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For University Alumni and Friends

PIONEERS RISING

*Trials, triumphs and transformations
through Pioneer Athletics*



Spring 2014

SPRING 2014

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PHOTO: GARVIN TSO



CALIFORNIA STATE
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is published by the Office of University Communications, a department of the University Advancement division, and by the CSUEB Alumni Association.

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Hayward, CA 94542 or call 510.885.4295

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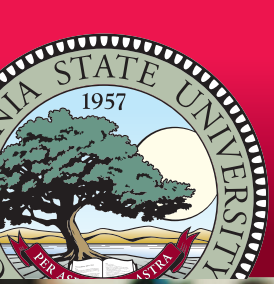
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Athletics have a special place at the collegiate level, and we are proud of those Pioneers who have contributed to the legacy of Cal State East Bay athletics. I would be remiss if I did not mention the appreciation we have for our coaches, professors and others who help our students make the most of their athletic and intellectual abilities while they are here.

We are appreciative of alumni and friends whose support makes it possible for CSUEB athletes to compete at the highest echelon of Division II sports. Equally important, their generosity for programs and scholarships enables these students — as well as the thousands of others who attend Cal State East Bay — to compete and succeed in life after they complete their degrees.

Our mission is to be a model university for regionally engaged learning in the 21st century. If we are to accomplish this mission, then we must prepare all of our graduates to compete in an arena that is increasingly complex, diverse, globally interdependent and instantaneously connected.

As the University's reputation grows, so does the strength of our programs in the classroom, on the field, track, court and in the pool. I am proud to say that our Fall 2013 academic data shows we have nine teams with a team GPA of more than 3.0 (women's soccer led the way with 3.43); 61 percent of our student-athletes have GPAs greater than 3.0, while 29 percent earned GPAs greater than 3.5. Remarkably, with perfect GPAs of 4.0 there were 12 scholar-athletes whose excellence is exemplary.

It is gratifying to see these young men and women excelling at all levels. Thanks to you and others who support and treasure Cal State East Bay, so we can continue a winning tradition.

Go Pioneers!

Leroy M. Morishita

Leroy M. Morishita
President

UNIVERSITY NEWS

\$20,000 Challenge Campaign

Alumnae establish SOS Fund to help more CSUEB students graduate



Thanks to Cal State East Bay's SOS Fund, students like veteran John Matthews (B.S. Engineering '13) are able to complete their degree. His CSUEB degree helped him land a job at the renowned auto manufacturer Tesla, in nearby Fremont.

As they saw state support for public higher education drop and student fees rise in 2011, Cal State East Bay alumnae Luanne Rotticci (B.S. Business and Kinesiology, '87) and Liza Jane MacNaughton (B.A. Spanish, '90) were appalled to think what it would mean for CSUEB students who were close to graduation but would be forced to drop out for financial reasons.

Rotticci and MacNaughton took action by founding the "Save Our Students" (SOS) Scholarship Fund, establishing it with their own money while reaching out to friends and fellow alumni.

Three years later the SOS Fund, with \$58,000 in gifts and individual scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,500, has enabled 56 students previously in danger of dropping out to remain and graduate. While a tremendous accomplishment for SOS, the need for help proved much bigger; between 2011-2012, there were six to seven times more applicants seeking assistance

than scholarship dollars available.

How helpful has the SOS Fund been? John Matthews, a U.S. Navy veteran who fought in the Iraq War and was one of those students in need after losing his job, was able to return to CSUEB to complete his degree.

"I was working at NUMMI (New United Motors Manufacturing, Inc.) when it was closed down," Matthews said. "My family of four faced many challenges as I returned to school. The SOS Scholarship gave me a second chance in life ... it gave me the opportunity to stay in school and complete my degree in industrial engineering. With that degree I secured a job at Tesla. I was very proud to be able to make my own gift to the SOS Scholarship Fund this year."

In 2014, Rotticci and MacNaughton have announced a \$20,000 SOS Scholarship Fund Challenge. In order to support 21 additional students with \$1,400 SOS Scholarships, they will donate an additional \$10,000 if the university can raise \$20,000 for the fund by June 30, 2014.

If you would like to join others in helping Cal State East Bay students stay in school, graduate and reach their potential, go to www.csueastbay.edu/giving, or contact Penny Peak, Director, Alumni Relations & Programs at 510-885-4156, or at penny.peak@csueastbay.edu.

— Barry Zepel



PHOTO: BARRY ZEPHEL

Alumnae Luanne Rotticci (far left) and Liza Jane MacNaughton (center) founded the "Save Our Students" Scholarship Fund. Also pictured: SOS recipient John Matthews and CSUEB President Leroy M. Morishita (far right).

PIONEER ‘AMBASSADORS’

bring their brand of baseball to Japan, return to Cal State East Bay with a lifetime’s-worth of memories

Cal State East Bay’s baseball team matched the program record for victories in 2013 and appeared in the national top-25 rankings for the first time since 1977. But if you ask the student-athletes who were there, the more memorable experience occurred months after the season ended.

Last August, 26 Pioneer baseball players and three coaches traveled halfway across the world to Japan for a week of cultural immersion and friendly competition with the Fukuoka Institute of Technology (FIT). They stayed in on-campus residence halls with the FIT students and played six games against the school’s team.

When they weren’t on the field, the student-athletes spent their

time interacting with their hosts and engaging in various activities in the city of Fukuoka. The team participated in a judo exhibition, attended a professional baseball game and sampled lots of local cuisine.

“We had a special, tight-knit group of student-athletes, so I’m happy they were able to have that cultural experience together,” says Head Baseball Coach Bob Ralston (B.S., ’88, M.S., ’92). “The trip was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for all of us.”

Cal State East Bay’s student body comes from more than 80 countries, and U.S. News and World Report recently ranked it among the top institutions in the West for international students. With philanthropic support,



Pioneer team members’ cultural immersion included time on the judo mat.

immersion trips like this one will be possible for future Pioneers.

“This trip to Japan was a unique opportunity for our students to act as ambassadors for the University and grow as citizens of the world,” says Director of Athletics Sara Judd. “We hope to be able to continue our relationship with FIT in the coming years.” — **Steve Connolly**



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIONEER ATHLETICS

Members of the two teams, the Fukuoka Institute of Technology and Cal State East Bay, found common ground — on and off the diamond.

Nancy Mangold recognized as OUTSTANDING PROFESSOR

by CSUEB colleagues, CSU System

For more than 30 years, Nancy Mangold has been known as a “go-to” expert on accounting and finance, not only by her Cal State East Bay colleagues but by national and international organizations as well.

Mangold, selected as the George and Miriam Phillips “Outstanding Professor” recipient for 2012-13, has taught 16 different undergraduate, postgraduate and executive-level accounting courses since first stepping on the Hayward campus in 1984. Named earlier this year as one of its “Outstanding Faculty” among all 23 campuses of the California State University system, Mangold has been sought for her accounting acumen by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the World Bank.

As chair of Accounting and Finance, Mangold was one of two professors in the U.S. selected in 2009–10 by the SEC for a fellowship in that agency’s Office of the Chief Accountant.

“That was a very exciting opportunity for me, especially at the time of financial crisis,” says Mangold, “because I had the opportunity to make contributions to important national and international accounting and auditing issues facing our country.”

The World Bank, a United Nations international financial institution that provides loans to developing countries, appointed her special consultant to the People’s Bank of China (PBC, China’s Central Bank) in 2001 to conduct research for establishing a deposit insurance system in that country.

Despite her successes in teaching accounting nationally and internationally, and winning best paper awards in accounting research, Mangold’s main interest is her Cal State East Bay accounting students.

“I have chosen the right profession — being an educator,” Mangold says. “There is nothing that gives me more pride and satisfaction than to see my students succeed. I am humbled how my teaching can have such an impact on students, and how they have valued my teaching.” — **Barry Zepel**



PHOTO: GARVIN TSO

Despite being in demand by such organizations as the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the World Bank, Professor Nancy Mangold’s focus is on teaching.

Mangold has been sought for her accounting acumen by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the World Bank.



McGLORY-ous LEGACY

Triple jumper Marcus McGlory (B.S., '92) captained the University's powerhouse track and field team three decades ago. Today, his daughter Lauren is helping to rebuild Cal State East Bay's program — and eyeing a school record in the same event.

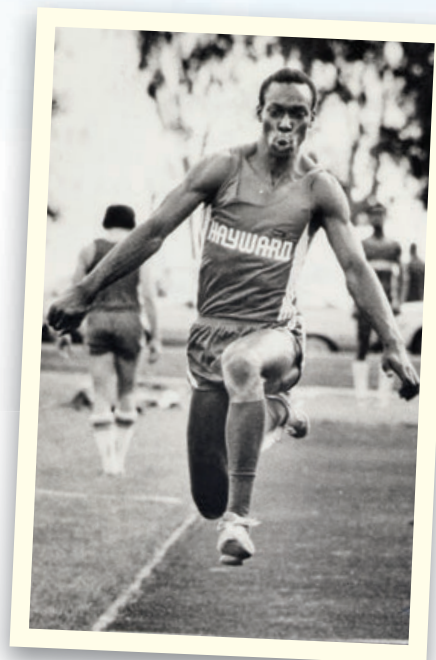
BY FRED SANDSMARK '83

MARCUS MCGLORY (B.S., '92) BELIEVES ATHLETIC SUCCESS SPRINGS FROM A STRAIGHTFORWARD FORMULA: "COMBINE QUALITY COACHING WITH NATURAL ABILITY AND YOU'RE GOING TO GO BIG," HE SAYS.

