



SINCE 1975

THE RUNNER



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY BAKERSFIELD

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October 8, 2008



Michelle Ramos/The Runner

Charles Hood showing a picture of Sampson and Delilah, the title of one of his poems.

California Writers Series welcomes James Sepsey and Charles Hood

By Michelle Ramos
Staff Writer

Wednesday October 1, CSUB's main campus held its first California Writer Series in the Dezember Room of the Walter Stiern Library. Maria Brown, president of Sigma Tau Delta stated, "The program is an attempt to expose students to California Writers and an understanding that anybody can be a writer if you apply yourself. There are many writers in our own backyard and it puts us on par with other big universities because we have people here interested in literary exposure."

Cat Starling, vice president

of Sigma Tau Delta, introduced James Sepsey, who earned his bachelor's degree in English from CSUB and is now enrolled as a graduate student, teaches at Delano High School. Sepsey's story, "Not When a Day Could Be this Good," is about a middle-aged man who lives with his mother and has to fix a blown up VCR. His story was published in Glimmer Train magazine and won second place in the magazine's Short-Story Award for New Writers competition.

He started his reading with a tribute to David Foster Wallace. He said, "I think fiction often helps us see obvious important realities." When asked where he draws

his inspiration from he said, "I pay attention to everyday life, and I'm inspired by authors like Flanery Connor, the only author that I come back to on a regular basis. Anytime I am at a loss of words I come back to her."

Sepsey revealed that his publication was a nine-year process in which he has written over 600 stories. He only submits about six per year and says, "they are usually rejected, how this one got published I don't know." However, Sepsey's comedic story evoked belly laughs from audience members on many occasions.

Next, Charles Hood read Charles Bukowski's "Frozen Food Section," a comedic

poem about a man who can't help but touch the bottoms of women bending over in the grocery store. Hood dropped out of college nine times and then went on to earn degrees from CSU Northridge and UC Irvine. He has published six books of poetry and prose, including "Bombing Ploesti," "Río de Dios," "Under the African Air" and "The Half-life of Salt." Hood teaches at Antelope Valley College and is a contributing editor to the Los Angeles Review. Hood read five poems and an excerpt from his retelling of an Indian Folk Tale. The first poem was titled, "Who to Kill," which he calls a "black humor" poem where people

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Joe White/The Runner

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Keeley lectures on fire safety

By Nicole Schorr
Staff Writer

Kern County is no stranger to wildfires. According to California Department of Forestry and Forest Protection last year alone, more than 400,000 acres were lost and ironically the number one fire, which burned nearly 300,000 acres, was caused by humans.

Each summer the fires make their way into California and with them, they bring risks and dangers that destroy buildings and cost millions of dollars. Being educated about how fires begin and how to prevent them is a key component to maintaining a healthy living during the fire season.

Last Wednesday students, faculty and other eager minds got the opportunity to learn more about fire ecology

and how it is effecting our landscaping by attending a lecture by Dr. Jon E. Keeley, sponsored by the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

Dr. Keeley has been studying fire for 35 years and is currently working as a research ecologists with the U.S Geological Survey out of the Sequoia National Park.

The lecture had it all, from the fire basics to the difference between fires in Northern California and Southern California. And there is a difference. The majority of fires started in Northern California are started because of lightning or natural causes. While a large number of the fires in Southern California are started by human activities

[Continued on Page 2]

Annual FACT Barbecue for the birds

By Oscar Lozoya
Staff Writer

Beer, great food, music, dancing and birds? At first-glance a reader might have thought this was referring to some type of spring-break bash in Cabo San Lucas, but in fact, it describes an event that took place October 4 on campus.

The Facility for Animal Care and Treatment, also known as FACT, hosted its annual barbecue fund-raiser on Saturday at the Environmental Studies Area (ESA) located on the southwest part of CSUB.

FACT is an organization that is part of CSUB, supported and funded by community contributions. Its purpose is to care for orphaned raptors and carnivores (birds such as eagles, hawks and falcons) in hopes to eventually release them back into the wild. It was started in the mid 1970s by Dr. Ted Murphy who, at the time, was the director of the newly-established Environmental Studies



Oscar Lozoya/The Runner

This owl is one of many birds FACT has helped rescue.

Area. Marlene Benton is currently the coordinator for FACT and the ESA. She has been involved with the program for almost 12 years.

The program does not only care for wounded animals, but it also educates the public on the wildlife and the vital role it plays in our environment. FACT is involved in several educational programs connected with local schools in the Kern County area.

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

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Domestic Violence Awareness Month

[Continued from Page 1]

Many "red-flags" will occur, such as: questioning actions, being too controlling, jealousy, hints of temper, if one feels threatened or harmed and the level of intimacy each couple has. All of which were explained in the meeting. Along with a video we all watched.

The video was of a couple in the park acting out a fight. The young man would push around his girlfriend to watch and see how many people would actually stop him. Out of 100 women, 19 stepped in and out of 94 men, only 3 had been willing to put his life in danger to help the poor girl. Most people kept walking and ignoring the fact that this girl was in danger, they didn't even bother to call the police.

