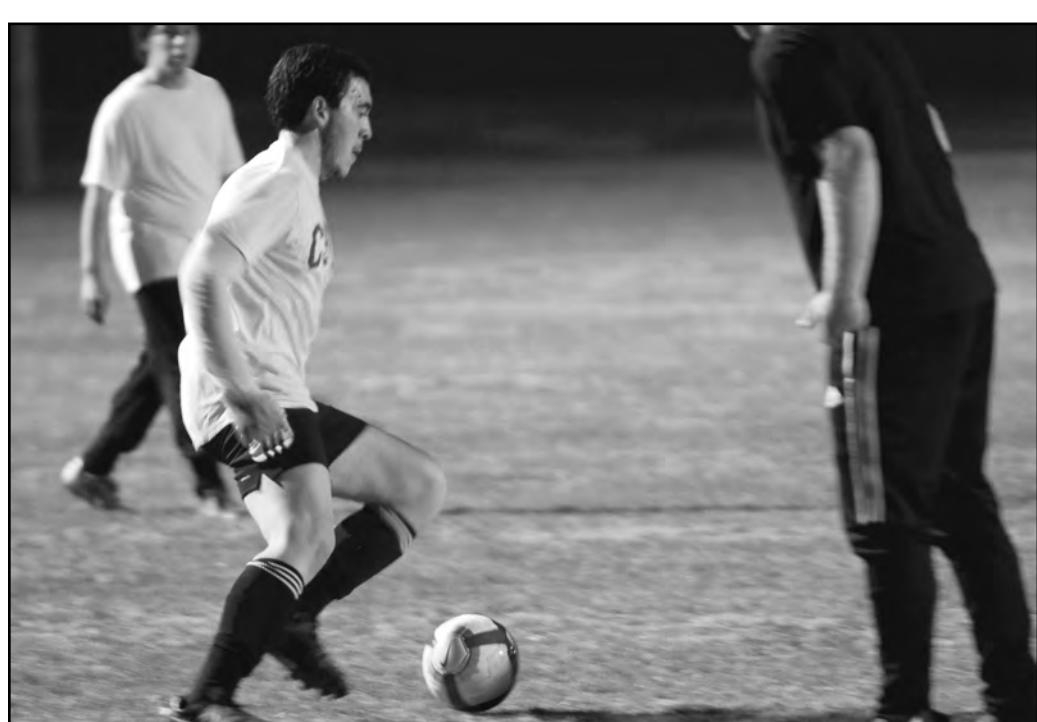
Black Young Starz



Photos by Brady Cabe/The Runner

Left: Members of Black Young Starz gather for a prayer before a dance event.
Right: Members of the campus club Black Young Starz dance during an event in front of the Student Union Feb. 4.

Pick-up soccer game invades CSUB campus



Brady Cabe/The Runner
Night time pick-up soccer game with some CSUB students.



Brady Cabe/The Runner
Students playing soccer in their spare time on the CSUB campus.

CSUB women's water polo prepares for rest of season

By Steven Gaede
Staff Writer

It is beginning to warm up and that can only mean one thing: water polo.

The lady 'Runners are anxious to prove that they deserve to be ranked for the third year in a row.

Jason Gall, the women's water polo coach, is charged with the task of preparing his team for every game.

"We came into the season ranked 20th in the preseason polls, the last couple years we have been in-between 15 and 20 nationally," Gall said. "We set some preseason goals, as far as where we want to finish in conference. We would like to win our conference; we have finished third the last two years," said Gall.

With each passing season, seniors on the team graduate, and this year was no exception.

"We graduated a couple key starters; we had five seniors that graduated last year. It is always tough to replace [them], but we have done that the last two years," Gall said.

"We only returned three starters," added junior hole set, Malia Pahoa.

The 'Runners have lost not only key players and leadership but also experience going into the season.

"We lost 12 players from last year, and a lot of us that are returners did not really play that much last year," said junior guard, Sierra Peltcher. Keeping the number of lost players in mind, Gall adds, "I think that we can challenge the top 10 teams."