He should know, because going big runs in his family. Marcus was an All-American triple jumper and long jumper for Cal State Hayward from 1978 to 82, and his daughter, Lauren McGlory, is striving for the women's triple jump record at Cal State East Bay now.

ALL-AMERICAN DAD

As a jumper at El Cerrito High School nearly four decades ago, Marcus was single-minded about competing in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) State Track and Field Championships. He achieved that goal in his senior year, 1978, then set his sights on national competition with a college team. He had already been accepted at San Francisco State when he was approached by Don Chu, who had helped coach the Pioneers to a Division II national championship in 1977. ▶



Marcus McGlory was a record-setting jumper for Cal State.

“[Marcus] was extremely coachable. But more than anything else, I was super-impressed with his dedication. He never missed a workout.”

DON CHU,
FORMER CAL STATE EAST BAY
TRACK AND FIELD COACH

Chu remembers talking with Marcus over lunch before a visit to the Hayward campus. “I found him to be just the kind of kid that you would love to have in your program,” Chu recalls. “He was personable, articulate, and had a sense of maturity about himself. He was just absolutely solid, and I was determined to get him [on the team] in the worst way.”

Marcus, in turn, was wowed by the combination of team depth and quality coaching he saw. “When I walked on campus, there were all these All-Americans,” he remembers. Cal State’s head coach, Jim Santos, had a national reputation for building winning teams, and jump coach Chu was one of the nation’s foremost experts in plyometrics — jump exercises that helped improve power and speed quickly.

After changing his application and enrolling at Cal State, Marcus quickly made his mark. “He was extremely coachable,” Chu says. “But more than anything else, I was super impressed with his dedication. He never missed a workout.”

As a freshman, Marcus was ranked fourth in the nation in the triple jump. He earned the respect of his teammates and served as team captain for the next three years. In addition to being a top athlete — he earned All-American honors in 1979, 1980 and 1981 — he was also active in his fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha.

Marcus’s eligibility clock ran out in 1982 and a year later — just a few courses short of his degree — he left school for work in logistics and sourcing. He married and started a family, and later

took his business skills to Kaiser Permanente, which offered tuition reimbursement for employees to continue their education. Through that program, Marcus was able to return to Hayward to complete his degree. A photo in the family album shows him in his graduation gown, proudly holding his year-old identical twin daughters, Lauren and Nicole. The year was 1992

“We put something like 200,000 miles on a minivan in 10 years of going to soccer tournaments,” Marcus laughs. If those road trips took the family anywhere near his Cal State teammates — many of whom were now doctors, lawyers and college professors around the country — the minivan detoured for impromptu reunions. Cal State’s jumpers also organized their own get-togethers every few years. “Those guys were like uncles [to the girls],” he recalls. “There have been years when we spent the holidays with our track teammates more than our immediate family.”

THE DESIRE TO BE GREAT

Fast forward to 2006. Lauren and Nicole enrolled at James Logan High School in nearby Union City. In addition to soccer, the sisters joined the school’s powerhouse track and field team, competing in triple jump and long jump just as their father had. Coincidentally, CSUEB restarted its track and field program that same year.

The twins’ natural ability was molded by top coaches, including Don Chu and Arno Brewer, both of whom had worked with their father. Nicole qualified for the state meet as a freshman, (“She was better than me for a long time,” Lauren says), and in her senior year Lauren placed fifth in triple jump at the state meet. While Marcus encouraged his daughters and monitored their training, he generally deferred to their coaches. “To be honest, I didn’t like [my father] coaching me,” Lauren remembers. “I was like, ‘Arno is my coach.’ I was just being



— in a sad coincidence, the same year Cal State shuttered its men’s and women’s intercollegiate track and field programs.

Family was Marcus’s top priority as he progressed in his career. “If we had a family philosophy, it was definitely, ‘Hit the books,’” he says. “Get your studying and preparation done — and when you’re not doing that, you’ve got to be active in something.” For the McGlory girls, that something was soccer.

ABOVE: Memories: Marcus McGlory’s Cal State track and field singlet and scrapbook.

RIGHT: The McGlory family at Marcus’ graduation from Cal State in 1992.

“You can bring in talented athletes, but it’s important that they have the desire to be great. That’s what Lauren brings to the table.”

Ralph Jones
CAL STATE EAST BAY
HEAD TRACK AND FIELD COACH





Like father, like daughter: Lauren McGlory is hoping to join her father, Marcus McGlory, in leaving her mark in the jumping pit and in CSUEB's track and field record book.

a teenager, but I was so against him coaching me in high school.”

Lauren and Nicole were recruited by Division I Sacramento State University out of high school and offered track scholarships. They chose the same major (nutrition and foods), took the same classes, shared their books, lived together and competed side by side. It was during this period that Lauren set Sac State's school record for indoor triple jump (42'2"). As she matured, she also began to welcome her father's advice and wisdom. "I started looking to my dad for answers," she remembers. "I felt like he was the one that really helped me get to my big jumps, and really helped motivate me as well."

The McGlory sisters left Sacramento State's track and field program after two and a half years, though continuing to compete unattached. After graduating in 2013, the sisters' paths diverged: Nicole went to work, but Lauren wanted to continue her education and use her last year of collegiate eligibility. (By NCAA rules, an athlete's four years of eligibility must come within five years.) Marcus, upon hearing that the track and field program at Cal State East Bay was rebuilding, encouraged his daughter to move home and contacted CSUEB coach Ralph Jones. After an encouraging conversation, she enrolled as a graduate student in Fall 2013 (studying healthcare administration) and joined the track and field team.

Jones says Lauren is just the type of athlete who can help elevate the Pioneer program even further. "You can bring in talented athletes, but it's important that they have the desire to be great," Jones says. "That's what Lauren brings to the table."

Her work ethic demonstrates that desire: Daily four-hour workouts begin by 8 a.m., followed by studying in the afternoon and attending evening

classes. Her dedication is paying off. On March 15, Lauren ranked as the top women's triple jumper in NCAA Division II with a 40' 7.75" effort. "She's a far better competitor and performer than I was," her proud father says.

LEGACY OF ACHIEVEMENT

The McGlory family will continue to go big in 2014. It is Lauren's final collegiate season — the national meet will be held on Memorial Day weekend in Michigan, and she's determined to jump there — and Marcus will be inducted into the Cal State East Bay Athletics Hall of Fame on May 18. Father and daughter also plan to participate in a legacy track meet on April 18–19 at Chabot College (where Ken Grace, one of Marcus's Cal State teammates, is on the coaching staff). It's an event that will raise both awareness and funds for Cal State East Bay's growing program.

Alumni like Marcus McGlory play extremely important roles in building excitement, and generating resources for Pioneer Athletics, Coach Jones says. "Having these legends really allows our athletes to know their history, what they're part of," he explains. "There's a great legacy that the current student-athletes need to be made aware of, so they understand what they're representing."

Lauren McGlory is already aware of that legacy — she grew up surrounded by it — and she's determined to help bolster that legacy and reconstruct Cal State's former glory on the track. "I knew that by coming [to Cal State East Bay] I was helping Coach Jones rebuild and get the program noticed," Lauren says. "Now I'm invested."

Because, like her father, she's determined to go big. ■

HEART *in the* GAME



SARA LILLEVAND JUDD
Takes Pioneer Athletics to the Next Level

“I have a three-point mission: to see our student-athletes graduate, to win championships and to encourage our students to engage in the community.”

Sara Lillevand Judd
CAL STATE EAST BAY
ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

BY LINDA CHILDERS '85

WITH THE DISCERNING EYE OF A JEWELER, CAL STATE EAST BAY ATHLETICS DIRECTOR SARA LILLEVAND JUDD HAS THE INNATE ABILITY TO SEE UNLIMITED POTENTIAL IN STUDENT-ATHLETES. WHEN SHE MEETS WITH PLAYERS FROM EACH OF THE UNIVERSITY'S SPORTS TEAMS, SHE SEES MORE THAN JUST STAR SOFTBALL PITCHERS AND OUTSTANDING SOCCER GOALIES. SHE ALSO SEES THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS.

Judd, who enjoyed her own distinguished collegiate basketball career, playing first at Stanford and then at UC Davis, joined CSUEB 17 years ago. She served as head women's basketball coach and senior associate athletics director for compliance, as well as senior women's administrator, before assuming her current role. Her goal, one she shares

with her coaches, is to help students excel at both athletics *and* academics. Sometimes that means first helping them to realize their own potential.

“Many of our athletes are first-generation college students who are here with the help of scholarships,” Judd says. “Their athletic abilities and grades helped them get to the University, and our goal is to ensure they stay on track.”

Students such as Jarred Jourdan, a junior at CSUEB majoring in recreation management, epitomize the new type of college students who are juggling studies with work and family commitments. The 26-year-old Oakland native will be the first in his family to graduate from college, and hopes to be a role model for his own four-year-old daughter. ▶

“To be able to attend college full time and play basketball, without worrying about how I would pay for my education, has helped me tremendously.”

Jarred Jourdan
JUNIOR

Cal State East Bay junior Jarred Jourdan, with his daughter Tionnee, says that a combination of supportive coaches and professors — as well as scholarship assistance — have made it possible for him to balance study, basketball and parenting.



PHOTO: THOMAS SANDERS

High praise: Last year, CSUEB Athletics Director Sara Judd was honored with the Division II Administrator of the Year Award by the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators.

the players. Judd herself has been actively involved in local youth sports as a volunteer coach. She has coached 26 different basketball, soccer and baseball teams in her local community over the past six years.