After the video was over, questions and comments aroused the room. "How come it's only women who are willing to step in, and not the men?" and "That's disturbing!"

"I feel pretty angry and irritated by the power imbalance in the domestic violence situation. We are treating each other disrespectfully regardless of the gender," Janet Millar stated. "I am hoping that, on the committee, we can prevent violence and also involve and educate

people, that way maybe it can help to prevent violence in the relationships and we can educate people about the signals so they can help themselves in situations like that." Many others also feel like this.

Our campus police are some of the co-sponsor's for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. They encourage all people to join in and help against this violence and to find a way to make it safer. Campus police also encourage many to join Rape Aggression Defense (RAD), a program which encourages all to take a Friday, Saturday Night and Sunday morning class to learn how to protect oneself in case of an attack. Anyone can join at



Deborah Sanchez tying a purple ribbon for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

www.csu.edu/BAS/police.

With all these activities going on, one can find themselves joining to help fight domestic violence.

Keeley lectures on fire safety

[Continued from Page 1]

because of the dense population.

Keeley stressed the importance of residents being aware of their surroundings in order to save lives and save money.

"Many people have been put at risk due to bad planning. They need to realize different parts of the U.S have different fires," said Keeley.

Fire statistics from Cal Fire show that San Diego County lost more than 1,600 homes in the Witch fire, one that remained active for only ten days.

Keeley believes that situations like the Witch fire or the Zaca Fire in Santa Barbara County can be prevented. He calls on the communities to claim more responsibility and be educated about the type of surroundings they live in.

There is one thing for sure, despite the risks caused by fires Keeley whole-heartedly believes that fires are vital to the earth's survival. Without wildland fires many eco systems would cease to exist.

A true test to an impacting lecture is if your audience left with more information they came in with and that was definitely the case with Keeley. Students at the seminar were inspired to think about things they never would have before.

"I never thought of fire as a natural system, to tell the difference between a fire that was started naturally or started by a human," said Senior Michael Mejia.

He attended the lecture for one of his classes, but he was not the only one that was impacted by Keeley's presentation.

"I'm really impressed and grateful that we got someone with such a credible background," said Lisa Kerr a junior English major.

For more information on Dr. Jon Keeley, just log on to www.werc.usgs.gov. For fire safety tips and how to keep you and your family safe you can visit www.fire.ca.gov.

Light the Night Walk

Saturday
 October 11
 6-8 p.m. at
 Runner Park

By Ashley Sizemore, Entertainment Editor

This Week, The Runner asked, "What is your stance on Prop. 8?"



Rosendo Garriero,
 Senior,
 Liberal Studies

"I haven't read about it."



Sara Thompson,
 Sophomore,
 Business Admin.

"I really don't have a problem with it, i'd vote [to not ban it]"



Jocelyn Moore,
 Sophomore,
 Political Science

"I am totally against Prop. 8. No on Prop. 8."



Angie Gonzalez,
 Junior,
 Chemistry

"I don't know enough to even state an opinion on it."

RUNNER ON THE STREET

By Ashley Sizemore, Entertainment Editor

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Big year for super dean

By Miguel Cuate
Staff Writer

One of the newest additions to the CSUB family is not a new addition at all. Dr. Craig Kelsey has been chosen as the Interim Dean for the School of Education for the 2008 academic year. For some students, Dr. Kelsey may seem like a familiar face on campus. This is due to the fact that Dr. Kelsey also serves as the Dean of the Extended University. So how does Dr. Kelsey manage to serve as both deans concurrently?

"It's called 16 hour days," Dr. Kelsey said in a joking manner.

"Well you show up at 7:30 and leave at 9:30 and work Saturdays," he added.

This schedule started when Dr. Kelsey was asked to be the interim, or temporary, Dean for the School of Education during the next 12 months. Meanwhile the campus will conduct a national search to appoint a permanent dean for the School of Education.

"The previous dean chose to step down and they needed someone to step in while they did a national search," he explained.

Although Dr. Kelsey is only a temporary fill-in for the position, he still has big goals that he would like to see accomplished during his appointment as interim Dean for the School of Education.

Among these goals is to create the first ever doctorate degree to be available through the School of Education here at CSUB.

"Well, the University has been given the go to start a Doctorate of Education Degree here at CSUB," he said. What does this mean for the Dean?

"Well in order to create the Doctorate of Education Degree, it will need to undergo a great deal of approval processes so that by next year the first doctorate can be available," he explained.

The second on the dean's to do list is putting together a "TPA" or "Teacher Portfolio Assessment."

"The state has issued new requirements for a student to become a fully credentialed teacher, such as the Teacher Portfolio Assessment," he explained.

"We have people signed to oversee putting this together, work committees, continuous meetings, just pouring a lot of time and resources into getting these things accomplished."

These things can be difficult to accomplish due to the recent budget that was just passed in the state of California.

"This year's budget did not provide as much money as was requested," Dr. Kelsey said.

"This puts a lot of strain on providing the same level of excellence without the prop-

er resources," he added.