Most teams emphasize either offense or defense, and in the case of the Runners it is



Brady Cabe/The Runner
Sierra Peltcher showing the rest of the team how it's done.

defense.

"We have some very strong offensive players, and we have some strong defensive players, and we are trying to have a good balance between the offense and defense. Defense is definitely the first thing we talk about," said Gall. He went on to add, "I wouldn't characterize us as an amazing offensive team, but I think we have that ability."

The team has played six games so far this year, and the lineup has been the same for each game: one freshman, five sophomores,

and one senior. The ladies have begun the season by going 2-4, prompting the question: what are season expectations?

"I think this season is going to be a big building season for us, because our team is really young," sophomore hole set Jessica Browning said.

Gall added, "As the season goes on, I would expect that our offense starts to pick up."

The water polo team practices every weekday, and typically plays between two and four games every weekend. With multiple

games to be played on the weekends, one has to wonder how the lady Runners prepare.

The team understands that sleep is a necessity, they also stretch as a team at the Terrio Physical Therapy facility; and they have pasta feasts the nights before games for carbohydrates, said Browning, Pahoa, and Peltcher.

Throughout the season, eight games will be played by the 'Runners in Bakersfield. The Runners will have to travel out of town for the rest of the weekend tournaments and invitationals. Traveling can have some harsh negative effects on teams, but not this one.

"We play almost all of our games on the weekends, and since water polo is kind of a California-based sport, there is really no need to do a whole lot of out of state traveling," said Gall.

Water polo is not very popular in Bakersfield to say the least. People in Bakersfield are exposed to their fair share of high school football, high school baseball, and club soccer teams.

"I grew up in Orange County and I was on a swim team, the swim team also had water polo. Water polo seemed like it was more interesting than what I was doing," Coach Gall said. "I quit basketball as a sophomore in high school and the only other sport during the winter was soccer, and I hate running, so I tried water polo," said Sierra Peltcher.

Over the next four months the 'Runners will play over 30 games. The 'Runners will travel down to UC San Diego for their next tournament on Feb. 12 and 13.

Tennis relishes home-court advantage in win over DU



Mark Nessia/The Runner
Sophomore Gabriela Horton returns a serve against Dominican University's Anh Truong Feb. 4 on the Sally Ann Silva Courts.

By Mark Nessia
Editor-In-Chief

There's no place like home for the CSUB tennis team.

The Roadrunners picked up their second win of the season in their home debut defeating Dominican University 6-1 on the Sally Ann Silva Courts Feb. 4.

The 'Runners swept the doubles matches and took five of six in singles competition.

Senior Ashlee Thorneycroft and sophomore Veronica Dimas each notched 6-0, 6-0 wins, while sophomores

Gabriela Horton and Julie Hutton recorded 6-0, 6-1 and 6-1, 6-0 wins, respectively. Freshman Estefania Limpias earned her third consecutive singles win defeating Shannon McCarthy 6-1, 6-1.

DU's Irina Morozova defeated sophomore Julian Mannix 6-4, 6-4 at No. 1 singles to prevent the shutout.

"Today was one of our better days," coach Regina Csibi-Krueger said. "Our opponents weren't too tough, but I was happy to see that everybody went out and took care of business very quickly."

Csibi-Krueger thought her team was more focused than in their previous matches, which was an area they needed to improve on. Playing at home definitely helps.

"It's always very nice to play at home and have that home-court advantage – the girls need that," she said.

The 'Runners (2-4) will have more opportunities to play in front of their home crowd as Csibi-Krueger was able to secure three more home games giving them a total of five for the season.

She said her focus after taking over as coach was to get as many home matches scheduled as she could.

CSUB now has home matches against San Jose State (March 12), Idaho (April 17) and The Master's College (April 19).

The 'Runners will face Cal Poly Feb. 10 before returning to the Sally Ann Silva Courts to host UC Riverside Feb. 12 at 1 p.m.



Taylor Gombos/The Runner
Sophomore Julian Mannix rallies against Irina Morozova of Dominican Feb. 4.