"The Read with the Pioneers program gives local K-12 students the chance to not only view a game on campus, but to get a sense of the University and to meet with the players, whom many of the kids see as role models," Judd says. In addition, student-athletes are encouraged to volunteer in the community, and have assisted in such community engagement projects as Swim for Wishes, park cleanups, Special Olympics events, and raising money for the Make-a-Wish® Foundation and other charitable organizations.

"Sara believes in impressing upon our student-athletes the need to be good role models," says Suzy Barcomb, head women's basketball coach at CSUEB.

"They earn the right to wear their team's uniform, and even when they are off campus they need to represent both themselves and the college in the best possible way."

Judd's leadership skills and commitment to student-athletes haven't gone unnoticed. Last year, she received the 2013 Division II Administrator of the Year award by the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators (NACWAA).

"Sara is an excellent role model for our student-athletes and a leader among her peers," says former CSUEB Director of Athletics Debby De Angelis, who nominated Judd for the award. "She's an athlete, coach, senior administrator, mother, cancer survivor and now the director of athletics for Cal State East Bay. It was my honor to nominate the best woman I know as Division II Administrator of the Year."

For students such as Zuly Diaz, 23, a soccer player who graduated from CSUEB in 2013, Judd is also a role model in her own right. Diaz, who grew up in Richmond Calif., has always wanted to be a physical therapist, a career path that Judd herself pursued. Judd received her master's degree in physical therapy from Boston University, before being recruited to serve as an assistant coach at UC Davis, then at Wellesley College in Massachusetts.

"I worked hard in school because I knew that receiving an athletic scholarship would be the only way I would be able to attend college," Diaz says. "I grew not only as a player at CSUEB but also as a student. The coaching staff encouraged us to be the best we could be both on and off the field."

In addition to her scholarship, Diaz worked while attending CSUEB to pay for her books and rent. And, although her grades were good, she regularly attended study hall.

"I learned never to settle for anything other than my absolute best," Diaz says. "Sara Judd and my coaches encouraged me and supported me, and also taught me that if you work hard enough, anything is possible." ■

"To be able to attend college full time and play basketball, without worrying about how I would pay for my education, has helped me tremendously," Jourdan says. "All of my coaches and professors are very supportive. Many have young children themselves, so they understand the challenges of being a parent as well as a student-athlete."

Judd says students such as Jourdan were the motivation behind her work to oversee CSUEB's move from a non-scholarship program to one that exceeds the minimum of \$250,000 in athletic financial aid. At the same time, she and her staff had to bring the program into compliance with NCAA Division II rules for scheduling, recruiting, scholarships and eligibility.

"I have a three-point mission: to see our student-athletes graduate, to win championships and to encourage our students to engage in the community," Judd says. "When our student-athletes leave CSUEB, we want them to be able to participate in a positive way in their communities and to be able to successfully navigate life outside of school."

To that extent, Judd and her coaches heavily emphasize community involvement and volunteerism. The CSUEB Read with the Pioneers program encourages children in local schools to commit to a certain number of hours of reading. Students who meet the goal are invited to the Hayward campus to see an athletic event and to meet with



PHOTO: THOMAS SANDERS

“I worked hard in school because I knew that receiving an athletic scholarship would be the only way I would be able to attend college.”

Zuly Diaz (B.S., '13)
ALUMNA AND FORMER PIONEER ATHLETE



C O U R A G E

F O C U S

Pioneer Women's Swimming
finds the depth to push against the pain,
the distance and the clock

BY JEFF BLISS

SWIMMING IS A SPORT WHERE COMPETITORS NOT ONLY RACE AGAINST EACH OTHER IN A UNIQUE AND FOREIGN ARENA, BUT ALSO AGAINST THE MOST UNFORGIVING OF OPPONENTS — TIME. AS A SWIMMER TRIES TO BEAT HER FOE IN THE NEXT LANE, SHE MUST ALSO CHASE THE TICKING NUMBERS ON A STOPWATCH.

Like any high-level activity, swimming exacts things like commitment, determination, courage and resilience. It is a jealous thing, swimming. It demands faithful attention to detail, passion and, above all, focus.

For members of Cal State East Bay's women's team, swimming — serious, competitive swimming — is always at the forefront of their lives. From their daily 5 a.m. wake-ups, until they go to bed at 10 or 11 p.m. (after a day filled ▶

Freshman standout
Mariam Lowe powers
through a workout.

PHOTO JESSE CANTLEY

“They eat, sleep and breathe it. Each one is as competitive as the next and they’re always looking to improve — as individuals and as a team — so they naturally approach it that way.”

Ben Loorz
CAL STATE EAST BAY
HEAD WOMEN'S SWIMMING COACH

with studies, swim practice, weightlifting/exercise/stretching, more swimming, and sometimes working at a job), it is all-consuming. It demands their focus.

“They eat, sleep and breathe it,” according to their coach, Ben Loorz. “Each one is as competitive as the next and they’re always looking to improve — as individuals and as a team — so they naturally approach it that way.”

This season, Loorz’s squad has benefited from that focus, as Pioneer swimmers chalked up wins and set records. At the 2014 NCAA Championships, the CSUEB swimmers notched an impressive finish out of more than other 40 teams competing (many of them larger). In addition, the CSUEB team boasted three All-America performances, and all six Pioneers who qualified for the final meet — All-America Honorable Mentions.

Senior Caitlin DeNise, junior Alyssa Tenney, junior Brittany Rojo and freshman Madison Hauanio earned All-America honors as they qualified for the championship finals. DeNise also became the first Pioneer since the early 1990s to earn individual All-American honors, and she recorded an automatic qualifying time with her lifetime best set at the Pacific Collegiate Swim Conference Championships. She was ▶



PHOTO: JESSE CANTLEY

According to Head Coach Ben Loorz, senior Caitlin DeNise set the bar — in and out of the pool — for the Pioneers this season.



TOP: Now in his fourth season as Cal State East Bay's head coach, Ben Loorz is running a program that is gaining attention. LEFT: According to Loorz, the CSUEB women's squad succeeded this season "because of teamwork, as well as their built-in competitiveness."

the first Pioneer to earn PCSC titles since CSUEB joined the conference in the early 1990s.

In addition, both medley relay teams earned All-America Honorable Mention status after qualifying for the consolation final of the NCAA Championships. Notably, Rojo, DeNise and Hauanio each earned individual All-American Honorable Mentions.

For Loorz, whose watchword is "expectations," the Pioneers' performance surpassed his preseason hopes. "My vision for this program is three-part," Loorz said. "First, the immediate priority is to grow our numbers – the size of the team. Second, we will continue to improve. I took this job with the belief we could be a Top 10 team. A new facility will move us toward that goal and additional support in the way of funding for scholarships will be necessary if we are going to contend. The third goal is to turn Cal State East Bay into an aquatics destination. We want to grow our reputation so that people are increasingly drawn here."

"To be honest, I'm in my fourth season of coaching at East Bay and I've believed our program was situated to do great things," he says. "But I have to admit that my preseason expectations were modest. We had a number of challenges we had to overcome, but the team really went beyond what I thought they were capable of."

"You only need to watch our team swim and work together to see the potential here," Loorz added. "These ▶

PHOTO: KELLEY L COX

“Do you have the depth to push against it — the pain, the distance, the clock? Do you have the courage? I can say I was fortunate enough to see our team pull together as one and do just that.”

Ben Loorz
CAL STATE EAST BAY
HEAD WOMEN'S SWIMMING COACH

are people who want to be here. None of them are being paid to swim at Cal State East Bay. Their impressive work ethic really is the heart and soul of our blue collar team. We have very little in the way of scholarships, so we have to share that money with every recipient on the team. We're not like some of the neighboring swimming powerhouses [like Cal and Stanford] that are swimming in money — so to speak. There's no paid-for room and board for any of them, and some of the women even have jobs outside of their swimming and classroom responsibilities.

"It's pretty remarkable to see what Coach Loorz has been able to do with very limited resources," says CSUEB Athletics Director Sara Judd. "Ben is extremely knowledgeable about his sport and he is a gifted teacher. He is genuine and sincere. His work ethic is unparalleled. He is a communicator and he is insightful.

"Given what Ben has accomplished with minimal athletic aid and a nonregulation-size pool, it is exciting to imagine what the Pioneers could do with a regulation pool and an athletic aid budget anywhere near the Division II limit," Judd adds. "With similar resources to the regulars in the top 10, I have no doubt we could compete for an NCAA Division II National Championship in swimming. That says, Ben has truly maximized his scholarship dollars and his recruiting budget to find high-quality student-athletes who have then gone on to grow and improve under his tutelage.

"The bottom line: Our team's success has been built on believing in a vision for where we could go — an expectation," Loorz says. "We have been able to do that this season because they have been willing to sacrifice, continuously worked to improve, and they held each other accountable."

According to Loorz, the CSUEB squad made

significant advances as a team precisely because they bought into his philosophy that they would have to swim and stand shoulder to shoulder if they were going to excel.

"It's really too bad the NCAA categorizes swimming as an individual rather than a team sport," he says. "We've been improving and winning because we swim as a team, in practices and in meets. We have leaders in the pool, like Caitlin, who push through the pain and are transformed, often dropping significant time off personal bests. And we have leaders, like senior Rachel Knowles who, even though she didn't swim at Nationals and saw each of her nine CSUEB records fall to teammates, played a crucial role in shaping the team's attitude and culture. And that's what made our season so successful."

But just because the season ended on a high note, it does not mean the returning swimmers now get to ease up. The work continues.