This does not prohibit the same level of excellence from being achieved however. Dr. Kelsey could not stress enough the importance of having a strong and excellent School of Education on campus.

"It's my opinion, that the work that occurs in the School of Education, which prepares teachers, is one of the most important things that the university does," he said.

"It trains students to teach the next generation of college students which is like a chain reaction. It impacts many generations and how those students will perform when they enter college," he added.

This is why Dr. Craig Kelsey has a particular philosophy when it comes to how the student should be seen.

"The best part of my job is being able to make decisions that help the faculty help the students," he said.

"When the faculty member is in class with the student, that is the most important experience to me and I work to make sure that this experience for the student is the best that can possibly be," he added.

"The most important value we have here at the School of Education is that everything flows towards the student."

Champion named new McNair director

By Korisha Hamblet
Staff Writer

In late May 2008, Victoria Champion took the opportunity to join the McNair Scholar program as the McNair Outreach director. Champion previously worked in the University Outreach, under the direction of Steve Watkins.

Although the former director did not formally leave her position until late January 2008, her leave of absence began in October 2007 for maternity leave, leaving the students without a director until the end of May in 2008.

There was still hope for the program while undergoing the transformation, according to McNair Scholar Ruth Leon, "Pam Jacobsen, figuratively speaking, was the glue that held the program together. Pam worked hard to keep the program working for the students."

Ms. Jacobsen is currently the administrative support

coordinator. Although she has only been a part of the program since July 2007, she said, "I love working for McNair and because tomorrow is my last day I am extremely sad, I will miss all the scholars."

According to their website, McNair "... aims to assist undergraduate students, who are underrepresented, go to graduate school and pursue a doctorate degree". The program offers both financial and informational assistance.

The program was started by of Dr. Ronald E. McNair, an astronaut and allows minorities to pursue what is usually not promised to them, such as a PhD.

CSUB allows 17- 22 scholars in the McNair Program per year, which gives 22 students, who typically wouldn't have the opportunity to go to graduate school, a chance.

Ruth Leon said, "...the scholars, were excited to learn that Victoria Champion

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!
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CAREER CORNER
Your resume represents you and is your first contact with an employer! When you look at your resume, does it show the employer the skills you have for their particular job opening? Does it show evidence of your value to past employers? Will it catch the eye of the employer and persuade them to call you for an interview? If not, this is the time to make some changes. Attend the Resume workshop or make an appointment to see a career counselor.

BUSINESS & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION MIXER

DATE: 10/08/08 TIME: 5:00 - 7:00 pm LOCATION: Alumni Park (East of Library)

What's Your Major Workshop

Date & Time: 10/22/08, 5:00 PM

Location: Career Development Center

FEAR FACTOR - We dare YOU!

DATE: 10/30/08 TIME: 5:00 - 7:00 pm LOCATION: Student Union

Graduate School Preparation Workshop

Date & Time: 11/3/08, 5:00 PM

Location: Career Development Center

GRADUATE SCHOOL FAIR

DATE: 11/10/08 TIME: 10:00 am-1:00 pm LOCATION: Runner Café Quad

Job Search Essentials Workshop

Date & Time: 11/18/08, 5:00 PM

Location: Career Development Center

What's Next - Graduation to Career Workshop

Date & Time: 12/2/08, 5:00 PM

Location: Career Development Center

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- Schedule an appointment by calling 654-3033 or send an email to career@csub.edu

GLSSN and the Kegley Institute to hold Prop 8 debate on Thursday

By Perla Madrid
Staff Writer

With Election Day only 27 days away, many Californians will hurry through their electoral ballots and may overlook what some consider one of the major changes to take place in the last few decades. The Kegley Institute of Ethics along with CSUB's Gay Lesbian Straight Student Network (GLSSN) will host a debate covering Proposition 8 on Thursday, October 9, from 7-9p.m. in the Student Union Multipurpose Room.

Proposition 8 seeks to amend the California Constitution by stating that only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California. If passed, the amend-

ment will also overturn the Supreme Court decision in 2000 that allowed for same-sex couples to marry. Proposition 8 will also prevent public schools to teach that same-sex marriage is not the same as traditional marriage.

The debate's panelists will include Bakersfield Californian Columnist, Marylee Shrider and Kern High school District trustee, Ken Mettler for Yes on Prop 8, and CSUB psychology professor, Dr. Anne Duran and Whitney Weddell for No on Prop 8. Dr. Jackie Kegley will moderate the debate. Students are encouraged to attend; parking will be free after 6:30 pm in Parking Lot K.

GLSSN

We are the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Student Network.

www.myspace.com/glssnclub

Club meeting times vary, please see page for more information.

PRSSA

Calling all members, and interested students.

Our next meeting will be Friday, October 10, 2008
at 2 p.m. in the Student Union Pub.

www.myspace.com/csubprssarocks

J.A.B.

Meetings every Thursday night at 8 p.m. in DDH, G 103
www.myspace.com/japanandbeyond

Arte De La Gente featured at CSUB

By Danica Asbridge
Photos By Joe White
Staff Writers

Beautiful brushstrokes, amazing sculptures, perfect drawings: All things that many believe takes a two hour drive down to Los Angeles to see. Little do they know that a fantastic art gallery resides on our very own CSUB campus.