Former player returns to alma mater as coach



Photo courtesy of Sports Information
Tennis coach Regina Csibi-Krueger

By Jesus Cardenas
Staff Writer

She has heard the word "love" many times, but it means "nothing" to her. How can that be? Because Regina Csibi-Krueger is the new women's tennis coach for CSUB.

Csibi-Krueger has become a legend and tennis superstar for CSUB women's tennis. Before becoming a coach, she was a four-time CCAA player of the year, a three-time All-American and a two-time Rolex doubles national champion. She finished her career with a 107-8 singles record, which was the best four-year record in CCAA history.

Csibi-Krueger is a native of Budapest, Hungary, and currently lives with her husband Dave in Bakersfield. She attended CSUB and graduated with a degree in psychology in 2000.

Csibi-Krueger has played tennis internationally. She was a two-time junior national champion in Hungary. She played in the Hungarian National semifinals in 1993 and the national indoor finals in 1994 as well in the International Tennis Federation and the Women's Tennis Association.

Csibi-Krueger has just met her tennis players and they are doing great they have played four matches. Csibi-Krueger said, "They have

lost three matches and have won only one match. In their last win it motivated the tennis players in having the potential to be on a winning streak and forget about their first three losses."

The new tennis coach said she is ready to train the girls for this year. Csibi-Krueger said: "I am very happy to coach these groups of girls everyday. I see an improvement in their skill and they want to become better each time they pick up the tennis racquet."

The funniest moment experienced by the tennis coach in tennis has just happened recently. Csibi-Krueger said she is sunburned and has to wear a thick layer of sunscreen while coaching she said that she looks like a clown.

Many tennis players have been inspired by Csibi-Krueger and are ready to improve their skills at practice. Ashlee Thorneycroft, a senior CSUB tennis player, said: "Regina is a great coach. I have learned so much from her my dream is to become like her one day."

Not just the tennis players are interested in playing tennis, even CSUB fans want to enter the court to play. Ana Castro, a CSUB sophomore liberal studies major, said: "I love keeping up with the women's tennis team. I just wish a tennis ball would be hit out of bounds into the bleachers so I can keep a tennis ball as souvenir and have Regina sign it."

Young 'Runners take aim at PCSC Coastal Division and Oklahoma City



Stephanie Mahinan/The Runner

From left to right: Emily Bliss, Ryane Petersen, Amy Ricciardi, Karlee Rodgers and Sammy Rodriguez.

By Chris Davis
Staff Writer

Two words describe the 2011 'Runner softball team: young and talented.

With 10 new faces on the team – seven freshmen and three junior college transfers – chemistry might be an appropriate class to take.

The team has their home opener on Friday, Feb. 18, at noon against San Jose State as part of a doubleheader.

"It wasn't there at the beginning, but it is something that we have worked on," said 26-year head coach Kathy Welter when asked about the team's chemistry.

Also talking about the subject was sophomore infielder Emily Bliss.

"We've been doing a lot of team-bonding exercises, which is allowing our team to really get to know each other," she said.

"We are stronger than we were last year in regards to pitching," Welter said when looking at the team's staff.

Junior right-handed pitcher Sammy Rodriguez returns to the circle in 2011. Rodriguez had a 12-13 record with a decent 3.07 earned run average while striking out 114 batters and allowing 50 walks.

Joining Rodriguez on the staff are freshmen Sarah Hoag, Marissa Hiller and junior college transfer Alyssa Walker. All three have impressive numbers from their previous schools.

Hoag comes to CSUB from Monterey High in Salinas. In her senior season last year, she compiled a 22-4 record with a 0.94 ERA. She had a very impressive 315 strikeouts as well.

Hiller isn't too shabby either. She threw five no-hitters in her high school career, three in her senior season.

Walker transfers from San Jose City College where she compiled a 32-5 record over her two seasons in the Bay area.

Behind the plate is senior Kasie Muro. Muro will be taking the majority of the pitches this season after being the backup for the last two seasons.