"The life of a competitive swimmer is a never-ending quest for improvement," Loorz says. "Our goal is to be great every day, and the only way to do that is to set high expectations for yourself and those around you. I ask my swimmers, 'Do you have the depth to push against it — the pain, the distance, the clock? Do you have the courage?' I can say I was fortunate enough to see our team pull together as one and do just that.

"And that makes me feel great, as a coach and as an educator," he adds. "As a team, we all witness the payoff — the growth — that comes from their commitment and focus in the pool. But, more importantly, we see how that dedication and focus allow them to succeed out of the water, and how that will carry on with them after they leave Cal State East Bay." ■

Senior Caitlin DeNise finished 12th at NCAA National Championships in the 100-yard butterfly, earning an All-American Honorable Mention.

From ADVERSITY To The STARS

Cal State East Bay Basketball standouts Mark Samuels and Brianna Terrance overcome obstacles to achieve success both on and off the basketball court

BY LINDA CHILDERS '85

WHAT MANY PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE WHEN THEY SEE PIONEERS POINT GUARD MARK SAMUELS SINK A GAME-WINNING SHOT, OR CELEBRATE A TEAM VICTORY, IS JUST HOW MANY OBSTACLES HE OVERCAME TO GET TO WHERE HE IS TODAY.

The road Samuels traveled to get to CSUEB began in Berkeley, where he witnessed many friends and family members fall prey to drugs and violence. Knowing at an early age that he wanted more out of life, Samuels found solace on the basketball court.

"The people who are closest to me realized I was focused and had a good chance to make it out of the neighborhood and to do something positive with my life," Samuels says. "Basketball gave me a reason to exclude myself from certain situations, and also helped me



PHOTO: GARVIN TSO



Cal State East Bay's Mark Samuels says his mother, Linda, has been a source of inspiration throughout his life. He hopes that receiving his degree from CSUEB will serve as an inspiration to his younger brother and others.

get where I am today."

Samuels' parents encouraged their son's love of the game and also emphasized the importance of education. "My dad grew up on the Berkeley streets, and the streets were all he knew," Samuels says. "He definitely wished he could have gone further with his education, but he married young and was forced to provide for his family the best way he could."

Samuels says his father was a good man who made some unfortunate choices. Although he was just a teen at the time, Samuels still remembers the sinking feeling he had after learning his dad had been arrested.

"I felt the weight was on my shoulders when he went to jail, because he was the primary source of

financial support for my family," Samuels says. "My mom was struggling, and I tried to do the best I could to be there for my mom, my sisters and also my younger brother."

Samuels' best was pretty impressive. He enjoyed an illustrious basketball career at Berkeley High, earning league MVP honors his senior year. His talent caught the attention of CSUEB coaches who were impressed by his ball handling, shooting and leadership skills. When Samuels was offered a scholarship at CSUEB, he readily accepted and joined the men's basketball team as a freshman in 2009.

"I liked the diversity of the campus, the fact that it was close to home, and I felt as if I could form relationships with my professors in a way that wouldn't be possible at a larger university," Samuels says. "I definitely wouldn't have been able to attend college if I hadn't received

scholarship assistance."

Director of Athletics Sara Judd says Samuels is the epitome of both superior athletics and academics. "Mark represents both who we are at CSUEB and the students we serve," Judd says. "Not only is he a key player on the men's basketball team, who has made the top ten list in many areas, he is also a local public school graduate who is very solid academically."

In 2011, CSUEB was accepted as a full active member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II and the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA). A year later, in 2012, Samuels was named the CCAA Player

of the Week for Feb. 13–19. In his junior year, Samuels led the Pioneers in scoring with 16.2 points per game, 5.0 rebounds per game and 3.0 assists per game. Even after undergoing surgery for a herniated disc and being forced to sit out the 2012–2013 season, Samuels remained the team's biggest supporter and cheered his teammates from the sidelines.

As a senior, Samuels has become the third-leading scorer in CSUEB history, and for the 2013–2014 season he is CSUEB's second-leading scorer at 13.4 points per game. He has reached double figures in seven of nine games.

As he prepares to graduate this spring with a degree in kinesiology, Samuels knows that when he walks across the stage to accept his diploma that it will be a bittersweet occasion. His father, Mark, died in February 2011, and his mother, Linda, was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer this past January. Living close to home has allowed Samuels, 22, the opportunity to juggle his studies and basketball career, while also being present for his mother, sisters Marionna and Andrea, and brothers Douglas and Marcus.

"Getting my degree is special for many reasons," Samuels says. "I'll be the first in my family to graduate from college. It means a lot to me and to my family, and I hope I can be an inspiration both to my younger brother and others who may have thought about pursuing a college degree but didn't believe it was a possibility."

Samuels says he is proud of the part he has played being a part of the Pioneers, and that he has grown as a person as the result of his experiences at CSUEB. He is also adamant that basketball will always play a big part in his life.

"I'd like to play on an overseas basketball team for a few years before returning home to either work as a coach or an athletic trainer," Samuels says. "And I definitely see myself returning to campus to watch my alma mater compete." ▶

“I’ll be the first in my family to graduate from college. It means a lot to me and to my family, and I hope I can be an inspiration both to my younger brother and others who may have thought about pursuing a college degree but didn’t believe it was a possibility.”

Mark Samuels
SENIOR



Women's basketball standout Brianna Terrance is renowned for her drive — on and off the court.

SHE'S ALL THAT (AND MORE)

On the basketball court, Brianna Terrance's moves seem easy and effortless, but her path to landing a scholarship has been anything but smooth.

Terrance began playing basketball when she was in middle school. At 5 feet 8 inches she wasn't the tallest on her team, but her determination and natural athletic ability made her a formidable opponent on the court.

When head Women's Basketball Coach Suzy Barcomb recruited Terrance, she knew the Washington native was a solid athlete who could jump, but four years later she admits Terrance has exceeded even her highest expectations.

"If there was a most improved player award, Bri would get it every single year," Barcomb says. "She works really hard and sets the bar very high, both with her studies and her basketball career."

Terrance is the first to admit that she didn't have a lot of structure in high school. "My teenage years were tough," she says. "There was a period where there was substance abuse in the family, and my younger sister had to undergo five surgeries for a congenital heart defect."

As one of eight kids, Terrance was used to working hard and living modestly. And although she wanted to go to college, she knew her family didn't have the financial resources to pay for her tuition. When Barcomb approached her about the possibility of attending CSUEB on a scholarship, Terrance was thrilled.

"The NCAA and our own coaches set high expectations for our athletes, but Bri sets even loftier goals for herself," Barcomb says. "She's not happy with just a 3.5 GPA.

She regularly attends study hall, even though she doesn't have to do so, because she wants to graduate with a 4.0 GPA. And she doesn't just rely on attending basketball practices. She works out on a year-round basis and continually sets goals for herself in an effort to improve her game."

As she prepares to graduate from CSUEB this spring with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, Terrance is leaving the campus a different person than she was four years ago. In high school, she maintained a 2.8 GPA. Today, she has a 3.5 GPA and has mastered success both on and off the court. In February, she was named the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) Women's Basketball Player of the Week for Feb. 16–22. Her top 10 all-time CSUEB program records include 413 field goals (No. 1), 1,000 points (No. 3), a .473 field goal percentage (tied for No. 4), a .684 free throw percentage (No. 8) and 441 rebounds (No. 8).

For now, Terrance is keeping her career options open. "I'm still deciding whether I want to pursue a career as a police officer or as a deputy coroner," Terrance says. "I do know that either way, I want to stay in the East Bay."

Barcomb notes the 21-year-old athlete is extremely self-motivated, and supplements her scholarship money by taking on part-time jobs.

"I asked Bri once why she was so driven, and she told me that as the first in her family to graduate from college, she hopes to set an example for her younger siblings," Barcomb says. "Having students like her is why I continue coaching." ■

“I asked Bri once why she was so driven, and she told me that as the first in her family to graduate from college, she hopes to set an example for her younger siblings. Having students like her is why I continue coaching.”

Suzy Barcomb
CAL STATE EAST BAY
HEAD WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH



PHOTO: GARVINTSO

CSUEB's Gymnasium Getting **MUCH-NEEDED RENOVATIONS** to Classrooms and Courts

CSUEB's gym will be getting a facelift in the next several years to create more classroom space and provide CSUEB with the opportunity to become a community sports venue.

Athletic Director Sara Judd says the renovation will help the campus meet Division II's gameday environment effort, which emphasizes amenities that provide fans with a truly enjoyable experience. CSUEB has been a full active member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II since 2011.

"The newly renovated space will feature an improved sound system and lighting, new bleachers with seat backs and more classroom space," says Judd. "Not only will the renovation benefit our volleyball and basketball teams, it will positively impact our popular kinesiology program."

The plans to remodel the existing gym will take place in phases over the next two to three years, aiding the campus in its efforts to recruit athletes and to be a venue for community events.

"Back in the 1980s and 1990s, our college hosted many of the local high school sporting championships," Judd says. "The new gym will be a very inviting place to watch games, and we appreciate the support of alumni, students, staff and other donors who are helping to make the renovated gym a reality."

Judd says the first phase of construction will begin this summer and is slated for completion in 2017.