The Todd Madigan gallery showcases special collections with themes that relate to the interests of the community. The present showcase is titled "Mexican Masters: Arte de la Gente" and is just in time for Hispanic Heritage Month, which is September 15-October 15.

The "Arte de la Gente" collection had its premiere opening on Thursday, October 2. It consists of several pieces and is displayed by Deanna Heikkinen, the

interim director.

Heikkinen was hired over the summer, which did not give her much time to get a collection together.

"I knew the collectors, Dr. Richard and Mrs. Rebecca Zapanta, from a previous job. So, luckily, I was able to

limited to, Rodolfo Nieto, Vladimir Cora and Raúl Anguinao.

Heikkinen thinks that the collection is important for two very distinct reasons. "These are incredible works by these artists that we call 'Mexican Masters' and the

lic eye more than they are not."

During the opening reception, guests were treated to snacks and wine in addition to the lovely pieces.

One guest, Cal. State Junior Romina

Martinez, came to enjoy the great variety of art that was offered.

"I love the gallery. All the pieces are very interesting... My favorite is the 'Mis Huaradres'. I like how it focuses on the shoes," she said.

Also in attendance was CSUB President Horace Mitchell. According to Heikkinen, he played host to the Zapantas, who also came to see how the gallery turned out.

"I was so happy that they were able to bring their collection... And I knew that it



would be well received in the community...

"My goal is to outreach.... to bring people from the community to the gallery," she said.

If you are interested in attending the "Arte de la Gente" collection, you have not missed your opportunity to do so. The Todd Madigan

Gallery is open 12-6pm, Wednesday through Saturday. The collection will be in place until November 16.



call in a favor."

The result is paintings, drawings and sculptures from several Mexican artists. They include, but are not

pieces of art are owned by private collectors that don't keep them to themselves, but share them with others. These pieces are in the pub-

Campbell's Critique: Tony's Pizza

Reviewed by Nathan Campbell
Online Editor

Tony's Pizza on California Avenue in the Mervyn's shopping center is the newest addition to a locally owned firefighter-themed chain of pizzerias here in Kern County.

The restaurant chain, which also has locations in Shafter and Delano, offers the typical pizzeria fair: pizza, wings, breadsticks etc. However, they do offer a few spe-

cialty pizzas like their chile verde pizza and their "mexicana" pizza, which features chorizo and jalapeños and a selection of sandwiches. The pizza at Tony's is relatively good, definitely a step up from any fast food pizza places. The crust – which can often make or break a pizza – was surprisingly good. The prices are decent, there is a good selection of toppings and sides, the pitchers are relatively cheap – \$7.50 –, but what really makes Tony's worth

mentioning is the restaurant itself.

The restaurant is decently sized, but there is never anyone in there. Even during peak hours, the restaurant usually has plenty of tables open making it perfect for an individual looking to dodge long waits or for entertaining large groups without need of a reservation. The service was swift, but the wait for the food was about what you'd expect for a fresh pizza. The dining area was

kept clean and well stocked.

The restaurant has several large flat-panel televisions with surround sound for watching the game. However, patrons looking for a quieter setting also have the option of sitting away from the blaring speakers.

Tony's is also across the parking lot from the dollar theater and a yogurt shop making it an ideal location for a cheap date or the perfect location to hold a club function.



Campus bands: Making the band and the grade

Students thrive to excel in college and in their bands.

By Lavinia Sfetcu
Staff Writer

When going to school isn't enough for young adults, what else do they do? Well, play music of course! For many, music is a way to let loose and become creative.

For the band Shilo, two band mates juggle the college life and the rock star life. Shilo is an alternative/rock band made up of two full time CSUB students. Brandon Boggs is majoring in Economics and Matt Gilbert is an undeclared major. Both Boggs and Gilbert are the guitarists and masterminds of the band who have been through several line-ups. Currently, non-CSUB students make up the rest of the band with Kaleb Taber on bass and Sam McKinney on drums.

Gilbert explains that the band makes a collective effort to write music.

"We focus on playing music that can relate to everyone."

Considering that every member of the band has a different schedule, often Shilo has rehearsal as early as 6:00 in the morning.

"I'm willing to wake up early," said Gilbert, "I take our music very seriously."

Shilo has played shows in and out of Bakersfield and will be soon playing alongside bands such as Tickle Me



Photo Courtesy of myspace.com/projectpj2
Band members of Project PJ2 Paul and Jessica have performed in the lounge in the Student Union.

Pink, Emery and Hawthorne Heights.

Another band on campus that involves two CSUB students is Project PJ2.

Justin Browlow, a full time student and Engineering major, provides the guitar and vocal aspects of the band. Jessica Pham is the vocalist and is in the Nursing program on campus. Paul Arreola completes the line-up and is a CSUB alumni who graduated in Spring 2008.

Project PJ2 was formed in 2007 and the concept was three friends jamming together and having a good time. Starting their performances at CSUB's own Student Union was a good way to play among their fellow classmates. After playing a few times at CSUB, becoming a band was inevitable.