Also adding depth to the catching corps will be junior college transfer Tera Macias and freshman Jazmine Lee. Macias also comes to CSUB from San Jose City College, where she was teammates with Walker.

Kasie is a senior so she is pretty experienced. Our other two catchers, it will depend on the pitcher and

situation," Welter said.

Gone is three-quarters of the starting infield from the 2010 squad that finished two games under .500 in their inaugural season in the Pacific Coast Softball Conference.

"I thought [replacing the infield players] would make a huge difference, but we have some pretty talented players that are coming in," Welter said. "Some of [the freshmen] will be able to immediately contribute."

The lone returner in the infield is senior first baseman Ryane Peterson. She had a good year in 2010 hitting .358 (67-187) with team-leading 12 home runs and a PCSC best 50 runs batted in while being named to the All-West Region team.

"I'm excited for the infield that we are going to have," Peterson said. "I think we are going to have a great middle infield."

The middle infield will be comprised of new players as freshman Amy Ricciardi is projected to be the leading candidate to win the shortstop position and Myshayla Fryer, also a freshman, is looking to be the opening-day starter at second base.

Over at third base is a battle between Jamie Miller and Emily Bliss. Miller was a part-time shortstop last year and is making the transition over to third this year.

Bliss is nearly two years removed from a season-ending knee injury. Last year she showed no ill effects from that injury and hit .235 in 21 games, primarily as a third basewoman. She also had two doubles and three runs batted in. Fielding wise, Bliss was stellar with a perfect fielding percentage.

As far as the outfield is concerned, Welter is happy with the depth.

"We have, for the first time in a few years, a lot of depth," she said. "Defensively we have several players that can make that solid for us."

Leading the outfield group are seniors Chelsey Bell and Stephanie Frei along with sophomore Karlee Rodgers. Joining the veterans are freshmen Kristina Gonzalez and Karrissa Veiga along with transfer sophomore Laura King, who played at Nevada-Las Vegas last season.

"I think we have enough talent on this team to take on the big teams and win," Rodgers said. "With the returning players we should be able to show the new

Classic, where they will face Cal and perennial power house Oklahoma in two of the first five games. The other teams going to Tempe are North Texas (first game of the season), Cal State Fullerton and Ole Miss.

"It will be good to see how we stack up against the top teams in the country," Welter said.

"Last year, we couldn't have gone on to the NCAAs, so this year with the possibility of going to the tournament, there is much more meaning to the season, and that will make a difference in the player's attitude," said Welter about the rest of the schedule.

The team was picked to finish fifth in the PCSC Coastal Division.

"I think we are going to show some people that was a wrong decision," Peterson said.

"Honestly, it doesn't really matter to me. It basically goes off how you did the previous years. What you were last year is nothing like what you are going to be this year," Rodriguez said on the preseason vote.

"No one really overpowered anyone else last year," Rodgers said. "The standings back that up as well as the difference between the top five teams was only eight games."

All the players who were interviewed encourage students to come out and support them.

"We have a lot of mid-week games, so come out and support us," Rodriguez said.

Male Athlete of the Week



Red-shirt sophomore Andrew Balch earned second place in his weight class of 157 pounds in the San Francisco State Collegiate Invitational. Balch was the third seed overall in his weight class and won his

first match of the tournament with a time of 2:05. Balch would go on to win in the quarterfinals with a technical fall and defeated Cal Poly's Pearce Swerdfeger 4-2 in the semi-final before losing 10-0 to another Cal Poly wrestler, Barrett Abel.

Female Athlete of the Week



No. 2 singles sophomore Veronica Dimas easily won her match 6-0 6-0 to help the CSUB tennis team to a 6-1 victory against Dominican University. Dimas also won her match with doubles partner Gabriela Horton as the No. 2

doubles with a dominating 8-1 victory against Dominican University's Michele Frietas and Jamie Fernandez. The 'Runners will travel to San Luis Obispo to face Cal Poly Thursday, Feb 10 before hosting UC Riverside Saturday, Feb 12 at 1 p.m.

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