"Many of our alumni have fond memories of their student experience and that includes attending CSUEB athletic events," says Greg Bistline, director of major gifts. "They have expressed an interest in supporting our renovation efforts, and look forward to introducing their families to a new generation of Pioneer athletics when the gym is completed." — **Linda Childers '85**

TOP FLIGHT

Assistant Golf Coach Mario Castellanos (B.S. '09) and his Sister, Andrea, Turn Pioneer Golf into a Family Affair

BY STEVE CONNOLLY & TODD PREPSKY

LONG BEFORE THEY BECAME PIONEERS, MARIO AND ANDREA CASTELLANOS WERE DESTINED TO PLAY GOLF. BARELY OLD ENOUGH FOR KINDERGARTEN, THEY ACCOMPANIED THEIR FATHER JESUS TO THE GOLF COURSE, WHERE HE PUT CLUBS IN THEIR TINY HANDS. IT STARTED OUT OF PARENTAL CONCERN — JESUS WANTED HIS KIDS TO HAVE A POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE ACTIVITY TO WHICH THEY COULD DEVOTE THEIR ENERGY.

“My dad used to say he would rather have us spending our time on grass than on concrete,” Mario recalls.

But as they grew up, golf turned into more than an extracurricular activity. Their father’s love of the game rubbed off on Mario and Andrea, and they started to get pretty good at it. When the Union City natives reached junior high, they began competing in youth tournaments all over Northern California.

By the time Mario was a senior at James Logan High School, he had dreams of making a career of golf. When he was recruited to play for Cal State East Bay, he was thrilled at the opportunity to stay close to home. And, as it turned out, Mario’s freshman year was also the golf team’s first season under Head Golf Coach Alan Sue.

When Mario entered Cal State East Bay as a freshman in 2005, he liked it so much he decided to stick around for a while. Mario played under Sue for four seasons, shining at times on the course and consistently as a student. He spent his last two years serving as president of CSUEB’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and he played a major role in Pioneer Athletics’ transition back to NCAA Division II and admittance into the California Collegiate Athletic Association.

Mario graduated in 2009 and immediately accepted an offer to stay with the team as a coach. He is now in his fifth year as the school’s assistant golf coach, and the top senior on the women’s team is someone he knows very well — his younger sister, Andrea, ▶



Assistant Golf Coach Mario Castellanos (B.S., '09)

PHOTO COURTESY PIONEER ATHLETICS

Cal State East Bay golfer Andrea Castellanos (senior)

PHOTO: THOMAS SANDERS

“Mario and Andrea were raised by a great family. It has been a tremendous addition to our program that they chose to make East Bay their golf family.”

Alan Sue
CAL STATE EAST BAY
HEAD GOLF COACH

who decided to follow in her brother's footsteps and attend CSUEB on a golf scholarship. It was the start of an outstanding four-year career for the younger Castellanos, but it almost never happened. In fact, there was a time when she wasn't sure she'd ever be interested in golf again.

In 2008, Andrea's and Mario's mother, Reyna, passed away after a brave battle with breast cancer. The loss was particularly hard on the 16-year-old Andrea, and it kept her away from the golf course for nearly two years.

“It changed the way I looked at everything,” Andrea says. “But now I try not to take anything for granted.”

The Castellanos family had always been close, and losing their mother brought them even closer. Ultimately, it was Andrea's desire to stay near her brother that led her to Cal State East Bay and back to golf.

“Mario and Andrea were raised by a great family,” says Coach Sue. “It has been a tremendous addition to our program that they chose to make East Bay their golf family.”

After serving as a volunteer for one year, Mario was brought on as a full-time coach and quickly developed a passion for working with student-athletes. Andrea, meanwhile, has spent the last four years as one of the team's best and most consistent golfers. This past fall, Mario watched proudly as his sister was crowned the individual champion of the Sonoma State Invitational, her first career tournament title.

The 2013–14 Women's Golf team has proven to be one of the best squads yet. This spring, they have claimed team championships at the Tim Tierney Pioneer Shootout — their home tournament — and the Otter Invitational, hosted by CSU Monterey Bay, accomplishments that Coach Sue and the squad can all be proud of.

But for Mario and Andrea Castellanos, it's more than that. It's the golf wisdom of their father, the memory of their mother, and the closeness they share as siblings and as teammates that has contributed to their success — truly a family affair. ■

“Cal State East Bay provides a wonderful education for student-athletes.”

Jack Acosta (B.S. '75, MBA '78)
ALUMNUS



Jack and Susan Acosta

Success on the course can't happen without outside support, so Golf Coach Alan Sue turned to two of CSUEB's most prolific benefactors — Jack Acosta (B.S. '75, MBA '78) and his wife, Susan. Jack has long been a generous donor to the University, but in 2011 he met coach Sue and took an interest in the golf program.

“Cal State East Bay provides a wonderful education for student-athletes,” says Jack. “Alan plays the role of a teacher, a motivator and a counselor, and he's done such a fantastic job putting together a successful program here.”

Thanks to Jack and Susan, the Pioneers have been able to continue traveling to Hawaii to compete in the annual Dennis Rose Invitational, a major fall tournament. Their donations have also helped cover the cost of gear and equipment, as well as pay for additional golfers to travel on the road. Most importantly, financial support allows Sue to continue to attract talented golfers like Andrea Castellanos and junior Linda Brown, a San Leandro native who won three consecutive individual tournament titles this spring.

Notes Sue, “Jack's support of our program has made a huge difference in terms of providing scholarships and enhancing the overall experience for our student-athletes.”

In addition to their support for Pioneer golf, Jack and Susan Acosta are devoted philanthropists and advocates for education. An accomplished alumnus, Jack earned his B.S. in business administration from Cal State in 1975 and his MBA in 1978. After building a highly successful career in financial management, he turned his efforts toward supporting his alma mater. Jack has served on the CSUEB Educational Foundation Board of Directors for the past decade and has been active in support of the University's efforts to provide access to public higher education for East Bay citizens. In 2010, Cal State East Bay conferred an honorary doctorate upon Jack Acosta for his contributions as a civic and business leader. — **Todd Prepsky**

ON THE GREEN: CSUEB golfer Andrea Castellanos (senior); alumnus, brother and Assistant Coach Mario Castellanos; and head Coach Alan Sue.



PHOTO: SCOTT CHERNIS

FACES OF COMPETITION

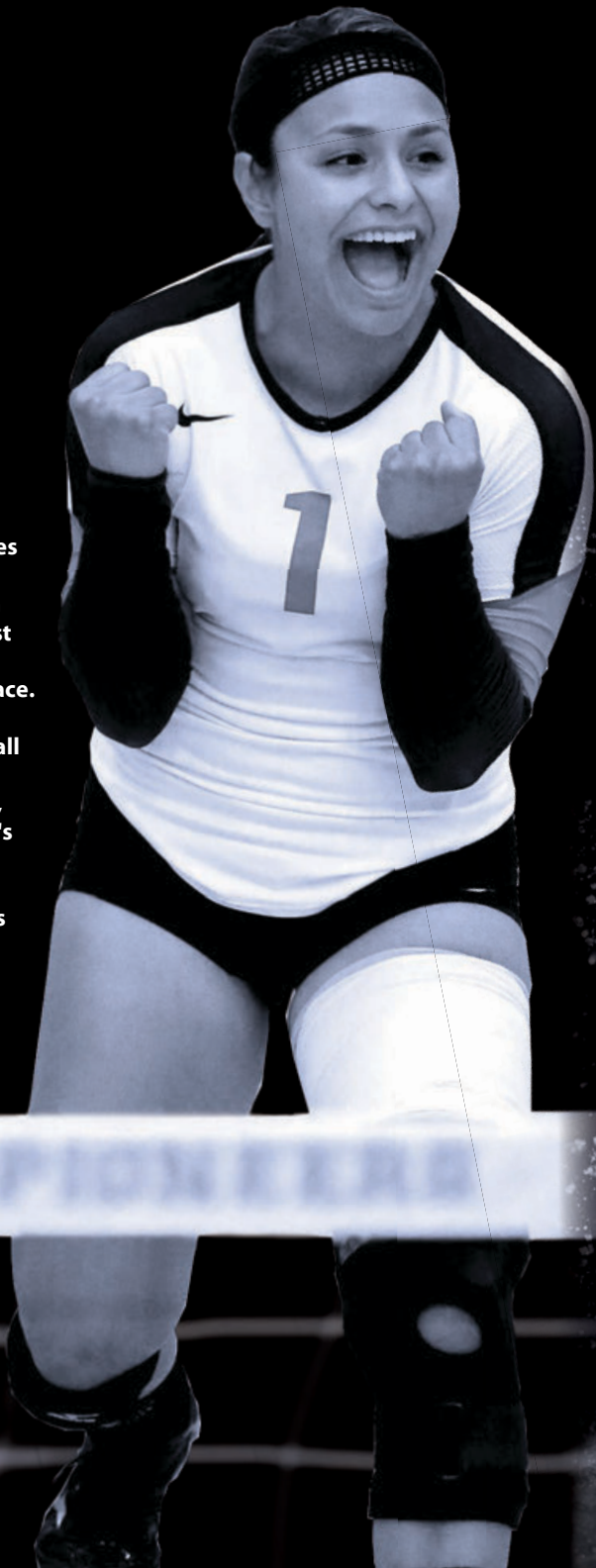
“When I think about Pioneer Athletics, three words come to mind: perseverance, discipline and excellence. The Pioneers are indeed rising.”

Leroy M. Morishita
President



LEFT: Long distance runner Jose Gonzalez-Mejia (senior) uses every last ounce of energy he can muster to outlast his competitor and finish the race.

RIGHT: Volleyball player Veronica Sanchez (junior), Cal State East Bay's emotional leader and defensive anchor, celebrates after winning a point.



LEFT: Softball player Kelsey Cairns (sophomore) focuses intently on her target as she strides towards home plate to deliver a pitch.