The band is known for play-

ing shows at coffee houses like Dagny's Coffee in Downtown Bakersfield and informal shows at CSUB.

Having a strong acoustic sound comes from the band's influences such as Jason Mraz, John Mayer and Dave Matthews.

All members of Project PJ2 have jobs alongside going to school and managing a band; but all members never fail to play for fun while at school and in between classes.

"Music has always been a passion," Paul Arreola says, "Fame is not a concern when it comes to Project PJ2. We just love to play music and perform to share with everyone and anyone."

For more information on Shilo and Project PJ2, visit their myspace pages www.myspace.com/shilo and www.myspace.com/projectpj2.

KEGLEY INSTITUTE of ETHICS
The Kegley Institute of Ethics
and
CSUB's GLSSN Student Club
are co-hosting a public debate
on
Proposition 8
the "California Marriage Protection Act"



GLSSN



Thursday, Oct. 9
in CSUB's Student Union Multipurpose Room

from 7-9 p.m.

Guests on the panel include:

Ken Mettler & Marylee Shrider (Yes on Prop. 8)
and

Whitney Weddell & Dr. Anne Duran (No on Prop. 8)
moderated by Dr. Jacquelyn Kegley

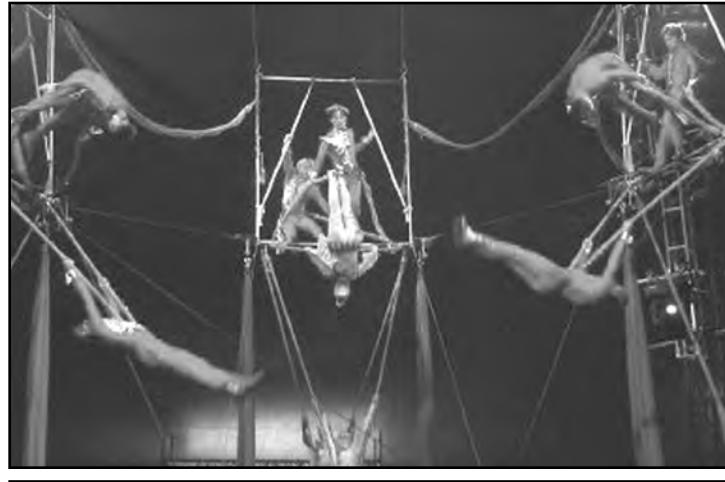
The event is free and open to the public, with free parking in Lot K after 6:30 p.m.

call 661-654-2255 for details

Chinese Acrobats coming to Dore Theatre

By Najiyah Baith
Staff writer

The Spectacular Chinese Acrobats group is back by popular demand at CSUB's Dore' Theater. The Beijing Olympics is known for showcasing the amazing gravity-defying stunts and displays of contortion, flexibility and control. The award-winning Chinese Acrobats also improved traditional routines such as: the "Lion Dance," jumping Through Hoops," "Plate Spinning," Feats on Leather Straps," "Diabolo Play," "Juggling objects with the Feet," "Hand Tricks," "Spinning Bowls Filled with Water," "Bowl



courtesy of www.asiaamericaent.com

Chinese Acrobats performing in one of their routines

Balancing," "Martial Arts," "Jar Tricks," "Two People juggling Rugs with Their Feet" and "Riding on a Swing."

Many Chinese view acrobatics as the quintessential expression of

China's strength and power as a nation. Anyone seeking an adrenaline rush, can find it by attending a performance of Chinese acrobatics.

The Spectacular Chinese Acrobats will be on Campus Saturday, October 11 at 5 and 8 p.m. and Sunday, October 5, 2008. Tickets are available at all Vallitix locations including Russo's Books. Cal State University Bakersfield students get 2

for 1 tickets when purchase is accompanied with a CSUB ID. Adults tickets are \$25.95 and Children's tickets are \$15.95.

If after the show you want to learn more about the Chinese culture. October is also Chinese Cultural Month at the Beale Library. Where there will be classes throughout the month on the following:

**10/7, Tuesday @7pm,
Auditorium - History of Chinese in Kern County**

**10/9, Thursday @7pm,
Auditorium - Martial Arts demonstration and Lion Dance**

10/14, Tuesday @7pm, Tejon Room (2nd Floor) - Feng Shui Basics

**10/16, Thursday @7pm,
Tejon Room (2nd Floor) - Chinese Medicine (Covering topics like: How Chinese Medicine works and New discoveries in Chinese Medicine)**

10/20, Monday @7pm, Tejon Room (2nd Floor) - Chinese Regional Cooking

**10/23, Thursday @7pm,
Auditorium - Chinese Calligraphy and Chinese Painting**

Chinese Cultural Show (which showcases 5000 years of Chinese Women Fashion)

[Books continued from Page 1]

Library Association (ALA), the first event began in 1982 to remind U.S. citizens not to take their First Amendment rights for granted. BBW was established to encourage everyone across America to participate in their freedom to pick up a banned book, read it and decide for themselves if the controversial material should have been banned.