BOTTOM: Gabe Kindred (senior) leads the Pioneer men's basketball team with fiery passion and intensity on the court.



LEFT: Water polo goalkeeper Marrina Nation (senior) pulls herself out of the water and stretches with both hands to block an opponent's shot.

PHOTOS: KELLEY L COX

PIONEERS

PAYING IT FORWARD

Five who left their mark on Cal State East Bay's athletics programs provide opportunities for those who follow.



BY FRED SANDSMARK '83

Cal State East Bay's student-athletes have much to be proud of.

Over the years, many Pioneers have earned All-America honors and national championships, tallied school records, and made memories and friendships to last a lifetime. The attributes that helped them become top athletes — including perseverance, teamwork and humility — have driven them on to successful professional and personal lives.

Former student-athletes are also rightfully proud of the institution that supported them while they earned an education and pursued their athletic dreams. The five individuals profiled here — all members of the University's Athletics Hall of Fame — show their pride and gratitude by contributing time, talent and money to help the next generation of student-athletes at Cal State East Bay.

They're truly Pioneers who pay it forward.

RIGHT: CSUEB Hall of Fame diver Lori Stilson-Armstrong (B.S., '83), is now a noted costumer in the film industry.

SPRINGBOARD TO SUCCESS

Lori Stilson-Armstrong (B.S., '83) Soared to Hollywood from Cal State's Diving Board.

Ask Pioneer alumni for their college memories and they often mention the panoramic hilltop vistas of the East Bay. Lori Stilson-Armstrong has a specific recollection: "The reason I went to Hayward is that I couldn't believe the view from the diving board," she says. "It was phenomenal."

As Lori Stilson, she was a three-time NCAA Division II All-American in 1- and 3- meter springboard diving. She was inducted into the University's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000, but she almost didn't make it to Cal State at all. With eight children from rural Kerman, Calif., Stilson's family couldn't afford college, but she was recruited by diving coach Cal Caplan. "I had been diving since I was six years old, but I'd never had a coach so interested in me," she says.

In addition to diving and studying, Stilson worked as a cocktail waitress and lifeguard to make ends meet. "Being a college athlete keeps you organized and focused," she says, but her college years weren't a complete grind. She recalls hanging out with her teammates — many of whom are still friends — and traveling up and down the state for competitions. Some memories verge on comical: "I will never forget [Coach] Tim Tierney asking me to teach some of his football players to swim," she laughs. "I have never seen anybody go to the bottom so fast!"

Stilson-Armstrong's diving ties directly to her 28-year career as a Hollywood costumer. Mal Caplan, her coach's father, was the longtime costume head for MGM and Universal, and when the team traveled to Southern California they'd tour the studios with him. "I kept saying, 'Oh my gosh, I want to do this,'" she recalls, but quickly adds that the Caplans didn't help her break into the business. It took hard work, talent and dedication, just as diving did.

Today, Stilson-Armstrong proudly supports Cal State East Bay. She donates to the University because she believes today's students — particularly student-athletes in aquatic sports — deserve the same opportunities to learn and compete that she received.

She also gives to the University because she knows — from experience — how important college years are in a young person's life. "I contribute a little bit

every year because I really attribute my growing up to Cal State Hayward, and essentially to my coach, Cal. He opened up my whole world and made me excited about life." ►



PHOTO: MAX S. GERBER

GOALS OF SUCCESS

Soccer Star Frank Fudenna (B.S., '77) found his athletic home in Hayward.

The college career of Frank Fudenna follows a storyline that's familiar and inspiring to sports fans: Tragedy leads to triumph.

Fudenna was an outstanding three-sport athlete — football, soccer and baseball — at Fremont's Washington High School. Upon graduation in 1973, he was accepted at UC Davis and planned to be a football walk-on, but instead returned home when his father, Takeo Fudenna, passed away. Fortunately, several of Fudenna's high school teammates had enrolled at Cal State East Bay (Then Hayward) and encouraged him to come out for the soccer team. That's where Fudenna met Coach Colin Lindores and Assistant Coach Haru Nagawa, and found his home. Nagawa, in particular, "was a mentor to me," Fudenna recalls. "He taught me how to play soccer the way it should be played. Between those two coaches and a great group of athletic guys, we became an awfully good team." The Pioneers were champions of the Far Western Conference and appeared in the postseason in 1975 and 1976.

Fudenna played both forward and defender but shone in the backfield. "Even though I was short, I could jump high," he says. (Fudenna is 5 feet 6 inches.) "And being an ex-football player, I knew how to run into people and strike the ball well." He was selected to the All-Far Western Conference team three times, played in the college East-West All-Star Game in Florida, was drafted by the San Jose Earthquakes, and was invited to try out for the U.S. Olympic team.

But again, family responsibilities called, and Fudenna joined his brothers' farming business in Salinas where he lives today — and where he still uses lessons learned on the soccer field. "You learn to prepare, you learn to work hard, you learn to never give up, and you learn humility," he explains. "And you learn to use everybody's strengths to work together and help each other."

That philosophy also drives Fudenna's giving to Cal State East Bay. A 2008 inductee into the Athletic Hall of Fame, he donates regularly to the university, but prefers to remain humble about his contributions. "I just try to help in any way I can." He also supports the soccer program when coaches visit Salinas to recruit student-athletes.

And as the family business prospered — the Salinas region today is "the nation's salad bowl," Fudenna notes — he has increased his donations accordingly, with particular emphasis on helping build the soccer program. And he's done it while retaining his innate humility. "It's really been over the last few years that I've been able to help more, donate more, and do more things for Cal State," he says. ▶

“You learn to prepare, you learn to work hard, and you learn to never give up.”

Frank Fudenna (B.S., '77)
PIONEER ATHLETICS HALL OF FAMER



WINNING ON AND OFF THE FIELD

Pioneer Pitcher Rich Sherratt (B.S., '70) found life lessons on the mound.

In 1968 — a tumultuous year on college campuses, when political and antiwar protests made headlines — Rich Sherratt sought structure and inspiration on the baseball diamond at then-California State College at Hayward. The lessons he learned there fueled a lifetime of success.

Sherratt's mother, widowed when Rich was just nine, had little money to send her son to college. So Sherratt lived at home in Alameda, worked several jobs while earning his bachelor's degree in recreation, and made time to play on Coach Al Matthews' powerhouse team, where politics took a backseat to performance. Cal State's 1968 team had an 11–3 league record and finished second in the Far Western Conference.

"He had rules and structure," Sherratt recalls of Matthews' coaching style. "It didn't matter what your viewpoint was — you were expected to play to the best of your ability." Sherratt and Matthews remain close friends.

As a pitcher, Sherratt tallied 16 wins and a 2.90 ERA in the 1968 season — numbers that remain on the University's top 10 list. More important, his teammates voted Sherratt the Most Inspirational Player two years running. "That went to providing leadership and inspiration to my teammates and coaches," Sherratt says.

Leadership and inspiration continued to propel his life after graduation. Sherratt taught school, coached youth baseball, led the Boys and Girls Club of Alameda, and held public office. He later launched several profitable business ventures and attributes his success directly to his time in a Pioneer jersey.

"Athletics is a critical part of education, and a critical part of forming a person's personality," Sherratt says. "The competition, the teamwork, the camaraderie — they all make a more rounded person, especially in business."

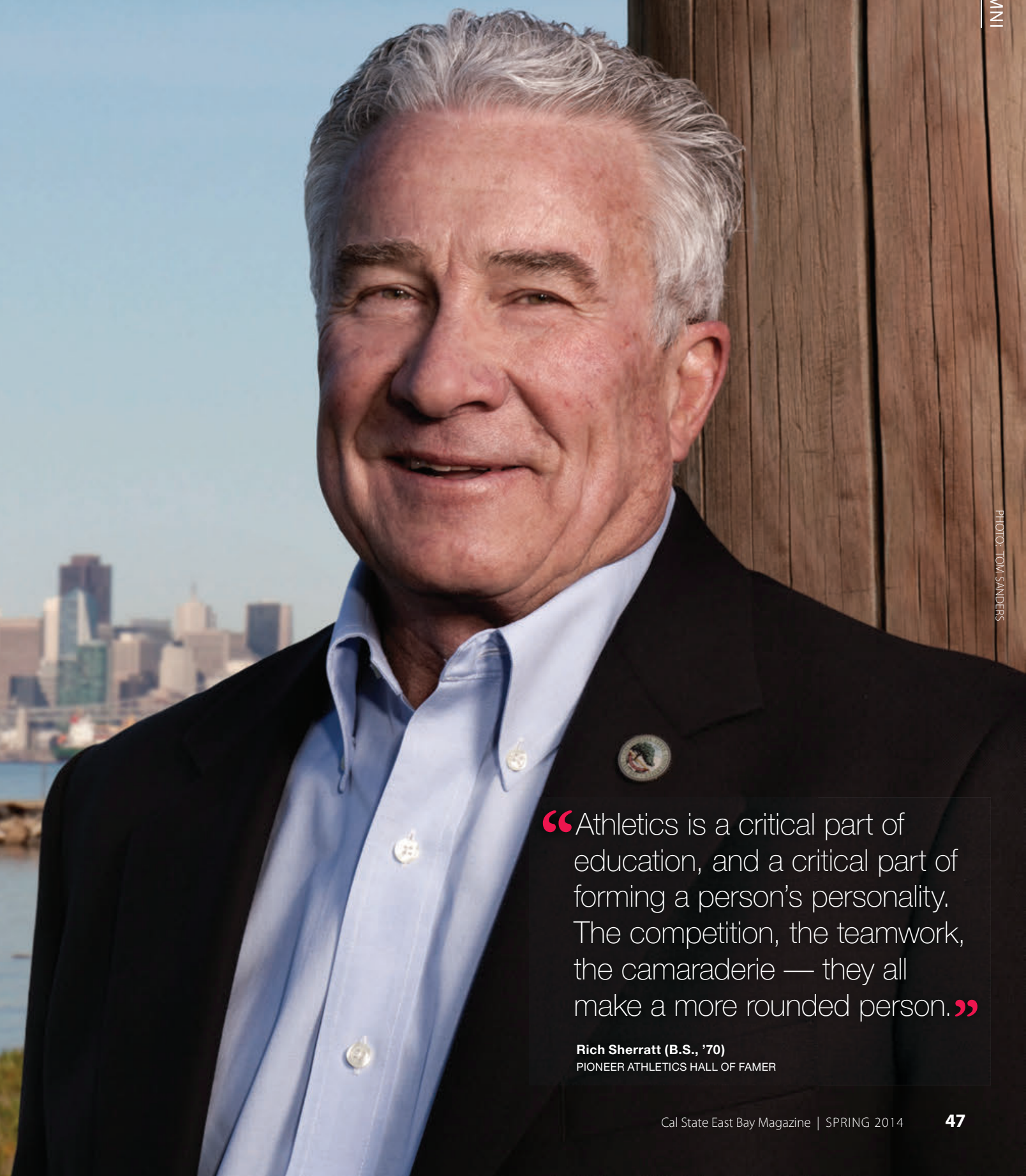
When he entered the Cal State East Bay Athletics Hall of Fame in 2002, Sherratt reconnected with his alma mater. He endowed a very generous scholarship for student-athletes in 2009. Sherratt supports the University financially because he knows that many Cal State East Bay student-athletes today face the same obstacle he did: the need to balance academics, sports, work and financial challenges.