Every year the ALA receives questions as to why they will not rename the week to "Challenged Book Week" instead of "Banned Book Week" since most of the books on the list have been challenged and not banned. A challenge is simply an unsuccessful attempt to ban a book. The reason being is that ALA is only a cosponsor of "Banned Book Week" - they do not own the title. Also, none of the several cosponsors want to change the name.

Those who are unfamiliar with this week may think that only books for younger adults or a more mature audience have been challenged, but there are children's books that have caused uproars throughout history.

"A lot of people are shocked to find certain books on the banned list such as "Where's Waldo?" ... banned only because of the beach scene ... one of the sunbathers looks topless and people are afraid little kids may think the woman is naked," said senior and Russo's bookstore clerk, Jennifer Williams.

"Where's Waldo?" was and still is a childhood favorite among many people of this generation. It is rather ironic that someone would take their time to scour the pages to find what appears to be a topless woman among millions of skin-colored dots that are supposed to be persons.

Being a general bookstore, Russo's carries an assortment of books that cater to all sorts of people in the community. If a customer is searching for a specific book that Russo's does not typically supply, Russo's will order the book for their customer. There will always be people who will find occasional materials to be offensive.

"The closest we get to book banning is when we find books that have been flipped around so the cover is not showing ... espe-



compiled by Juan Torres/the Runner

Some of the books "banned" throughout the years

cially political books. We know whether there have been conservative or liberal people who have come in by the title of the book that is flipped over," explained Williams.

Even though BBW does not receive a lot of press, there is a professor on campus who strongly believes in supporting every kind of book. This is the second year Dr. Elizabeth Jackson has assigned a different banned book to each of her students in Communications 274.

"I wanted students to immerse themselves in the classics ... exercise their choice of figuring out why the books were banned," said Dr. Jackson. "Also I wanted to introduce multi-cultural issues and sexual orientation

to students."

Dr. Jackson's assignment required each student to read their book then write a book report that included a brief summary of the book, the background or historical time-frame, any political sentiment and whether the book made the students uncomfortable. The assignment was an eye-opening experience that provoked interesting discussions and thoughtful questions.

The majority of Dr. Jackson's classroom, herself included, believed that no book should ever be banned. The class agreed that children should be exposed to cultural issues and ethics that arise daily in this world so that they are prepared for what life brings.

For example: death, divorce, race, rape, religion and sex were some of the controversial topics the books were banned for. On the other hand, the class had diverse opinions for the appropriate time to present these books to children.

"I don't believe in an age limit per say, but I think if there are questions about certain texts, it should be incumbent on the parent or authority figure to wade through information if there is any curiosity. Different kids have different levels of maturity and cognition," said Dr. Jackson.

Vegas has another perspective, "Do I believe books should be banned in the generic sense? No. Do I think certain books are not particularly educational or are not appropriate for minors? Yes. I do not believe we should waste taxpayer money on books that encourage government sedition, promote pornography and that do not serve to further the academic goals of the Kern High School District."

There were concerns and ideas that were raised from students who double as parents about some of the children's books and the controversial material within the pages.

An alternative to banning books would be to have a reserved room for books with controversial issues at public and school libraries instead of having the books prominently displayed for anyone to pick up. Another idea would be to have designated sections or categories for books and allow all books to be available to anyone, anywhere at anytime.

According to ALA, most of the books on the banned list were merely only challenged due in large of teachers, librarians and book-sellers who denied the challenge, opting to enlighten readers of the "power of literature and to draw attention to the danger that exists when restraints are imposed on the availability of information in a free society."

The founders of the Constitution believed free speech and free religion would be nothing without freedom of press. As Thomas Jefferson once proclaimed, "When the press is free, and every man is able to read, all is safe."

"We give a lot of tours to schools and kids and help educate from a young age the legalities of hunting and confining birds. A lot of people don't know where to bring birds when they find them if they are injured. Educating what we do and who we are definitely helps the community and I'm glad to be a part of that," said Sharp.

The majority of the food was purchased from Jake's Tex-Mex while the meat was prepared on site by Miss Benton and other volunteers. The live and silent auction consisted of several items that were donated by local businesses such as dinners, apparel and even birthday party planning services. A professional auctioneer from Lake Isabella also volunteered his services for the event.

Some of the money raised from the barbecue will help rebuild the program's rehabilitation center. The current center is 25 years old and overdue for a makeover. Funds taken in from the auction and ticket sales will be used to furnish and rebuild the area. The rehabilitation center houses several of the most severely injured animals in the habitat.

If you would like to know more about FACT, be a volunteer or make a donation, you can visit them on the web at www.csub.edu/fact. Their phone number is (661) 654-3167. They also have a Bird Rescue Hotline (661) 654-BIRD.

[FACT continued from Page 1]

Teachers may call and schedule a field trip and tour the facilities with their class. FACT can also go to a school when the option for a field trip is not available.

The event had several activities starting with an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. During this time, the staff gave tours to educate the attendees on what FACT is, what it stands for and how it helps the community. Visitors were able to get a close view of the resident birds that the organization rehabilitates.