"I have learned, over the years, that it's our responsibility to give back and provide opportunities for those who follow us," says 2012 honorary doctorate recipient. "Whether you're giving \$100 or \$100,000, the point is that everybody can give something back to help the next generation of students."

It's a pitch that remains as accurate today as it was in 1968. ►



Rich Sherratt, a powerful right-hander, is regarded among the best to ever pitch for Cal State.



“Athletics is a critical part of education, and a critical part of forming a person's personality. The competition, the teamwork, the camaraderie — they all make a more rounded person.”

Rich Sherratt (B.S., '70)
PIONEER ATHLETICS HALL OF FAMER

PHOTO: TOM SANDERS

HALL OF FRATERNAL FAME

Don Sawyer (B.S., '68) and Mark Sawyer ('78) left indelible marks on Pioneer Athletics – and each other.

Like many athletes, Mark Sawyer remembers specific contests in great detail. A hammer thrower, he recalls one tense meet when he fouled on his first two attempts. His coach, Don Sawyer, who also happens to be his older brother, pulled him aside.

"I was very nervous, and Don just brought me back and gave me a little talking to," Mark says. "Take a deep breath and just think about what you're doing," he says. I wound up throwing a personal best."

It's fitting that Don became his brother's coach. When Don played Pioneer football in 1966 and 1967, Mark was in the stands at every game and often watched practices. After a tryout with the Oakland Raiders in 1967 — the first Pioneer to sign a professional sports contract — Don returned to the university in 1970 as a football assistant and began a storied career as professor, coach and administrator.

One early accomplishment was recruiting brother Mark as a hammer thrower in 1974. Mark went on to earn three All-America honors and a national championship, and set a still-standing school record with a throw of 200 feet 3 inches.

"He called the hammer throw 'the magnificent obsession,'" Don says, recalling his brother's intense dedication and work ethic. Still, the coach-athlete relationship

weighed on the brothers at times. "Coaching your brother is a difficult task," Don says. "I'm not sure I would recommend it. I think sometimes I put more pressure on Mark than on anybody else."

"I'm sure I wasn't the most coachable guy at times," Mark counters. "But the years have tempered it. All I remember is the good stuff."

Today, the Sawyer brothers — both members of the Cal State East Bay's Athletics Hall of Fame and donors to the university — remain each other's biggest fans. Both say the other was the better student-athlete in their day, but that's about the only topic on which they disagree. They see each other daily and are unabashed in their mutual affection. "I still love and respect him as my big brother," Mark says.

The brothers' devotion to Cal State, represented by their financial donations, is nearly as strong. Don, who has included Cal State in his estate planning in addition to giving annually, points out that several his siblings — not just Mark — also attended the University. In that way, giving money to the University is a way of perpetuating the Sawyer family legacy.

For the Sawyer brothers, that's the true "magnificent obsession." ■

RIGHT: Don Sawyer (left) was the first Pioneer to sign a professional sports contract when he was offered an opportunity to try out with the Oakland Raiders. More importantly — at least to his brother Marc (right) and the University — was the fact that he coached his brother to a national title and three All-American honors in the hammer throw.



PHOTO: THOMAS SANDERS

PERSEVERANCE Leads to Success

Former basketball and water polo player Dides Urrutia (B.A., '13) faces immigration problems throughout her college career but graduates in spring 2013 — 14 years later.

BY TODD PREPSKY

IN 1989, WHEN ALUMNA DIDES URRUTIA WAS SEVEN YEARS OLD, DICTATOR MANUEL NORIEGA WAS STILL RULING PANAMA, TERRORIZING ITS CITIZENS THROUGH A SYSTEMATIC CAMPAIGN OF DRUG TRAFFICKING, TORTURE AND MURDER.

Dides' parents decided it would be safer to leave Panama and bring the family to the United States with the hope of providing a better life for their children. Little did they know that their desire to come to the States would turn into an exercise in perseverance.

The Urrutias arrived on a tourist visa in 1989 and applied for asylum, but by the time their case was up for consideration



Dides Urrutia (age 4) poses with older brother Heinar, parents Marta and Bolivar, and baby brother Derek in Panama City.

Noriega had been captured and their request was denied. They appealed the decision in 1991 and waited five years to learn they were denied a second time. By this time, Dides was in high school and considered America to be the only home she knew. "Our parents didn't share a lot about what was going on at the time," Dides says. "I think they didn't want to worry us and just wanted us to live our lives. But we knew something was up."

During this tumultuous time Dides finished high school, and that summer she drew the attention of Cal State East Bay's Women's Basketball coach, Sara Judd, who recruited her for the team.

Dides Urrutia pays homage to her native country during her 2013 graduation ceremony.

Fueled by her parents' strong work ethic, Dides enrolled at Cal State East Bay. At 5'9" and naturally athletic, the new Pioneer joined both the water polo team and the basketball team in her freshman year. She had an immediate impact on the court, playing forward and center and gaining a reputation as a fierce rebounder. But the immigration issue was always there and money was also a problem. Because CSUEB was a Division III school, there were no funds designated for sports scholarships at that time. "She was dealt a tough hand," Judd says. "She certainly got discouraged, but you wouldn't know that from being around her."

A third appeal brought a third denial in 2001, Dides' junior year. In November the family voluntarily left the country to go back to Panama. That exile was shortlived, however, and they were able to return a month later through a stroke of good fortune — IBM decided to sponsor Dides' father's work visa. Dides returned to the United States with her mother and younger brother since they were still dependents. The good news was tempered by the bad, however, as Dides tore an ACL in her knee and had to sit out most of her junior season. Between the injury and not knowing her immigration status, her grades began to suffer. "All ▶

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DIDES URRUTIA



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DIDES URRUTIA

ABOVE: Dides Urrutia with her proud family on graduation day. From left: brother Derek, mother Marta, Dides, brother Heinar and father Bolivar. RIGHT: Sara Judd, CSUEB Athletics Director, hugs Dides after the ceremony.

these issues made it hard for me to focus, so I wasn't able to study like I should," Dides says. "I had been a good student until that time, but it was hard to keep up."

Dides had to return to Panama several more times. When she turned 21 in 2002, she "aged out" and was no longer considered a dependent. But because she was still technically in school, her coaches helped Dides by sending her schoolwork and providing moral support. She returned to the United States on a one-year student visa but it expired in 2004. "The immigration thing was always there. I dragged out school as long as I could to renew the visa, but my heart wasn't in it," Dides says. "Plus I had to go back to Panama to get another visa." With her immigration status still unsettled, she withdrew from school in 2004. In 2007, Dides returned to school yet again, this time with the help of an immigration attorney. The stress of not having permanent status still weighed heavily and she had difficulty paying for classes, so

she left school a second time. For the next several years she lived in the United States out of status. She spent that time earning money through babysitting, building up a network of clients.

But in 2013 things began to turn around for Dides. She still dreamed of finishing college, so it was appropriate that the California Dream Act made it possible. Passed two years earlier, it granted temporary legal status to immigrant children who grew up in the United States and had graduated from high school. With the help of her friend Beth Murdock, Dides returned to school under the Dream Act in the fall of 2012. "It was a really big deal. I was scared I wasn't going to get in and scared that I was. I felt like I wouldn't remember how to be a good student," Dides says. She needn't have worried. In her last two quarters she earned all A's and one B, and walked across the graduation stage in June 2013 in front of her proud parents and brothers.

It took 14 years for Dides Urrutia to get her degree,

truly a long and winding road. She credits her family and friends, especially her wife Melissa, who was a former teammate, as well as Judd and Murdock for helping to make it possible. "Everyone at East Bay was really supportive, from my friends and coaches to my professors. I felt like they had invested a lot in me and wanted me to continue even when I felt like I couldn't," Dides says. "To know that East Bay cared about me made all the difference."

Judd credits Dides' perseverance as the reason she kept her graduation dream alive over the years, a quality she inherited from her parents. "She has a super positive attitude," Judd says. That's the way she played basketball as well. She was a very positive teammate, and in the end that's what led her to graduate. ■



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIONEER ATHLETICS

“To know that East Bay cared about me made all the difference.”

Dides Urrutia (B.A., '13)
ALUMNA AND FORMER PIONEER ATHLETE

CLASS NOTES

1970s

Kenny Bayless (B.S. Physical Education, '72) has been a professional boxing referee since the 1970s. He has refereed numerous "superfights" featuring such champions as Oscar De La Hoya, Floyd Mayweather, Manny Pacquiao and many others.



Judy Belk (MPA, '78) was recently named the president and CEO of The California Wellness Foundation. CSU East Bay's 1999 Distinguished Alumna of the Year has more than 25 years of experience in strategic philanthropy and civic engagement. Prior to taking the helm at California Wellness, Belk was senior vice president of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, where she launched their West Coast and Midwest operations.



Howard Hyman (B.A. Psychology, '79, 2012 Distinguished Alumnus), executive vice president of Fremont Bank, was the guest speaker at a January 23 event sponsored by the Psychology and Engineering Departments in the Valley Business and Technology Center (VBT).



Janet G. Mitchell (M.S. Industrial Psychology, '71) was director of human resources development for Verizon Communications until she retired in 2007. Prior to working in the telecommunications industry, Mitchell served in the U.S. Army until 1978, earning the rank of captain. Upon leaving the Army, she entered the California National Guard, where she retired as a lieutenant colonel after 22 years of military service.



She also is an active member of the Estate Planning Council of Northern New Jersey. Prior to joining Heritage, she was a financial advisor at Smith Barney and Merrill Lynch.

Cherrie L. Nanninga (B.A. Spanish, '70) is chief operating officer at CB Richard Ellis. She previously served as the deputy chief financial officer and director of real estate for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. In addition to her degree from Cal State East Bay, Nanninga holds an MBA from Stanford University.

Karen Oliver (B.A. Art, '74), president and CEO of Karen Oliver and Associates, a beauty-focused public relations firm in New York City, was featured in an article on the beauty industry site, *NewBeauty.com*. The article, "Insider Secrets," appeared in the Jan. 9, edition



1980s

Eric Lauritzen (MPA, '86), who serves as agricultural commissioner and sealer of weights & measures for Monterey County, was recently profiled in *The Salinas Californian*.



Three Cal State East Bay alumni who are also well-known Bay Area leaders have been selected by the California State University system for its alumni "Working for California" web site that launched February 10.

ZeroDivide Foundation President and CEO **Tessie Guillermo** (B.S. Economics, '80), Oakland Athletics Vice President **David Rinetti** (B.S. Business Administration, '86), and Major League Baseball Hall of Famer **Joe Morgan** (B.S. Kinesiology, '90) were honored as part of their selection at a luncheon on the Hayward campus.

1990s

James Monroe Iglehart (B.A. Theatre, '98) is currently starring as The Genie in Disney's new Broadway production of *Aladdin*. Iglehart originated the role of Bobby in the Tony Award-winning musical



CLASS NOTES (continued)

Memphis and has been featured in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Broadway) and *The Wiz* (City Center). He has appeared on *The Good Wife* and *The Electric Company* and is a member of the hip hop improv group Freestyle Love Supreme.

Helena Moss-Jack (B.A. Music, '94), who teaches 6th–12th grade instrumental music in Oakland, Calif., has also been



featured in a new book, *American Teacher: Heroes in the Classroom*, by Katrina Fried. Moss-Jack is one of 50 teachers profiled in the

book, which was written with the goal of improving public education.

To view an excerpt from the book, visit www.welcomebooks.com/americanteacher.

2000s



Stephan Bering (M.A. Educational Leadership, '01) is the new principal of Solana Santa Fe School in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.

Marketing alumni **Shafiq** (BSBA, '01) and **Harris Ehsan** (B.A., Psychology, '94) recently opened a new decorating store, By Design, in Brentwood, Calif.

Ravi Mistry (MBA '02) has been appointed president-elect of Enterprising Pharmaceutical Professionals from the Indian Sub-Continent (EPPIC) Global, a nonprofit organization in Silicon Valley that provides a forum for entrepreneurial activities, networking

and mentoring to life sciences professionals. Mistry will serve a two-year term beginning in 2014.



Gloriann Sasser (MPA '06) is the new manager of the Administrative Services Department of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. Prior

to joining the district, Sasser worked in municipal finance for the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, the City of Walnut Creek and Maze and Associates, Certified Public Accountants. She has been a CPA since 1995 and has extensive experience in local government finance, budget preparation and auditing.

In addition to her duties at the fire district, Sasser currently serves on the Government Finance Officers Association's Special Review Committee for the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program. She also teaches finance courses for the Special District and Local Government Institute and is a 2012 graduate of Leadership San Ramon Valley.

Emerald Templeton (B.A. Human Development, '06), is a career and professional services advisor at the UC



Berkeley School of Social Welfare, where she manages a career services program for new and returning students and alumni. The program provides a variety of resources for career planning, skills development, job search marketing strategies and networking. Prior to coming to Berkeley, she worked with children

and young adults in community-based programs that provided resources for personal enrichment and education advancement.

Tamika Thomas (B.A. '01, English) has published her first novel, *Anytime Soon*, under her *nom de plume*, Tamika Christy, and is currently working on a sequel.

After graduating from Cal State East Bay, Thomas worked in the legal profession, first as a legal assistant then as a paralegal. Soon after, she attended and graduated from law school. She resides in the Bay Area with her two daughters.

For more information on Tamika Christy and her novel, please visit: <http://tamikachristy.com>.

Li Zhang (B.S. Accounting, '02) has been named a shareholder in the certified public accounting firm Spott, Lucey &



Wall, Inc., in San Francisco, Calif. As the lead specialist on U.S. investment in foreign partnerships, Zhang assists Spott, Lucey in providing

accounting and compliance services to a wide variety of businesses, with a special emphasis on partnerships in mainland China, foreign investment in U.S. real estate, and pre-immigration tax planning. In addition to her education at East Bay, Zhang also holds a B.A. in French and an M.S. in taxation.



Listening to Our Alumni: Results of 2012 Alumni Attitude Survey

BY PENNY PEAK

Cal State East Bay was among 19 California State University campuses participating in the nationally normed 2012 Alumni Attitude Survey. With responses from nearly 800 of our alumni, the feedback provides a valuable gauge of alumni opinion.

Key findings from the survey: CSUEB alumni overwhelmingly rate their decision to attend the university a positive one and show a strong desire to stay engaged after graduation. Not surprisingly, graduates strongly value their relationships with faculty and their departments or majors, even decades after graduation. Also, the value of the degree grows over time, as alumni from earlier graduating classes reflect on the success they have achieved, thanks to their university degrees.

Alumni also shared opinions about program development. They requested help with career

development, opportunities to interact with students, and more

information about alumni services and benefits. Alumni Relations is already working to fulfill these requests. For example, the 2014 Industry Job Panels are open to alumni as well as students (see www.csueastbay.edu/alumni-events); students are being included at key alumni events; and the Alumni Association membership program is being enhanced with more benefits and increased promotion.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate your feedback will help us shape alumni programs to better serve our alumni and students. We will share additional results in the coming year.



Rediscover the view from our Hayward campus: Pioneer Discovery Tours

BY PENNY PEAK

If you haven't visited the Hayward campus for a while, you are in for several treats! Pioneer Discovery Tours is a new program to welcome alumni, as well as your family and friends, back to campus for a guided tour, refreshments and a unique memento. Tours are offered the last Friday of every month at various times of day to accommodate different schedules.

Come see the stunning view from the Library, no longer blocked by Warren Hall, and the progress made on the five-story replacement building near Arts & Education. This building, scheduled for completion in May 2015, will house student support, more than 100 faculty offices, and some administrative functions. The old University Union is undergoing renovations and will have a fresh look soon. The campus landscaping and view are always outstanding, and you will have a chance to learn about the college experience for our current students.

Upcoming tours in 2014, always on Fridays, are scheduled for: April 25, 9 a.m.; May 30, 11 a.m.; June 27, 4 p.m.; July 25, 9 a.m.; and August 29, 11 a.m. Check the Pioneer Alumni Events page for future dates and more alumni events at www.csueastbay.edu/alumni-events.

Reservations are required to help with planning. Simply contact Alumni Director Penny Peak, at 510.885.4156 or penny.peak@csueastbay.edu.



Submit Class Notes

Share news about your career, accomplishments and life changes with fellow alumni. Include your address, phone number, degree earned, major and graduation year. Mail to: Cal State East Bay Magazine, Attention: Editor, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., SA 4800, Hayward, CA 94542. Or send e-mail to: jesse.cantley@csueastbay.edu.

“Back in '61 my dream was to be the first in my family to earn a degree. Now my passion is to help future Pioneers achieve their dreams.”

Richard Lopez (B.S., '64)
ALUMNUS, FORMER ATHLETE,
AND RETIREE

Think of the difference your estate planning and gift can make in the lives of students at Cal State East Bay. Your gift will provide a world of life-changing opportunities through new support for scholarships, research, teaching and learning. If you are interested in leaving a lasting legacy, contact CSUEB's Division of University Advancement at 510.885.4602 or e-mail Ara.Serjoie@csueastbay.edu.