Tanice Clauson, a CSUB faculty member, was one of the visitors who brought her kids to the open house and took advantage of what FACT has to offer. "I think it's really important that FACT is here and I'm really proud of our campus in the way that it supports it. It's vital that there is a place in Bakersfield where raptors and other birds can go if they are injured or sick," said Clauson.

The barbecue started at 5 p.m. and included a band, silent auction and live auction. Annette Wells, who teaches and heads the Wildlife Club at North High School, was present to volunteer. She brought several of her students involved in the Wildlife Club to assist in the preparation of the fund-raiser. Many were there as early as 10 a.m. to set up



Oscar Lozoya/The Runner

FACT hosting its quarterly open house

tables and chairs while others served food.

"You can come out, have a good time, listen to the music, eat a lot of great food and enjoy the birds," said Wells.

FACT relies on volunteers such as Wells and her students being that the program is funded primarily through contributions and donations from the community. Cal State Bakersfield students who are enrolled in Biology 323 - Animal Rehabilitation - also

help with maintaining the facilities and care for the residents in the habitat. Many were present for the barbecue helping in any way they could. Senior Melinda Sharp and Junior Kystina Wilson are two of the students enrolled in Biology 323 that assisted with the tours during the open house. Both students say they especially like the class due to its untraditional schedule and the hands-on experience they get.

A trio of Roadrunners are nationally ranked

By Bryson Paul
Staff Writer

Three's Company, Trinity, Three Stooges. The number three is a prime number for success and legendary greatness. Recently, the Division I statistical rankings were released for women's volleyball and three Lady Runners received high ranking positions among the national players. Senior Mystic McNaughton and juniors Kayla Williamson and Barbie Thistle are each ranked in top honors in the different divisions of NCAA volleyball.

McNaughton is nationally ranked number six in digging. If she keeps her 5.71 digs per set pace, by November, McNaughton can place her name in the CSUB record books for career digs. She will have to surpass the current record holder Camille Mitchell and her 1,793 digs. McNaughton is currently recorded to have 1,561.

Williamson is also on a mission to write her name in the record books. Currently ranked number six in serving, she has averaged 0.67 aces per set and is on pace to complete 86 aces this season, breaking the CSUB 2005 record of 81. Williamson is looking forward to completing this task and knows exactly what it will take to accomplish the record. "I really am looking to stay consistent with my serving and performing as a team. If I break the record it would be



photo courtesy of Sports Information

Barbie Thistle ranks 30th among NCAA Division I.

something great but winning games is what is important."

Then there is fellow junior, Thistle, who brings her own arsenal to the trio.

Supplying the offensive for the team, Thistle is ranked 30th in setters in the Division I as she generates 10.81 assists per set.

Transferring from Connecticut's Fairfield University, Thistle comments on the difference in play having two other teammates in rankings as well. "It's great, the girls really made me feel comfortable coming back to California and the atmosphere is more relaxed here, that helps with competition."

The three players on the floor together are a unit that delivers terrific gameplay with precision, force and strategy. The Runners have been very successful competitively.

Coach Price said, "We work really hard and I feel that the

national ranking is more of a result other than a goal. The ranking is just a result of the hard work that the players give every game."

The trio of McNaughton, Williamson and Thistle is definitely something for fans to come out and see. As they are on the road to shatter records and spike opponents into defeat, the Runners are performing outstanding not only as just the trio but have as five star unit. Backing from teammates with outstanding skills certifies CSUB as a contender this season.

"We as a team know who are national but we really don't discuss it because we wouldn't be in those positions without the help of the team as a whole and its our teammates that helped us each get those rankings," said Williamson.

The Runners have just finished an eight game road tour Saturday, losing their last to Utah in a fierce competition.

The women are currently 10-8 and will be defending home court against Bucknell on the 13th of October in the Icardo Center.

This is the most promising season for the ladies with high championship hopes and with three queens in the hand of Coach Price, it appears to be a for sure bet. The Runners have a lot of luck on their side. You have three-peat, third times a charm, three strikes your out and three wishes.

Men's and women's swim teams kick off season

Photo courtesy of Sports Information

The CSUB men's and women's swim teams kick off the 2008-09 season Saturday, traveling to Riverside to take part in the Pacific Coast Swimming Conference Invitational, hosted by Cal Baptist University.

For first-year Head Coach Chris Hansen, Saturday marks the first time he will see his men's squad race.

"It will be fun to get the guys on the blocks and race," said Hansen. "I'm excited to see how they race, their stroke technique and who steps up. This is a good opener to get us prepared for our first dual on Nov. 1. Hansen, who's 2008-09

squad features 11 returners from last year's roster, will look to senior distance swimmer Henry Holmberg who became CSUB's first Division I all-conference selection with a first place finish in the 1650 free at the Conference USA Championships last spring, and Nathan Vizcarra, along with junior sprinter Rene Hjorth to lead the team early.

In the backstroke, sophomore Luka Leskur will look to build on an impressive freshman campaign in which he set a school record in the 100 back and broke the top three in the 200 back.

On the women's side, 19-year Head Coach Pat Skehan is also looking forward to seeing her team race for the first time this year.

"This meet will give us a chance to see where people are and what they can do," said Skehan. "Everyone will swim five events so they will have a lot of opportunities in one day. It's also a good chance for the freshmen to get their feet wet at the collegiate level."

Skehan will look to senior butterfly specialist Lexi Kelly senior breaststroker Veronica Campbell and sophomore backstroker Stephanie Donnelly to make an immediate impact.

In addition, Skehan expects junior diver Victoria Kreutz (Hillcrest, Canada/San Jose State) to have a strong opening weekend for the Roadrunners.

Help the Roadrunners support breast cancer awareness

Courtesy of Sports Information

The CSUB women's soccer team will be sporting pink jerseys for its Wednesday match against the Pepperdine Waves to help support breast cancer awareness. The 7 p.m. contest will take place on the Main Soccer Field and bleacher seats are only \$2 if fans wear an article of pink clothing. The field will also

be lined in pink chalk for Wednesday's contest.

During the game, a live silent auction will take place under the tent near the main entrance where fans can bid on their favorite players' pink jerseys. After the game, the players whose jerseys were purchased will autograph them and hand them to the winning bidder. Bids will begin at \$20 and will increase in increments of \$5.

There will be a "buy now" price option available on all jerseys set at \$100. No credit cards will be accepted, cash and checks only please.

Proceeds from the jersey auction will go to support breast cancer awareness. A special thanks to Western Graphics for their support of Roadrunner women's soccer. For questions, please call the CSUB ticket office at 654-BLUE.

CSUB Athletic Program to undergo self study

By Celia Kelly
Staff Writer

An important part of CSUB's quest to become a certified Division I athletic institution has begun. Cal State Bakersfield has launched a year-long, campus wide self-study to evaluate the Roadrunner athletic programs in compliance with the NCAA standards. The study will also evaluate the academic support provided for the student athletes.

In 1993, the NCAA initiated the athletic certification program to ensure integrity in institutional athletics programs. Once the self-study is completed, a committee of members representing the NCAA will make a three-day, on campus evaluation. According to the CSUB Self-Study website, "The athletics certification program is designed to help ensure integrity in institutional athletics programs."

The goals of the self-study are not only to advance in the extensive process of becoming a Division I institution, but also to exhibit and maintain compliance with NCAA standards.

The study has four goals it looks to accomplish. The first is to stand parallel as an institution with the NCAA standards. The second is to examine the extent CSUB is adhering to the five NCAA criteria. The third is to increase the awareness of all

the CSUB community of the role of CSUB athletics. Lastly, the fourth goal is to prepare for the visit with a written document of an accurate account of CSUB athlet-

ics as a part of academic support." She also said they had not started the study yet, however there was a video conference with the NCAA on September 26, 2008.

According to CSUB's Self-Study website, as a part of the certification process, each committee is responsible for a written report as well as contacting President Mitchell with any current or future problems with each program. In the written report each committee will compare the current standards of CSUB's athletic programs, in each individual area, with those of

the NCAA Division I standards. The entire self-study and each individual written report is to be completed by April 30, 2009 and submitted to the NCAA by no later than May 1, 2009.

With such a diverse group of individuals conducting the study all of the voices should be heard. With the conclusion of this study and the support of the NCAA, CSUB should be Division 1 Certified by early 2010. For more information, such as detailed descriptions of each attribute of study and a list of each committee member, please visit www.csub.edu/ncaa.

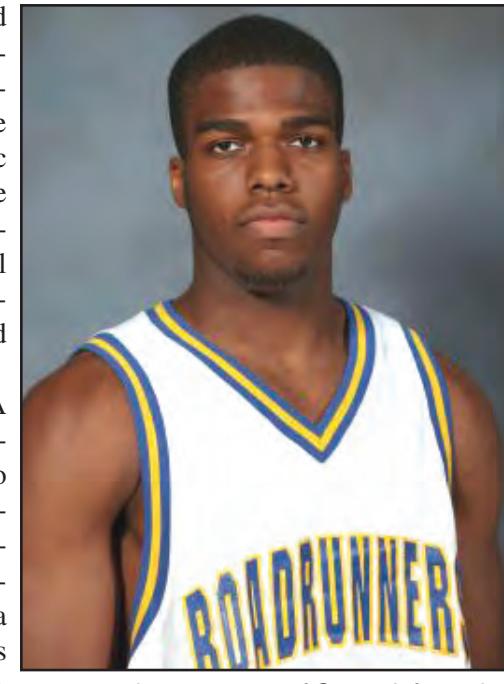


photo courtesy of Sports Information
Donald Lee is one of many athletes who will be affected by the self-study.

ics.

President Mitchell has appointed a very diverse group consisting of professors, coaches, faculty, students and community members to be part of this year-long process, which is co chaired by Provost Soraya Coley and Vice President Shelly Ruelas. The self-study committee is broken down into five sub committees, academic integrity, diversity, gender, governance and well-being, which will evaluate specific aspects of the school. Each subcommittee is head by chairs and co chairs as well.

Sarah Phillips, a member of the Academic Standards and

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